
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, GOVERNOR OF HAWAII, HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION, CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, AND FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION TO PROACTIVELY WORK TOWARD PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF THE ZIKA VIRUS.

1 WHEREAS, the Zika virus is a flavivirus in the same family
2 as dengue, West Nile, and yellow fever; and
3

4 WHEREAS, the Zika virus was first isolated in 1947 from a
5 sentinel primate, a Rhesus macaque, in the Zika forest of
6 Uganda; and
7

8 WHEREAS, the Zika virus is a disease that is spread to
9 people primarily through the vectors of infected Aedes species
10 mosquitoes such as the Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus; and
11

12 WHEREAS, the Zika virus can also be transmitted sexually
13 from males to females, and the virus has been found in the semen
14 of at least one male over sixty days after apparent recovery
15 from disease symptoms; and
16

17 WHEREAS, the Zika virus was originally recognized as a
18 minimally symptomatic illness characterized by symptoms that
19 could include fever, headache, arthralgia, myalgia,
20 maculopapular rash, and non-purulent conjunctivitis; and
21

22 WHEREAS, not all who contract Zika will show symptoms; and
23



1 WHEREAS, for many decades the Zika virus was recognized
2 only in sporadic cases in Southeast Asia and sub-Saharan Africa;
3 and
4

5 WHEREAS, the Zika virus was responsible for an outbreak in
6 Yap Island in Micronesia in 2007, the first outbreak of any
7 size; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the Zika virus subsequently caused a large
10 outbreak in French Polynesia involving more than twenty thousand
11 cases, which resulted in approximately fifty cases of Guillain-
12 Barre syndrome; and
13

14 WHEREAS, the potential for Zika virus infection via blood
15 transfusion was demonstrated in Tahiti where, using reverse
16 transcription-polymerase chain reaction testing, 2.8 per cent of
17 asymptomatic blood donors were found to be positive for the Zika
18 virus; and
19

20 WHEREAS, cases of the Zika virus have recently occurred in
21 South America, with Brazil being the most heavily impacted area;
22 and
23

24 WHEREAS, the Zika epidemic in Brazil appears to have
25 resulted in thousands of cases of fetal and birth abnormalities,
26 with the most severe results being problems in brain development
27 and destruction resulting in microcephaly, as well as possible
28 abnormalities of the eyes and inner ears; and
29

30 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization Director General
31 held an emergency meeting with the organization's Emergency
32 Committee on February 1, 2016, in response to the outbreak of
33 the Zika virus in South America; and
34

35 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization, including eighteen
36 experts on the Zika virus, declared the Zika virus as a "Global
37 Health Emergency"; and
38

39 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has stated that the
40 level of concern for the Zika virus is high, as is the level of
41 uncertainty; and



1
2 WHEREAS, on February 8, 2016, the Centers for Disease
3 Control and Prevention opened its emergency operations center at
4 Level 1 to prepare for and mitigate the Zika virus risk; and
5

6 WHEREAS, as of March 2016, the Centers for Disease Control
7 and Prevention listed over thirty-five countries and three
8 United States territories with active Zika virus transmission;
9 and
10

11 WHEREAS, three of the countries or territories with active
12 Zika virus transmission--American Samoa, the Republic of the
13 Marshall Islands, and Samoa--have non-stop direct flights to
14 Hawaii; and
15

16 WHEREAS, as of March 3, 2016, the number of confirmed cases
17 of the Zika virus in American Samoa has risen to ten, and two
18 hundred seventy-one people are suspected of contracting the
19 virus; and
20

21 WHEREAS, in February 2016, there was at least one case of
22 the Zika virus confirmed in the Republic of the Marshall
23 Islands, where the Marshallese government recently declared a
24 health emergency on the Zika virus; and
25

26 WHEREAS, in February 2016, there were at least three cases
27 of the Zika virus confirmed in Samoa; and
28

29 WHEREAS, in March 2016, there were over one hundred cases
30 of the Zika virus confirmed in Puerto Rico, where health experts
31 are concerned that the cases of the Zika virus could
32 exponentially increase to the hundreds of thousands; and
33

34 WHEREAS, in March 2016, at least six cases of the Zika
35 virus had been confirmed in the United States Virgin Islands,
36 and the United States Virgin Islands' Department of Health
37 expects the number of cases to rise; and
38

39 WHEREAS, as a popular tourist destination and an
40 international port, the State is at heightened risk and



1 vulnerability to the Zika virus being transmitted through
2 travelers; and

3
4 WHEREAS, there have already been one hundred fifty-three
5 confirmed cases of Americans contracting the Zika virus while
6 abroad and returning back to the United States with the virus,
7 and nine of these cases affected pregnancies; and

8
9 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has
10 stated that twenty-eight out of the fifty states in the country
11 have reported people contracting the Zika virus while abroad, of
12 which four of the cases were reported in Hawaii; and

13
14 WHEREAS, Brazil, the epicenter of the current explosive
15 outbreak of the Zika virus, has been impacted with economic,
16 political, and social consequences due to the outbreak; and

17
18 WHEREAS, as of March 2016, the estimated cases of the Zika
19 infection in Brazil has risen to over one million cases and the
20 number of microcephaly confirmed cases related to the Zika virus
21 has risen to almost five thousand; and

22
23 WHEREAS, there is an increased rate of risk of both
24 Americans and foreigners contracting the Zika virus while
25 attending the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil;
26 and

27
28 WHEREAS, people who may contract the virus while attending
29 the Olympics may spread the disease to other states and
30 countries during travels to return home; and

31
32 WHEREAS, people exposed to the Zika virus while attending
33 the Olympics with layover flights in Honolulu may expose Hawaii
34 to the virus; and

35
36 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and
37 the State Department of Health have confirmed that a child was
38 born in Hawaii with microcephaly in 2016; and

39



1 WHEREAS, the child born with microcephaly is possibly
2 linked to the Zika virus, as the mother contracted the virus in
3 Brazil; and

4
5 WHEREAS, the case of the baby born with microcephaly in
6 Hawaii was immediately reported in multiple national newspaper
7 outlets; and

8
9 WHEREAS, on March 4, 2016, an Oahu resident tested positive
10 for the Zika virus after traveling to one of the pacific island
11 nations where the virus is present; and

12
13 WHEREAS, the State has large populations of both Aedes
14 aegypti and Aedes albopictus mosquitoes, and while Aedes aegypti
15 are mostly eradicated from other islands, the species has a
16 major presence on Hawaii Island; and

17
18 WHEREAS, these and related Aedes species of mosquitoes are
19 thought to be the vectors for Zika transmission; and

20
21 WHEREAS, if the Zika virus is brought to and becomes
22 epidemic in Hawaii, the State's health system will be
23 overburdened, and the tourism-based economy will likely be
24 severely impacted; and

25
26 WHEREAS, the Governor has signed an emergency proclamation
27 as a preventive measure against mosquito borne illnesses that
28 include dengue fever and the Zika virus; and

29
30 WHEREAS, there is currently an outbreak of dengue fever
31 virus on Hawaii Island, which has resulted in over two hundred
32 fifty confirmed cases; and

33
34 WHEREAS, the United States Secretary of Health and Human
35 Services is authorized under the Public Health Service Act to
36 take measures to prevent the entry and spread of communicable
37 diseases from foreign countries into the United States and
38 between states; and

39
40 WHEREAS, isolation separates sick people with a contagious
41 disease from people who are not sick, and quarantine separates



1 and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a
2 contagious disease to see if they become sick; and

3
4 WHEREAS, federal isolation and quarantine are authorized by
5 Executive Order of the United States President; and

6
7 WHEREAS, federal isolation and quarantine are currently
8 authorized for the communicable diseases cholera, diphtheria,
9 infectious tuberculosis, plague, smallpox, yellow fever, viral
10 hemorrhagic fevers, severe acute respiratory syndromes, and flu
11 that can cause a pandemic, and the United States President can
12 revise this list by Executive Order; now, therefore,

13
14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
15 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
16 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the Governor is
17 requested to seek funding for and mount an aggressive vector
18 control effort to attack and hopefully eradicate the Aedes
19 aegypti mosquito populations on Hawaii Island; and

20
21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor and his
22 administration is requested to make further efforts to limit the
23 distribution and populations of Aedes albopictus mosquitoes,
24 also a competent vector for the Zika virus; and

25
26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the United
27 States and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are
28 requested to list the Zika virus as a communicable disease that
29 may be isolated and quarantined; and

30
31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Aviation
32 Administration is requested to promote Zika virus symptom
33 awareness to airlines that travel from places where the Zika
34 virus is circulating to the United States; and

35
36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Aviation
37 Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and
38 Prevention are urged to develop protocol for the potential
39 isolation or quarantine of airline passengers exhibiting Zika
40 virus symptoms upon arrival to the United States when returning
41 from places where the Zika virus is circulating; and



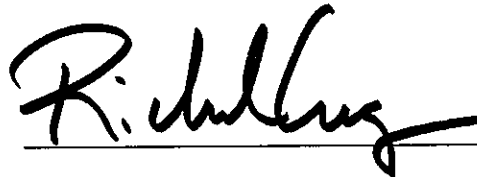
H.C.R. NO. 164

1
2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State's congressional
3 delegation is requested to pursue federal funding to fight the
4 vectors of the Zika virus and to limit the spread of the disease
5 by vectors or sexual transmission; and

6
7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
9 United States, Governor, Hawaii's Congressional delegation,
10 Director of Health, Director of the Centers for Disease Control
11 and Prevention, and Administrator of the Federal Aviation
12 Administration.

13
14
15

OFFERED BY:



MAR 1 1 2016

