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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HARRISBURG

THE SECRETARY

February 27, 2007

The Honorable Molly S. Henderson, The Honorable Howard "Pete" Shaub, County Commissioners Office of the County Commissioners 50 North Duke Street PO Box 83480 Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17608-3480

Dear Commissioners Henderson and Shaub:

Thank you for your letter requesting that a Certificate of Approval be issued to the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners for the proposed Lancaster County Health Department. Experience has shown that county government, which understands the needs of local residents, is best able to offer local public health services suited to provide comprehensive local public health services.

Please accept this letter as the Certificate of Approval to continue to move forward in planning for the creation of a county health department. The Pennsylvania Department of Health will continue to extend any technical assistance that you may need with your planning activities.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael Huff, Acting Deputy Secretary, Health Planning and Assessment, at (717) 783-8804.

Sincerely,

Calvin B. Johnson, M.D., M.P.H.