HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS WOMEN'S HEALTH MONTH.

1 WHEREAS, women face a multitude of health risks that affect not only their own well-being, but the well-being of their 2 children; and 3 4 5 WHEREAS, minority women are disproportionately affected by 6 health conditions, including tobacco-related cancers, heart 7 disease, depression, and reproductive health risks; and 8 9 WHEREAS, the additional responsibilities women have 10 undertaken in the last 60 years, both inside and outside the home, have led to increased health risks such as heart disease 11 and hypertension; and 12 13 14 WHEREAS, state government can increase its support for women's health and can make a significant difference in 15 improving the status of women's health; and 16 17 WHEREAS, Women's Health Month is a time dedicated to 18 raising public consciousness about health care and issues unique 19 20 to women, and improving the health and well-being of women in Hawaii; and 21 22 WHEREAS, raising awareness about the role women can play in 23 disease prevention and treatment, and educating others will 24 result in better health in their families and in Hawaii overall; 25 and 26 27 WHEREAS, recognition of health issues unique to women and 28 differences in health and health care experiences across 29 30 cultures and age groups among women is critical to the

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development of strategies for improving the health care and 1 quality of life for women and girls; and 2 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 3 4 reports that the incidence of cervical cancer and number of 5 deaths from cervical cancer have significantly decreased in the last 40 years primarily as a result of early detection, and 6 7 early detection can only occur when women are aware of the 8 risks; and 9 10 WHEREAS, the purpose of Women's Health Month is to maximize public awareness of women's health issues, empower women to be 11 their own health advocates, reduce health care disparities, and 12 13 promote the physical and emotional well-being of women in Hawaii; and 14 15 WHEREAS, Women's Health Month activities need not be costly 16 17 or complicated to have a positive and tangible effect on the lives of women; and 18 19 20 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women celebrated its first annual Women and Family Wellness Day in 21 22 Hilo on September 13, 2008; and 23 24 WHEREAS, events such as these offer an opportunity for 25 local community partners to work collaboratively for the benefit of all of Hawaii's women; now, therefore, 26 27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 28 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 29 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that this body recognizes 30 October as Women's Health Month; and 31 32 33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that organizations that participate in Women's Health Month shall incorporate events designed to 34 raise awareness of, and educate the public about women's health 35 36 issues; and that the month of events will include education workshops, health fairs, lectures, fitness activities, and other 37 38 special events; and 39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body applauds all women 40 who take an active role in carrying out the goals of educating 41 42 others about healthier lifestyles, prevention, and treatment; 43 and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Health, Director of Human Services, and Executive Director of the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women.

OFFERED BY: Mele Carroll Marily B. Loe imm en U atti leurs Field Cale HCR HMS 2011-2463 MAR 1 6 2011

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