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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING ALL HOSPITALS THAT PROVIDE MEDICAL CARE TO NEWBORNS TO PROVIDE PARENTS OF THE NEWBORN WITH WRITTEN EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ABOUT THE DANGEROUS EFFECTS OF SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME AND THE METHODS OF PREVENTING SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME.

1           WHEREAS, Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) is the medical term  
2 used to describe the vigorous violent shaking of an infant or  
3 young child and the resulting injuries; and  
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5           WHEREAS, in America, treatment for SBS is sought for an  
6 estimated 1,200 to 1,400 children every year; and  
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8           WHEREAS, at least one in four victims of SBS die as a  
9 result of their injuries; and  
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11           WHEREAS, more than 50 percent of the infants and young  
12 children who survive SBS suffer from residual disabilities,  
13 including brain damage, seizures, mental retardation, spinal  
14 injury, paralysis, blindness, and hearing loss; and  
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16           WHEREAS, it is likely that many more babies suffer from the  
17 effects of SBS, yet no one knows how many, because SBS victims  
18 rarely display any external evidence of trauma; and  
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20           WHEREAS, shaking occurs frequently when a frustrated  
21 caregiver loses control of him or herself while trying to care  
22 for an inconsolable crying baby; and  
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24           WHEREAS, SBS is preventable when parents of newborns are  
25 educated regarding the effects of a moment's violent loss of  
26 control and the resulting signs, symptoms, and effects of SBS;  
27 and



# H.C.R. NO. 25

1 WHEREAS, the message about the dangers of SBS need to be  
 2 shared with all parents of infants and young children; now,  
 3 therefore,

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 5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 6 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
 7 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature  
 8 hereby urges all hospitals that provide medical care to newborns  
 9 to give parents of the newborn written educational information  
 10 approved by the Department of Health (DOH) about the dangerous  
 11 effects of SBS and different methods of preventing SBS; and  
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOH is requested to create,  
 14 identify, and provide suitable informational literature to  
 15 hospitals that provide medical care to newborns to be given to  
 16 the parents of the children; and  
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,  
 20 the Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Health Systems  
 21 Corporation, the Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii  
 22 Healthcare Association, and the Executive Director of Prevent  
 23 Child Abuse Hawaii.  
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