

MAR 14 2007

S.R. NO. 70

SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO DEVELOP A SKIN CANCER
EDUCATION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM AND COLLECT DATA ON THE
INCIDENCE OF ALL FORMS OF SKIN CANCER AMONG RESIDENTS AND
TO WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO IMPLEMENT A
CANCER AWARENESS PROGRAM IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

1 WHEREAS, skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in
2 the United States, with more than one million new cases
3 diagnosed annually; and
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5 WHEREAS, one in five Americans will develop some form of
6 skin cancer during the course of their lifetime; and
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8 WHEREAS, more than ninety per cent of all cases of skin
9 cancer develop from exposure to the sunlight; and
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11 WHEREAS, a person's risk for developing skin cancer doubles
12 if the person has had five or more sunburns; therefore,
13 sunbathers and people that spend a great deal of time outdoors
14 are at particular risk of skin cancer; and
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16 WHEREAS, skin cancer from sun exposure is largely
17 preventable through the use of barriers that protect the user
18 from the sun's harmful rays, such as sunscreen, hats, and
19 clothing; and
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21 WHEREAS, residents and visitors to Hawaii are exposed to
22 high doses of ultraviolet radiation from the sun daily; and
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24 WHEREAS, people with special skin conditions may be even
25 more susceptible to the skin damage from ultraviolet radiation
26 from sunlight; and
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28 WHEREAS, residents and visitors to the State need to be
29 made aware of the risk of sun cancer due to prolonged repeated
30 exposure to high doses of ultraviolet radiation from the sun;
31 and
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1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's young people need to be educated on the
2 dangers of sun exposure and the ways that they may protect
3 themselves against skin cancer; and
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5 WHEREAS, under Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004, the
6 Department of Education is required to assume responsibility for
7 school health services; now therefore,
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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007,
11 that the Department of Health is encouraged to develop a
12 program, that includes public service announcements, to educate
13 all residents and visitors on the dangers of skin cancer and the
14 importance of sun protection; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
17 strongly urged to work with the Department of Education to
18 develop and implement a program in all public schools to educate
19 Hawaii's students on the dangers of sun exposure and the ways
20 that they may protect themselves against skin cancer; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
23 urged to begin data collection on the incidence of all forms of
24 skin cancer among residents of Hawaii, including melanoma, basal
25 cell carcinoma, and squamous cell carcinoma; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
28 encouraged to develop a program to encourage residents to
29 receive regular skin cancer screenings from their health care
30 provider; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
33 encouraged to examine the benefits of dark automobile window
34 tinting for persons with skin conditions that make them more
35 sensitive to sunlight; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, Chairperson
3 of the Board of Education, and the Superintendent of Education.
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OFFERED BY:

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