

MAR 14 2007

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO REPORT TO THE
LEGISLATURE ON THE COST OF ESTABLISHING A SUN PROTECTION
PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND COUNTY-SPONSORED
PROGRAMS.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii schools have the potential to influence
2 student's behavior particularly with regard to outdoor
3 activities both during and after school hours; and
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5 WHEREAS, it is estimated that most children and adolescents
6 spend two and one-half to three hours per day outdoors in the
7 sun; and
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9 WHEREAS, exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays during
10 childhood accounts for a significant percentage of a person's
11 lifetime exposure; and
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13 WHEREAS, the lifetime risk of getting skin cancer is
14 directly linked to sun exposure and sunburn during childhood and
15 adolescence; and
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17 WHEREAS, overexposure to the ultraviolet rays of the sun
18 accounts for the majority of all skin cancers in the United
19 States; and
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21 WHEREAS, skin cancer is the most common cancer in the
22 United States, and the American Cancer Society estimates that
23 approximately two hundred seventy people in Hawaii will be
24 diagnosed with skin cancer in 2007; and
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26 WHEREAS, schools, along with families and communities,
27 share the responsibility to promote sun safety; and
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29 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
30 the World Health Organization, and the National Association of
31 School Boards of Education have published guidelines for sun
32 safety and skin protection for schools; and
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1 WHEREAS, because Hawaii's public schools do not have a
2 comprehensive sun protection policy, it is imperative that the
3 State act expeditiously to educate and protect the health of
4 Hawaii's students by establishing a sun protection program in
5 public schools; now, therefore,
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7 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
8 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007,
9 that the Department of Health is requested to report to the
10 Legislature on the cost of establishing a sun protection program
11 for students in public schools and county-sponsored programs;
12 and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
15 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of
16 Health, the Superintendent of Education, and the Chairperson of
17 the Board of Education.
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OFFERED BY: David Y. Ige

