
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING RETAIL STORES AND PHARMACIES DOING BUSINESS IN THE STATE TO ADOPT A POLICY ON A NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVEL GUARANTEEING AN INDIVIDUAL'S UNHINDERED ACCESS TO ALL UNITED STATES FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION-APPROVED CONTRACEPTIVES.

1 WHEREAS, the benefits of contraception are widely
2 recognized and include improved health and well-being, reduced
3 global maternal mortality, health benefits of pregnancy spacing
4 for maternal and child health, female engagement in the work
5 force, and economic self-sufficiency for women; and
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7 WHEREAS, ninety-nine percent of women in the United States
8 who have been sexually active report having used some form of
9 contraception; and
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11 WHEREAS, other benefits of using contraception may include
12 decreased bleeding and pain with menstrual periods and reduced
13 risk of gynecologic disorders, including a decreased risk of
14 endometrial and ovarian cancer; and
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16 WHEREAS, according to the 2020 Hawaii Pregnancy Risk
17 Assessment Monitoring System report, between 2012 and 2016,
18 approximately forty-seven percent of all pregnancies in Hawaii
19 were unintended; and
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21 WHEREAS, the women most likely to have an unintended
22 pregnancy in the State were Native Hawaiian, Filipino, or
23 Pacific Islander; those under twenty years of age, unmarried,
24 and insured through Medicaid or uninsured before pregnancy;
25 those who had three or more previous live births; or those who
26 were at or below one hundred percent of the federal poverty
27 level; and
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29 WHEREAS, unintended pregnancy is related to adverse health
30 behaviors including late prenatal care; smoking during
31 pregnancy; placing the infant on their stomach or side to sleep,

1 which is a major risk factor for sudden infant death; and a
2 greater likelihood of postpartum depression; and
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4 WHEREAS, one issue contributing to unintended pregnancies
5 is lack of access to contraception, which includes availability,
6 affordability, insurance coverage, transportation, and
7 convenience; and
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9 WHEREAS, pharmacist refusals to fill contraceptive
10 prescriptions or provide emergency contraception, as well as
11 pharmacies that refuse to stock contraceptives, are considerable
12 barriers to access of this essential health care; and
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14 WHEREAS, the placing of condoms behind locked glass is an
15 access barrier to contraception that likely impacts the role
16 condoms play in reducing unintended pregnancy and offering
17 protection against sexually transmitted infections; and
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19 WHEREAS, a study conducted by the University of Iowa in
20 2011 showed an increase in retail sales of condoms when they
21 were moved from behind locked glass; and
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23 WHEREAS, access to comprehensive contraceptive care and
24 contraceptive methods are an integral component of essential
25 health care and thus retail stores and pharmacies should adopt
26 policies that ensure full, unrestricted access to contraception;
27 now, therefore,
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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
30 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
31 Session of 2024, that retail stores and pharmacies doing
32 business in the State are urged to adopt policies on a national
33 and local level to guarantee an individual's unhindered access
34 to all United States Food and Drug Administration-approved
35 contraceptives; and
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
38 Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Executive Officer of
39 Albertsons Companies, Inc.; Chief Executive Officer of Costco;
40 Chief Executive Officer of CVS Health; Executive Vice President
41 and President of Walgreens Pharmacy; President and Chief
42 Executive Officer of Walmart Inc.; Chairman and Chief Executive



H.R. NO. 1

1 Officer of Target Corporation; President of Times Supermarkets;
2 and President of Retail Merchants of Hawaii for distribution to
3 the store managers of every Safeway, Costco, Long's, Walgreens,
4 Walmart, Target, and Times retail location in the State that is
5 located within one mile of a high school.

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OFFERED BY:

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