

MAR 12 2009

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO INCREASE EDUCATIONAL
EFFORTS TO PREVENT AND ERADICATE CERVICAL CANCER.

1 WHEREAS, the dedicated and combined efforts of medical
2 researchers are finding the causes and cures of the many types
3 of cancer that besiege us; and
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5 WHEREAS, scientists have found that cervical and related
6 cancers and genital warts are caused by a virus - the human
7 papilloma virus (HPV); and
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9 WHEREAS, in a few cases, men are susceptible to related
10 cancers caused by HPV's; and
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12 WHEREAS, HPV is contracted through skin to skin contact and
13 sexual transmission; and
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15 WHEREAS, abnormal cells that lead to cervical cancer can
16 often be identified by Pap tests given during cervical
17 examination and can be confirmed by HPV tests; and
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19 WHEREAS, although 94% of women in Hawaii have had cervical
20 screening, by ramping up educational efforts to encourage all
21 women to get regular examinations, cancers can be diagnosed at
22 earlier stages and successfully treated; and
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24 WHEREAS, cervical examinations are covered by health
25 insurers, HMOs, Medicaid and Medicare, so cost is not a large
26 factor in this preventive measure; and
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28 WHEREAS, a vaccine is now available that is 100% effective
29 in preventing disease from high risk types of HPV that account
30 for 70% of all cervical cancer; and
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32 WHEREAS, a few states now require girls to receive cervical
33 cancer vaccines prior to attending middle school, and the 2008



1 Legislature passed a resolution requesting the Department of
2 Health to outline the pros and cons of such a program in Hawaii;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, the Department of Health can ramp up its current
6 efforts to expand education about the causes, cures and
7 prevention of cervical cancer, and to encourage all women to get
8 regular pap and/or HPV tests; now, therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
11 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the
12 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
13 Health is requested to expand its educational programs to
14 increase cervical screening and awareness by both men and all
15 women, in particular, and suggest new and innovative measures to
16 better disseminate information in order to prevent, and
17 eventually eradicate, cervical and related cancers - a dreaded
18 disease; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the director of the
22 Department of Health.
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OFFERED BY:

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