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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO  
CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON PREVENTING AN AVIAN  
INFLUENZA PANDEMIC BY NEUTRALIZING THE FERAL CHICKEN  
POPULATION OF HAWAII.

1           WHEREAS, since autumn 2003, a highly pathogenic avian  
2 influenza virus strain known as "Influenza A" (H5N1) spread  
3 throughout Asia and the Asian Pacific region, infecting poultry  
4 and humans, creating devastating effects on public health and  
5 overall global well-being; and

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7           WHEREAS, the H5N1 virus, which has caused illness and death  
8 in Asia, is resistant to amantadine and rimantadine, two common  
9 antiviral medications often used to treat influenza; and

10  
11           WHEREAS, recent estimates of human fatalities that this  
12 strain could cause is around 150 million, approximately two to  
13 three percent of the world's population; and

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15           WHEREAS, an avian flu pandemic spreading throughout our  
16 islands and the continental United States would present a grave  
17 threat to Hawaii's public health and well-being, and our  
18 country's national security; and

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20           WHEREAS, the state is known to have a significant  
21 population of wild, unmanaged, ownerless feral chickens roaming  
22 the countryside; and

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24           WHEREAS, feral chickens are rapidly reproducing and  
25 expanding their range in the state and while many of these birds  
26 were initially brought into areas to be kept and cared for as  
27 pets or for producing food, those that are not managed  
28 responsibly may prove to be a serious vector for the spread of  
29 H5N1 to humans; and  
30



1           WHEREAS, Hawaii's geographic location and the large  
2 population of tourists who visit this state from around the  
3 world make Hawaii a possible launch-pad for the introduction of  
4 this dangerous virus to the continental United States; now,  
5 therefore,

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7           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
8 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
9 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature urges the  
10 Department of Health (DOH) to convene a working group of  
11 scientists, health experts, and stakeholders to conduct a  
12 scientific study on the feasibility and effectiveness of  
13 curtailing H5N1 by neutralizing the feral chicken population of  
14 Hawaii; and

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16           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
17 to discuss and present to the Legislature, among other things:

- 18  
19           (1) The development and use of a color-coded, avian  
20 influenza activity scale of infected feral chickens,  
21 similar to the United States Department of Health and  
22 Human Services (USDHHS) Centers for Disease Control  
23 and Prevention's (CDC) Flu Activity Map, representing  
24 the following five threat condition levels and  
25 corresponding colors:  
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27           (A) Red, indicating "widespread";  
28  
29           (B) Blue, indicating "regional";  
30  
31           (C) Purple, indicating "local activity";  
32  
33           (D) Green, indicating "sproadic"; and  
34  
35           (E) Yellow, indicating "no activity";  
36  
37           (2) An algorithm to create a computer software model that  
38 can calculate various infection scenarios occurring in  
39 the Hawaiian Islands resulting from feral chickens  
40 infected with H5N1;  
41  
42           (3) Potential neutralization systems, tactics, procedures,  
43 vehicles, devices, and personnel for an island-wide  
44 feral chicken neutralization program; and



1  
2 (4) Alternative methods for the control of feral chickens;  
3  
4 and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
6 to request assistance from and collaborate with the following  
7 organizations in conducting this feasibility and effectiveness  
8 study:

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- 10 (1) The USDHHS CDC;
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- 12 (2) The United States Army Medical Research Institute of
- 13 Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID);
- 14
- 15 (3) The United Nations World Health Organization (WHO);
- 16
- 17 (4) The University of Hawaii (UH);
- 18
- 19 (5) The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA);
- 20
- 21 (6) The Hawaiian Humane Society (HHS);
- 22
- 23 (7) The Hawaii Game Breeders Association (HGBA); and
- 24
- 25 (8) Any other organization or individual that DOH deems
- 26 relevant;

27  
28 and

29  
30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
31 to submit a report to the Legislature no later than 20 days  
32 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and

33  
34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
35 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director  
36 of DOH, Director of USDHHS Centers for Disease Control and  
37 Prevention, Commanding Officer of USAMRIID, Director of WHO,  
38 Board of Regents of UH, Board of Trustees of OHA, Director of  
39 HHS, and President of HGBA.  
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OFFERED BY:

*Alex M. Sarsour*  
*Ami C. Arbes* *John W. Karaman* *Sylvia B. Berg*  
*Michael P. Kahikina*

