Testimony of **[Insert Your Department Name]** to the

Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

Proponent for SB 144 • **[Insert Current Date Here]**

Chair and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to supply written testimony in support of Senate Bill 144 regarding permitting the use of expedited partner therapy for the treatment of sexually transmitted diseases. As a local health department, the control of infectious disease is one of several priority areas our work focuses on. When it comes to sexually transmitted diseases there are many times, for a multitude of reasons, where it can be quite difficult to get a patient’s sexual partner to also come in for testing and treatment.

SB 144 will go a long way to addressing this risk and aid in our local efforts to control the spread of disease. Healthcare providers will be able provide prescription treatment drugs and relevant counseling materials to the patient to take to their sexual partners. While there is a risk with any drug, most of these treatments are antibiotic in nature and are designed for self-administration.

It is always best for a patient receiving treatment to be seen by a healthcare provider. That said, treatment is the priority, especially in diseases that can be spread, as a failure to treat presents a public health risk. That is why we ask that the Committee report SB 144 favorably for passage. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

**[Signature Here]**

**[Name Here, Title]**

**[Department Name Here]**