

MAR 14 2007

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO FUND BREAST CANCER AND CERVICAL  
CANCER SCREENING FOR LOW-INCOME WOMEN IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, breast cancer is the most common cancer among  
2 American women, and is second only to lung cancer as a cause of  
3 cancer-related deaths; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, cervical cancer is the second most common cancer  
6 among women worldwide, and in the United States, about thirteen  
7 thousand women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and about five  
8 thousand die each year; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, with regular and accurate screening, breast cancer  
11 and cervical cancer are highly preventable; and  
12

13 WHEREAS, many deaths from breast and cervical cancer will  
14 occur disproportionately among women in low-income groups  
15 because they are less likely to have access to routine  
16 screenings; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, many of the breast and cervical cancer deaths  
19 among low-income groups could be prevented by making screening  
20 services available to all women at risk; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, native Hawaiian, Filipino, Micronesian, and other  
23 targeted ethnic minority women in Hawaii have higher rates of  
24 developing and dying from breast and cervical cancer than the  
25 national average; and  
26

27 WHEREAS, in 1990, Congress passed the Breast and Cervical  
28 Cancer Mortality Act, leading to the creation of cancer  
29 screening programs in all fifty states; and  
30

31 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Breast and Cervical Cancer Program was  
32 established in 1993 through a cooperative agreement with the  
33 Centers for Disease Control to provide breast and cervical



1 cancer screening services under the National Breast and Cervical  
2 Cancer Early Detection Program; and  
3

4 WHEREAS, the federal funding for this program has leveled  
5 and is likely to decrease in the future. Combined with the  
6 increased cost of screenings, this will lead to fewer routine  
7 screenings for women who truly need assistance; now, therefore,  
8

9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the  
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the Governor is  
12 requested to establish a program to provide coverage of cancer  
13 screening for women fifty to sixty-four years of age who are  
14 low-income or have no or insufficient health insurance; and  
15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
17 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the  
18 Director of Human Services.  
19  
20  
21

OFFERED BY:

*Thomas Chun Oshiro*

