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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER AS CANCER SCREEN WEEK TO URGE THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII TO TALK WITH THEIR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS ABOUT APPROPRIATE SCREENINGS FOR PREVENTION AND EARLY DETECTION OF CANCER.

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society projects that more than 600,000 people will lose their lives to cancer in the United States in 2018; and

WHEREAS, in Hawaii, more than 2,200 lives are lost due to cancer each year; and

WHEREAS, the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable estimates that over 200,000 deaths in the United States could be avoided with early and appropriate cancer screening for colorectal cancer alone; and

WHEREAS, the cancer death rate for men and women combined dropped twenty-six percent between 1991 and 2014 because of reductions in smoking and advances in early detection and treatment; and

WHEREAS, specifically, according to the American Cancer Society, the five-year relative survival rates for cancers found at the local stage before they can develop further are about:

- (1) Ninety-two percent for non-small cell lung cancers;
- (2) Ninety-two percent for colon cancers and eighty-seven percent for rectum cancers;
- (3) Ninety-three percent for cervical cancers;
- (4) Ninety-nine percent for breast cancers; and
- (5) Ninety-seven percent for melanoma skin cancers; and

WHEREAS, many of these cancers are often preventable, and early detection and treatment are critical, as cancer does not always cause symptoms and often occurs in people with no family history; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, rates of screening for many cancer types in recommended populations remain substantially below Healthy People 2020 targets; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to reinforce the need for people to discuss their individual risk factors for cancer with their healthcare providers and understand the recommendations for, and benefits of, cancer screening; now, therefore,

 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the Senate concurring, that in 2018, and annually thereafter, the first week of December be designated as Cancer Screen Week in Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all citizens of Hawaii are encouraged to visit cancerscreenweek.org for cancer screening resources and talk to their healthcare providers about their risk factors for all cancer types including breast, cervical, colon, lung, prostate, and skin cancers, and recommended screening options; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Health, and the respective Mayors of the City and County of Honolulu and Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui.

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