
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO MAKE HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS IMMUNIZATION AVAILABLE TO INDIGENT PATIENTS AND THROUGH THE TEEN VAX PROGRAM, AND URGING INSURERS TO OFFER COVERAGE FOR HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS IMMUNIZATION TO FEMALE POLICYHOLDERS ELEVEN TO TWENTY-SIX YEARS OF AGE.

1 WHEREAS, infection with sexually transmitted human
2 papillomavirus is common in adult populations worldwide, and
3 research suggests that up to seventy-five per cent of women will
4 become infected with one or more of the sexually transmitted
5 human papillomavirus types at some point during adulthood; and
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7 WHEREAS, although most genital human papillomavirus
8 infections come and go without causing any symptoms, lingering
9 infections with a small subset of high-risk human papillomavirus
10 types can lead to the development of cervical cancer; and
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12 WHEREAS, the preventive human papillomavirus vaccines that
13 are currently available target the two human papillomavirus
14 types that are responsible for approximately seventy per cent of
15 all cervical cancer. These vaccines are designed to elicit
16 virus-neutralizing antibody responses that prevent initial
17 infection with the human papillomavirus types represented in the
18 vaccine; and
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20 WHEREAS, vaccination has been shown to offer nearly one
21 hundred per cent protection against the development of cervical
22 pre-cancers and genital warts caused by the human papillomavirus
23 types in the vaccine, with few or no side effects, and studies
24 have indicated that the protective effects of these vaccines may
25 last longer than five years; and
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27 WHEREAS, the development of human papillomavirus vaccines
28 offer a previously unavailable source of protection against



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1 cervical cancer, one of the most common and deadly types of
2 cancer; and

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4 WHEREAS, by making human papillomavirus vaccinations more
5 widely available through public health programs and expanded
6 insurance coverage, the overall health of Hawaii's population
7 would be improved and the incidence of cervical cancer would be
8 reduced; now, therefore,

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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
12 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Health is
13 requested to include human papillomavirus immunization among the
14 services available to indigents and to others through its Teen
15 Vax Program; and

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that insurers providing health
18 coverage in the State are urged to offer coverage to females
19 ages eleven through twenty-six years of age, not as an employer
20 option or deductible, for immunization against human
21 papillomavirus for the policyholder and individuals covered
22 under the policy, contract, plan, or agreement; and

23
24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health
26 and to the Insurance Commissioner, who in turn is requested to
27 distribute copies to the chief executive officer of each insurer
28 providing health coverage to policyholders or group members in
29 the State.

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