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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII STATE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH TO ISSUE A STATEWIDE ORDER TO ALLOW FOR THE SALE AND PURCHASE OF NEBULIZED BUDESONIDE WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION OR CONSULTATION WITH A HEALTHCARE PROVIDER.

1           WHEREAS, budesonide in nasal spray form was previously  
2 prescription-only but has since been converted to over-the-  
3 counter status due to its excellent safety profile; and  
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5           WHEREAS, budesonide was proven to be life-saving by the  
6 STOIC Trial conducted by Oxford University in the treatment of  
7 COVID-19, a highly contagious respiratory virus; and  
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9           WHEREAS, the study found that early administration of  
10 inhaled budesonide reduced the need for urgent medical care,  
11 shortened recovery time, and lowered the risk of hospitalization  
12 for COVID-19 patients; and  
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14           WHEREAS, additional findings suggest that "inhaled  
15 budesonide reduced the relative risk of requiring urgent care or  
16 hospitalization by 90% in the 28-day study period"; and  
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18           WHEREAS, the Saudi Journal of Anesthesia published a study  
19 in 2017 demonstrating that patients with acute lung injury or  
20 acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) experienced improved  
21 oxygenation, decreased edema in lung tissue, and reduced lung  
22 scarring following treatment with nebulized budesonide; and  
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24           WHEREAS, millions of American lives were saved through home  
25 treatments of nebulized budesonide during the COVID-19 crisis;  
26 and  
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28           WHEREAS, Dr. Richard Bartlett's published protocol  
29 demonstrated that nebulized budesonide, when used in an  
30 outpatient setting, provided significant benefits for treating



1 COVID-19, reducing the risk of pneumonia and improving patient  
2 outcomes; and

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4 WHEREAS, the U.K. PRINCIPLE Trial, the largest randomized  
5 trial for community treatment of COVID-19, confirmed that  
6 inhaled budesonide improved recovery time and reduced hospital  
7 admissions or deaths among high-risk patients; and

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9 WHEREAS, the Brazil TOGETHER Trial demonstrated that  
10 combining inhaled budesonide with oral fluvoxamine reduced the  
11 progression of COVID-19 and the need for hospitalization  
12 among high-risk outpatients; and

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14 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) recognizes  
15 budesonide as an essential medicine, confirming its global  
16 importance in treating respiratory conditions; and

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18 WHEREAS, the U.K. Department of Health recommended inhaled  
19 budesonide for adults over fifty with COVID-19, citing its  
20 benefits in reducing symptoms and preventing complications; and

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22 WHEREAS, the Australian Department of Health included  
23 budesonide in its clinical guidelines as a treatment for at-risk  
24 COVID-19 patients who do not require oxygen support; and

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26 WHEREAS, the India Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
27 officially recommended budesonide for COVID-19 treatment,  
28 reinforcing its global acceptance in respiratory therapy; and

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30 WHEREAS, research has identified antiviral properties of  
31 budesonide against SARS-CoV-2, demonstrating its potential to  
32 reduce viral replication and inflammation in infected  
33 individuals; and

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35 WHEREAS, FDA regulations prohibit Emergency Use  
36 Authorization (EUA) for experimental COVID-19 vaccines if there  
37 is an adequate, approved, and available alternative treatment,  
38 and budesonide, as an effective and FDA-approved therapy, meets  
39 this criterion; and

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1 WHEREAS, other medicine with more dangerous safety profiles  
2 are classified as over-the-counter, justifying the need for  
3 nebulized budesonide and nebulizer machines to be accessible  
4 without a prescription; and

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6 WHEREAS, allowing nebulized budesonide and nebulizer  
7 machines to be sold over the counter will provide the public  
8 with greater access to effective respiratory treatments without  
9 unnecessary delays or restrictions; now, therefore,

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11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
12 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
13 of 2026, the Hawaii State Director of Health is urged to issue a  
14 statewide order to allow for the sale and purchase of nebulized  
15 budesonide without a prescription or consultation with a  
16 healthcare provider; and

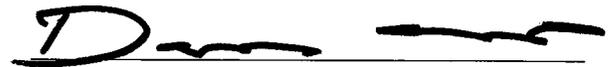
17  
18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Health may  
19 recommend to the public that nebulizer machines may be sold or  
20 purchased over the counter without a prescription; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Pharmacy is urged  
23 to adopt any necessary rules to implement this request including  
24 but not limited to:

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- 26 (1) Ensuring product labeling includes appropriate dosages  
27 and usage instructions; and
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- 29 (2) Requiring pharmacies and retailers to provide  
30 customers with written instructions on the proper use  
31 of nebulized budesonide and nebulizer machines; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
34 Resolution be transmitted to the Hawaii State Director of Health  
35 and Chair of the Board of Pharmacy.

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38 OFFERED BY:



MAR 16 2026

