HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES AMONG THE ELDERLY.

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the importance of health and safety for all people of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the aging population is steadily increasing each year and, according to the United States Census Bureau, by 2050, the population of people over the age of sixty-five in the United States is expected to be eighty million; and

WHEREAS, technology and medicine have enabled people to live longer, treat sexually transmitted diseases, and engage in sexual activities at an older age; and

WHEREAS, national studies have shown that people older than the age of fifty are less likely to get tested for sexually transmitted diseases and are more likely to engage in unprotected high risk sexual activities; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature is concerned about the number of persons over the age of sixty-five living with or contracting sexually transmitted diseases in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the importance of increasing awareness and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases among persons over sixty-five; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that there is a lack of research and information in Hawaii on sexually transmitted diseases among persons over the age of sixty-five; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, that the Department of Health is requested to conduct a study on sexually transmitted diseases among persons over the age of sixty-five, including statistics on prevalence, use of protection, awareness of infection, testing, and available outreach, prevention, and treatment programs within the State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health report its findings to the Legislature and recommendations no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Department of Health.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 3 2012