

MAR 14 2007

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO FUND BREAST CANCER AND CERVICAL
CANCER SCREENING FOR LOW-INCOME WOMEN IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, breast cancer is the most common cancer among
2 American women, and is second only to lung cancer as a cause of
3 cancer-related deaths; and
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5 WHEREAS, cervical cancer is the second most common cancer
6 among women worldwide, and in the United States, about thirteen
7 thousand women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and about five
8 thousand die each year; and
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10 WHEREAS, with regular and accurate screening, breast cancer
11 and cervical cancer are highly preventable; and
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13 WHEREAS, many deaths from breast and cervical cancer will
14 occur disproportionately among women in low-income groups
15 because they are less likely to have access to routine
16 screenings; and
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18 WHEREAS, many of the breast and cervical cancer deaths
19 among low-income groups could be prevented by making screening
20 services available to all women at risk; and
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22 WHEREAS, native Hawaiian, Filipino, Micronesian, and other
23 targeted ethnic minority women in Hawaii have higher rates of
24 developing and dying from breast and cervical cancer than the
25 national average; and
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27 WHEREAS, in 1990, Congress passed the Breast and Cervical
28 Cancer Mortality Act, leading to the creation of cancer
29 screening programs in all fifty states; and
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31 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Breast and Cervical Cancer Program was
32 established in 1993 through a cooperative agreement with the
33 Centers for Disease Control to provide breast and cervical
34 cancer screening services under the National Breast and Cervical
35 Cancer Early Detection Program; and
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1 WHEREAS, the federal funding for this program has leveled
2 and is likely to decrease in the future. Combined with the
3 increased cost of screenings, this will lead to fewer routine
4 screenings for women who truly need assistance; now, therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
7 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007,
8 that the Governor is requested to establish a program to provide
9 coverage of cancer screening for women fifty to sixty-four years
10 of age who are low-income or have no or insufficient health
11 insurance; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
14 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Director of
15 Human Services.
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OFFERED BY: *Thomas Chun Oahana*

