

WISCONSIN STATE
LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

2003-04

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

**Committee on
Public Health
(AC-PH)**

(Form Updated: 11/20/2008)

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

➤ Committee Reports ... CR
**

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES
**

➤ Public Hearings ... PH
**

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP
**

**INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE
FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL ...**

➤ Appointments ... Appt
**

Name:

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule
**

➤ Hearing Records ... HR (bills and resolutions)

****03hr_sb0120_AC-PH_pt01**

➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc
**

Vote Record Committee on Public Health

Date: 3/3/04

Moved by: Freese

Seconded by: Wasserman

AB _____ SB 120 Clearinghouse Rule _____
 AJR _____ SJR _____ Appointment _____
 AR _____ SR _____ Other _____

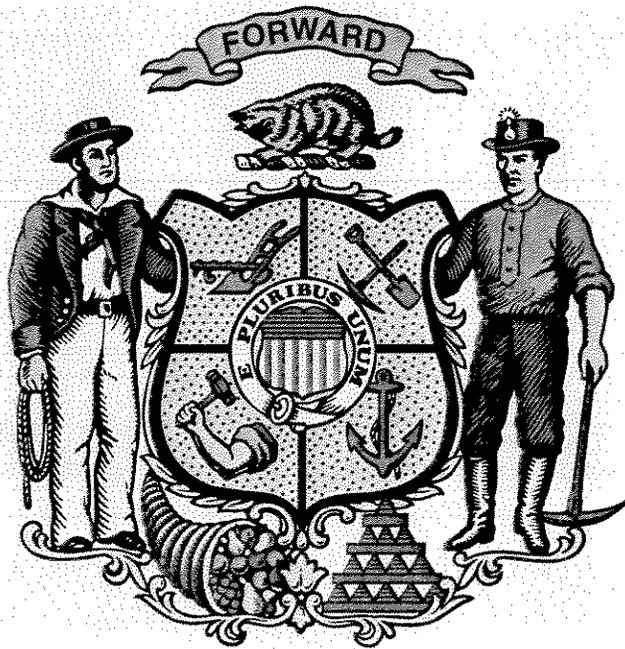
A/S Amdt _____
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Be recommended for:
 Passage Adoption Confirmation Concurrence Indefinite Postponement
 Introduction Rejection Tabling Nonconcurrency

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
Representative J.A. Hines, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative DuWayne Johnsrud	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Gregg Underheim	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Stephen Freese	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Terri McCormick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Sheldon Wasserman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Johnnie Morris	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Marlin Schneider	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	_____

Motion Carried

Motion Failed



Dr. Frank H. "Hank" Urban, MD

3845 Emberwood Drive

Brookfield, WI 53005

(262) 783-5448

March 3, 2004

**Written testimony of Former Representative Frank Urban
Co-chair of the Special Committee on the Public Health System's Response to
Terrorism and Public Health Emergencies**

RE: Senate Bill 120

During the last legislative interim, before I retired from the Legislature, I had the opportunity to co-chair, with my colleague Senator Judy Robson, the Legislative Council Special Committee on the Public Health System's Response to Terrorism and Public Health Emergencies.

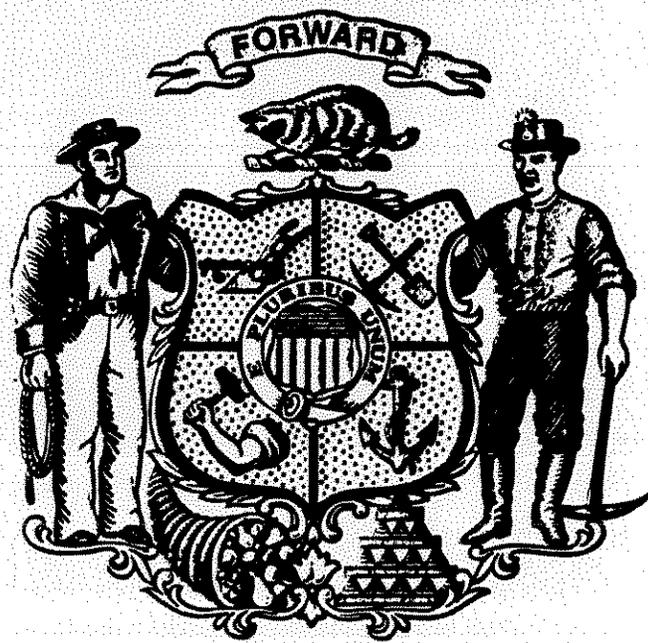
The Special Committee was established to examine the ability of the state to deal with actual or suspected public health emergencies such as those that occurred on September 11, 2001 or during the anthrax attacks and threats that followed.

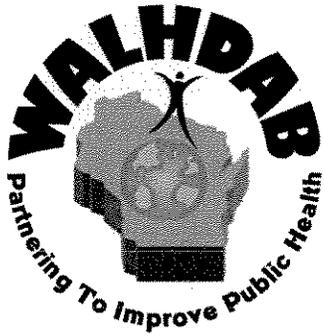
The Committee consisted of legislators as well as citizen members who represented public and private safety and health organizations. Although much was done in this area in the 2001-02 Legislative Session, both our Committee and a Governor's task force on this issue concluded that there was more to be done.

The Committee recommended 6 bill drafts, which were combined and became Senate Bill 120. Of particular interest are provisions in the Bill that relate to communication and coordination between agencies and jurisdictions. The Committee recommended a statewide system of mutual aid between various public health and safety organizations.

The Committee also gave a strong endorsement to an incident command system under which the roles of various players are established in advance rather than at the scene of an emergency. Advance planning, communication, and coordination are essential components of an effective emergency preparedness system.

I hope that the Committee will give its support to Senate Bill 120 and move it forward in the legislative process.





WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS AND BOARDS

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH March 3, 2004

Julie A. Willems Van Dijk RN MSN
Co-President, Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you this afternoon. As Co-President of the Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards (WALHDAB), I am here to express our organization's support for Senate Bill 120.

Senate Bill 120 is the product of the Special Committee on the Public Health System's Response to Terrorism and Public Health Emergencies. This bi-partisan, multi-disciplinary committee considered a wide range of issues and has produced recommendations to enhance the public health system's capacity for emergency response. Those recommendations are contained in the bill before you today.

The following four themes within the bill are the basis for WALHDAB's support:

1. *Inclusion of Public Health in Incident Command Systems (ICS)*

The IC system is the backbone of decision making in any emergency. Prior to the events of 9/11/01, most public health practitioners had limited to no knowledge of ICS and had rarely been called to be part of a command system. With the advent of biological agents, such as the anthrax events of October, 2001, it became evident that the expertise provided by public health practitioners was an essential service in the IC system. Beyond our knowledge of communicable disease, public health professionals also offer expertise in environmental health, prevention and population focused strategies, and networks with many community systems, including the health care delivery system. This bill assures public health will be included in ICS during emergencies and that public health professionals will be properly trained in ICS.

2. *Reimbursement of Quarantine Costs*

In the event of a biological public health emergency, the use of isolation and quarantine are essential public health strategies to prevent the further spread of infectious agents. Local Public Health Officers have the statutory authority to order quarantine, but with that authority comes the

responsibility to pay for such actions. Quarantine can often be accomplished within private residences; however, during a major event, there may be a need for out of home quarantine or monitoring of compliance of quarantine orders. This bill assures the State will compensate local communities for these costs when the Governor has declared a state of emergency. Cost of issuing a quarantine order should never be a factor in a Health Officer's decision to invoke this important public health strategy. By assuring full payment for quarantine, this bill supports Local Health Officers in their decision making during states of emergencies.

3. *Creation of Mutual Aid Agreement Language*

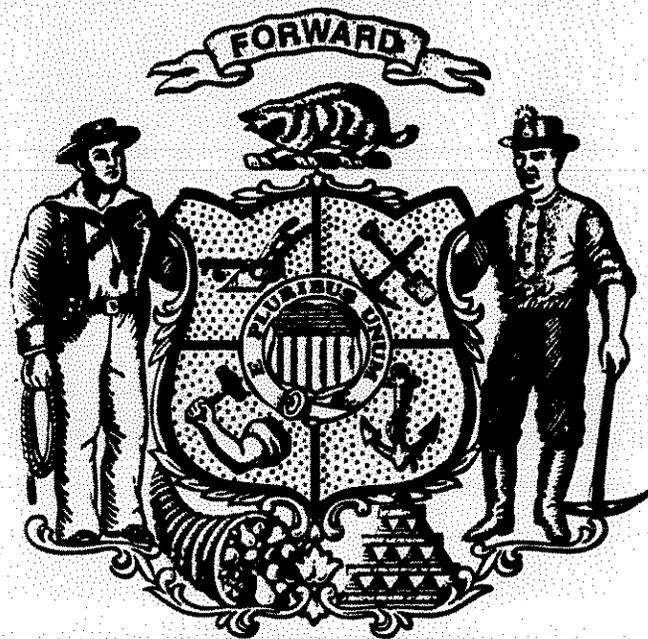
The resources of local public health agencies would easily be exhausted in a major public health emergency, yet most departments have not had formal mutual aid agreements to secure assistance from other departments for this type of event. The mutual aid language in this bill now includes public health departments and is modeled after similar language in Emergency Management.

4. *Creation of a Public Health Council*

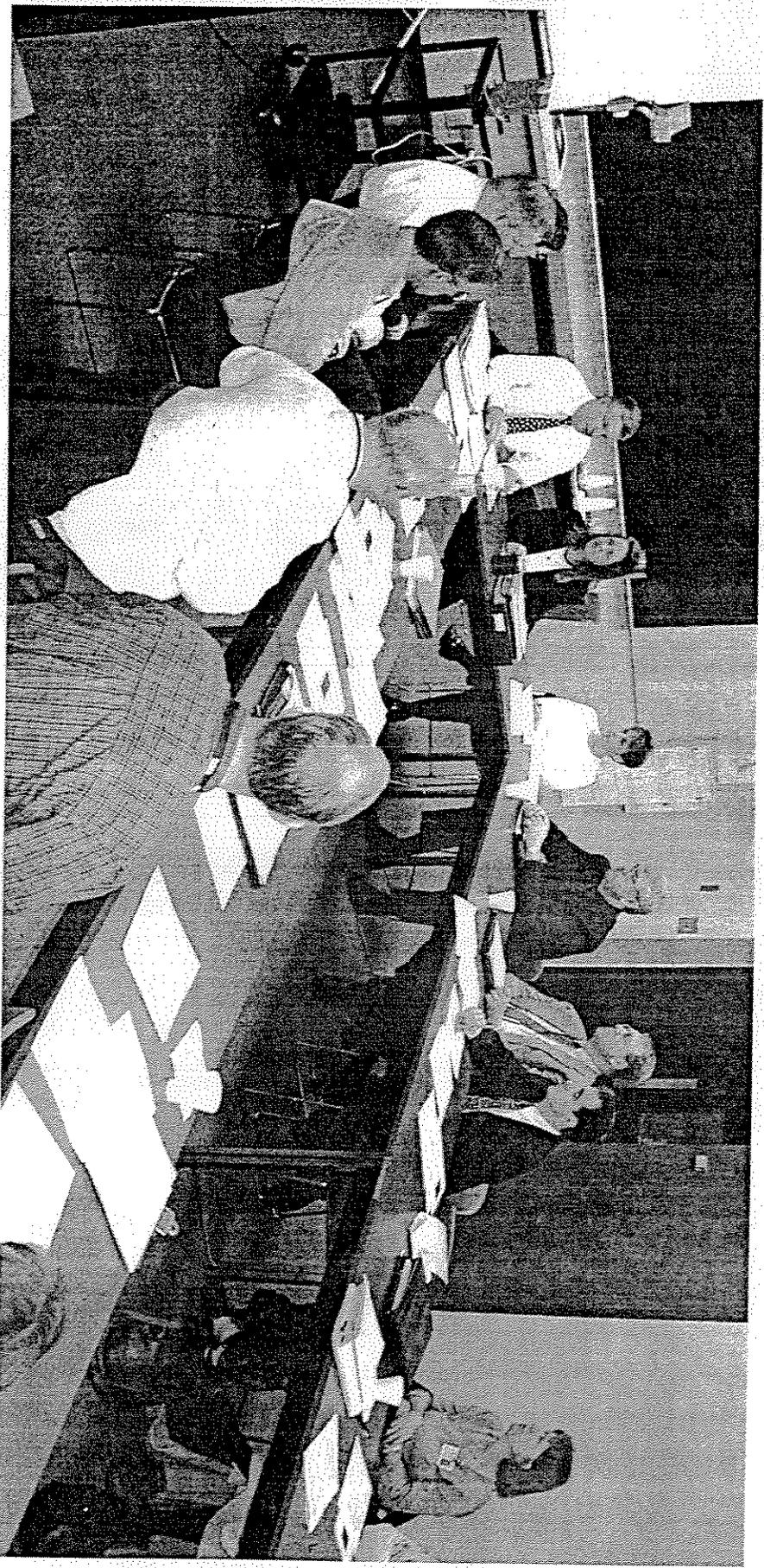
It is the responsibility of the State Division of Public Health to produce a health plan for the State of Wisconsin every ten years. Our current plan is titled *Healthiest Wisconsin 2010: A Partnership Plan to Improve the Health of the Public*. While plans are important, it is even more important to assure they are implemented, so that true change can take place. As one step towards the assurance of the implementation of the state health plan, this bill creates a public health council to monitor the implementation of this important document.

Because the state health plan is the foundation for our state's public health system and because our public health system is the foundation for response to public health emergencies, WALHDAB strongly supports the creation of the public health council as proposed in this bill. There is currently a voluntary advisory council, Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC), in operation. This group serves at the pleasure of the Division of Public Health and while our recent Division Administrators have been very supportive of operating such a council, it is possible that future Division Administrators could disband the PHAC. The creation of such a council in Statute assures its continued existence and affirms its importance in the implementation of our state health plan.

Thank you for your time and I would be happy to answer any questions from the Committee.



Eau Claire(WI) City-County Bioterrorism Preparedness Committee



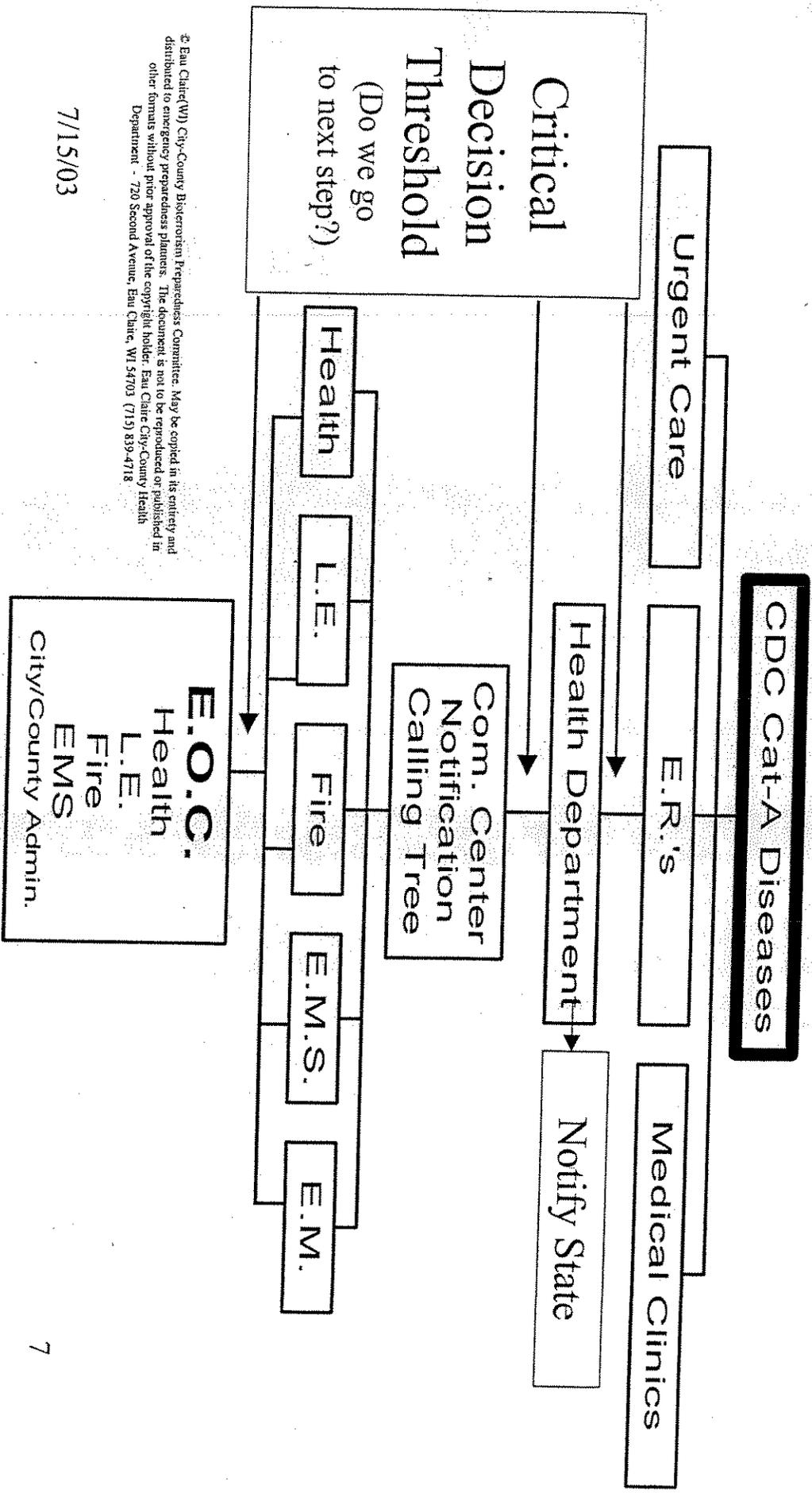
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Eau Claire (WI) City-County

Bioterrorism Preparedness Committee

Biological Agent Event

Phase I ©

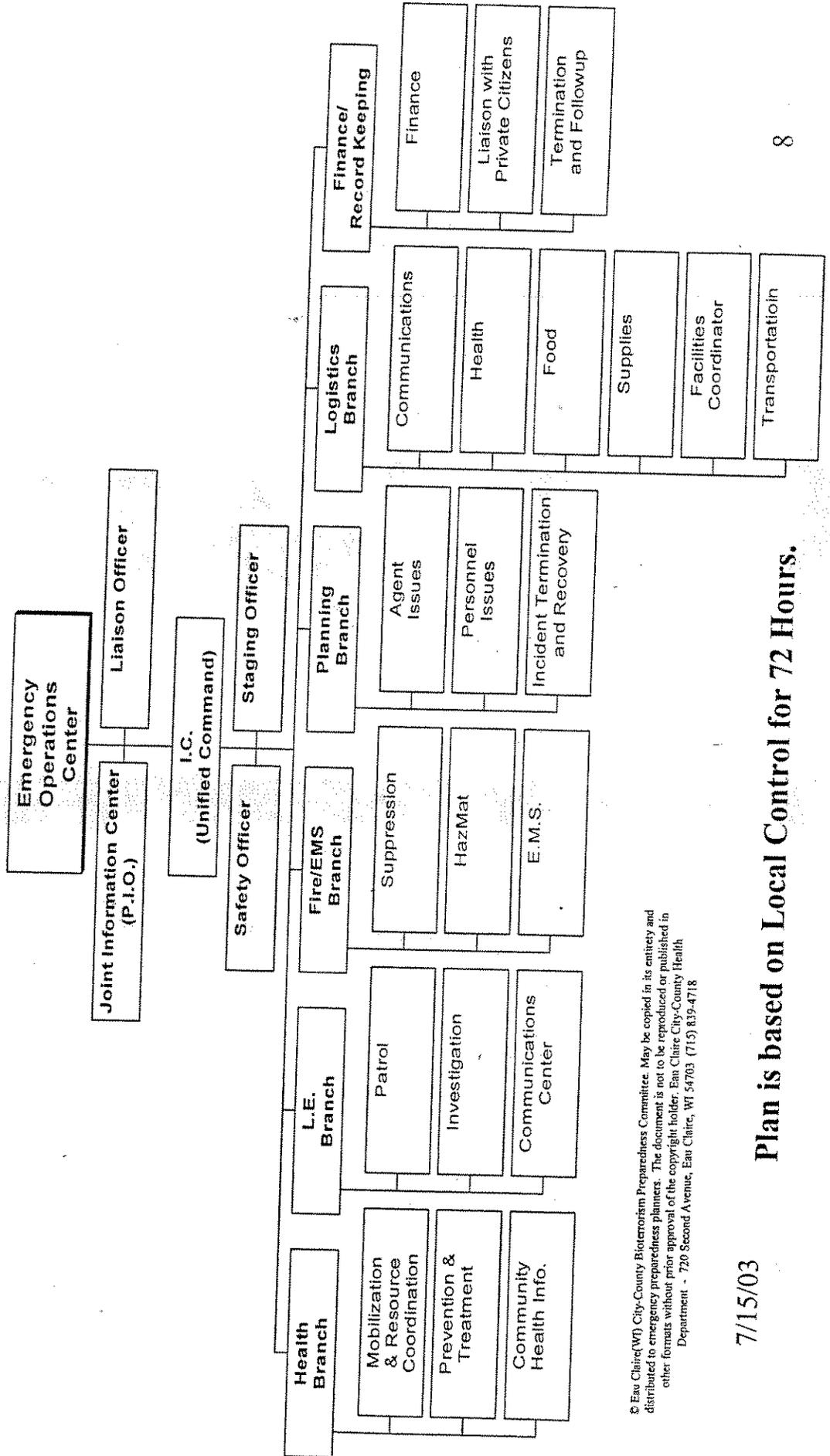


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7/15/03

Eau Claire(WI) City-County Bioterrorism Preparedness Committee Biological Agent Event

Phase II©



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7/15/03

Plan is based on Local Control for 72 Hours.