
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A WORKING GROUP TO RECOMMEND WAYS TO
REDUCE INCIDENTS OF SEPSIS AND SEPSIS DEATHS IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, sepsis is a serious medical condition that is
2 caused by an overwhelming immune response to infection, whereby
3 immune chemicals released into the blood to combat infection
4 trigger widespread inflammation; and

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6 WHEREAS, the United States National Library of Medicine and
7 National Institutes of Health indicate that for sepsis, blood
8 pressure drops, resulting in shock, and major organs and body
9 systems, including the kidneys, liver, lungs, and central
10 nervous systems, stop working properly because of poor blood
11 flow; and

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13 WHEREAS, sepsis can lead to shock, organ failure, and
14 death; and

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16 WHEREAS, according to the National Institute of General
17 Medical Sciences, every year, severe sepsis strikes about
18 750,000 Americans, of which an estimated 28 percent to 50
19 percent will die, which is far more than the number of deaths in
20 the United States from prostate cancer, breast cancer, and AIDS
21 (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) combined; and

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23 WHEREAS, sepsis is among the leading causes of death in the
24 United States; and preventive measures are needed immediately to
25 address this rising health problem; now, therefore,

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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
28 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
29 Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Director of
30 Health is requested to convene a working group to recommend ways
31 to reduce incidents of sepsis and sepsis deaths in the State;
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group consider the following:

- (1) Examine and identify barriers to quality care for patients with sepsis;
- (2) Review and assess national models, best practices, and guidelines comparative to Hawaii's needs;
- (3) Consider options for improving early recognition, identification, and treatment of sepsis and septic shock in Hawaii's hospitals;
- (4) Improve the collection, use, and reporting of quality measures by medical staff related to the recognition and treatment of sepsis;
- (5) Provide recommendations to better educate the public about sepsis, including its symptoms, diagnoses, treatment, and preventive measures;
- (6) Identify barriers and make recommendations to address the costs of sepsis and costs necessary to combat sepsis; and
- (7) Any other recommendation deemed relevant by the Director of Health to further the purpose of this measure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings and recommendations of the task force be considered, and incorporated as feasible, as part of a comprehensive plan to be developed by the Department of Health to combat sepsis in the State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and

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