
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE GOVERNOR TO CHANGE THE HAWAII ADMINISTRATIVE RULES TO
ALLOW RAPID HIV TESTING IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, the statistics on the current status of the human
2 immunodeficiency virus (HIV) epidemic in the United States are
3 staggering: an estimated 850,000-950,000 persons are living with
4 HIV; of these, 180,000-280,000 do not know they are infected;
5 each year at public testing sites, 27,000 to 30,000 HIV test
6 results are positive; and 31% of the people who test positive at
7 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded conventional
8 public testing sites do not return for their results; and
9

10 WHEREAS, rapid HIV testing allows patients who undergo
11 testing to receive their test results within about an hour,
12 significantly increasing the likelihood that patients receive
13 their test results and seek further testing and treatment if
14 results are positive; and
15

16 WHEREAS, rapid HIV testing technology was approved for use
17 in the United States by the Federal Drug Administration in March
18 2004; and
19

20 WHEREAS, because of the strict requirements in Chapter 11-
21 110, Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), on the use of rapid HIV
22 testing within the state, rapid HIV testing has been greatly
23 underused for public health purposes in Hawaii; and
24

25 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
26 (CDC), the Substance Abuse and Mental Services Health
27 Administration (SAMSHA), and other major federal public health
28 agencies strongly support the use of the rapid HIV testing to
29 increase knowledge of HIV serostatus; and
30

31 WHEREAS, for example, the use of rapid HIV testing is the
32 focus of CDC's "Advancing HIV Prevention" program; and
33

34 WHEREAS, rapid HIV testing is currently being used in more
35 than 40 states across the nation for public health purposes; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Director of Health.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 14 2007