
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

COMMENDING THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES FOR
ITS RECOMMENDATION TO IMMUNIZE ALL CHILDREN AGES SIX MONTHS
THROUGH AGE EIGHTEEN BEGINNING JULY 1, 2009.

1 WHEREAS, influenza is the most frequent cause of death from
2 a vaccine-preventable disease in the United States; and

3
4 WHEREAS, between 1990 and 1999, an average of 36,000
5 influenza-associated pulmonary and circulatory deaths occurred
6 during each influenza season; and

7
8 WHEREAS, influenza is also responsible for an average of
9 200,000 hospitalizations per year; and

10
11 WHEREAS, health experts believe vaccinating children may
12 help prevent deaths and prevent influenza from spreading among
13 adults and the elderly; and

14
15 WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
16 is responsible for making official federal recommendations for
17 the use of vaccines and immunizations in the United States; and

18
19 WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
20 consists of fifteen experts in fields associated with
21 immunization who have been selected by the Secretary of the
22 United States Department of Health and Human Services; and

23
24 WHEREAS, the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on
25 Immunization Practices are routinely adopted by the Centers for
26 Disease Control and Prevention, which issues vaccination
27 guidelines to doctors and hospitals; and

28
29 WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
30 recommends routine influenza vaccination for all children aged
31 six months through age eighteen; and



1
2 WHEREAS, influenza vaccination is currently recommended for
3 those considered to be at high risk for severe complications
4 from influenza including children ages six months to five years,
5 adults age fifty or older, and people with weakened immune
6 systems, as well as persons who live or care for people at high
7 risk; and

8
9 WHEREAS, vaccine manufacturers are expected to produce
10 enough vaccine doses to ensure that supplies meet the demand of
11 persons considered to be at high risk and persons covered by the
12 new expanded vaccination recommendations; and

13
14 WHEREAS, the need to increase the vaccination rate for
15 children is a national priority and the health care system may
16 not be prepared to accommodate 30,000,000 children; and

17
18 WHEREAS, recent studies suggest school-based vaccination
19 programs are an effective way to vaccinate children while
20 reducing community infection rates and reducing rates of school
21 absenteeism due to influenza; and

22
23 WHEREAS, increased communication with and education of
24 parents and health care providers can increase the rate of
25 vaccination for children and adults and may reduce infection and
26 serious illness; now, therefore,

27
28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
30 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature commends
31 the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices for its
32 recommendation to immunize all children ages six months through
33 age eighteen beginning July 1, 2009; and

34
35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature supports the
36 efforts to reduce the incidence of vaccine-preventable diseases
37 in the United States, including communication and education
38 programs to encourage influenza vaccination to reduce infection
39 and serious illness; and

40
41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Legislature encourages increased
42 funding for the delivery of influenza vaccines to children,
43 including school-based vaccination programs; and



H.C.R. NO. 290

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairman of the
3 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.
4
5
6

OFFERED BY:

Karen Luana
Rickie C. Bull
Z

MAR 18 2009

