AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS
GOVERNING THE CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE
AND NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND CONDITIONS

WHEREAS, Section 6-201 of the Health Code of Philadelphia authorizes the Board of Health to establish lists of reportable diseases and conditions, and

WHEREAS, Section 6-202 of the Health Code requires health care providers and laboratories identifying these reportable diseases and conditions designated by the Board, to report the occurrence of such diseases and conditions to the Department; and

WHEREAS, The Philadelphia Board of Health has adopted Regulations Governing the Control of Communicable and Non-communicable Diseases and Conditions ("Regulations"), and

WHEREAS, The Regulations contain a listing of such diseases and the methods of reporting the occurrence thereof in Sections 2 and 3 of said Regulations; and

WHEREAS, Zika virus is an infectious disease of great public health importance due to its association with serious health consequences in fetuses and infants of women infected with the virus while pregnant; and

WHEREAS, Reporting of pregnancy outcomes and birth defects associated with Zika virus will contribute to our understanding of the effect of this infection on the health of pregnant women and their infants and ensure that the most up-to-date information about pregnancy outcomes linked with Zika virus is publicly available; and
WHEREAS, early recognition of infants born with birth defects consistent with congenital Zika infection will allow for more timely referral to diagnostic, supportive, and early interventional services for the infant and family;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Health hereby amends the Regulations Governing the Control of Communicable and Non-communicable Diseases and Conditions to read as follows (additions in Bold and deletions in Strikethrough):

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE AND NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND CONDITIONS

2. REPORTABLE DISEASES AND CONDITIONS

The Board declares the following diseases, unusual outbreaks of illness, noncommunicable diseases and conditions, poisonings and occupational diseases to be reportable:

(d) Reserved. Birth Defects Associated with Congenital Zika Infection

All prenatal and postnatal birth defects and adverse outcomes associated with congenital Zika infection, as identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (http://www.cdc.gov/zika/geo/pregnancy-outcomes.html) shall be reported to the Department. The content, timing, and manner of reporting shall be as directed by the Department.

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