
HOUSE 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
5

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
12

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 Services, 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
22

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, that the Director of Health is requested to
30 convene a working group to recommend ways to reduce incidents of
31 sepsis and sepsis deaths in the State; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Health serve as
34 the chair of the working group; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the working
2 group include:

- 3
- 4 (1) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee;
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 - 6 (2) Three representatives from the Healthcare Association
7 of Hawaii; and
 - 8
 - 9 (3) Three representatives representing patient advocates
10 selected by the Director of Health; and
 - 11

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group consider the
13 following:

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- 15 (1) Early recognition, identification, and treatment of
16 sepsis and septic shock;
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 - 18 (2) Evidence-based protocols for the identification, care,
19 and treatment of adults and children with sepsis;
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 - 21 (3) Evidence-based protocols used by hospitals and medical
22 staff, based on generally accepted standards of care,
23 to recognize and treat sepsis and septic shock;
 - 24
 - 25 (4) The collection, use, and reporting of quality measures
26 by medical staff related to the recognition and
27 treatment of sepsis;
 - 28
 - 29 (5) Ways to educate the public about sepsis, including its
30 symptoms, diagnoses, treatment, and preventive
31 measures;
 - 32
 - 33 (6) Means to address the economic costs of sepsis and
34 costs necessary to combat sepsis; and
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 - 36 (7) Any other recommendation deemed relevant by the
37 Director of Health to further the purpose of this
38 measure; and
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings and
41 recommendations of the task force be considered, and



1 incorporated as feasible, as part of a comprehensive plan to be
2 developed by the Department of Health to combat sepsis in the
3 State; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
6 submit a written report of its findings and recommendations,
7 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
8 than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
9 2015; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
12 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health and the
13 President and Chief Executive Officer of the Healthcare
14 Association of Hawaii.
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