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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO INCREASE EDUCATIONAL  
EFFORTS TO PREVENT AND ERADICATE CERVICAL CANCER.

1           WHEREAS, the dedicated and combined efforts of medical  
2 researchers are finding the causes and cures of the many types  
3 of cancer that besiege us; and  
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5           WHEREAS, scientists have found that cervical and related  
6 cancers and genital warts are caused by a virus - the human  
7 papilloma virus (HPV); and  
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9           WHEREAS, in a few cases, men are susceptible to related  
10 cancers caused by HPV's; and  
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12           WHEREAS, HPV is contracted through skin to skin contact and  
13 sexual transmission; and  
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15           WHEREAS, abnormal cells that lead to cervical cancer can  
16 often be identified by Pap tests given during cervical  
17 examination and can be confirmed by HPV tests; and  
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19           WHEREAS, although 94% of women in Hawaii have had cervical  
20 screening, by ramping up educational efforts to encourage all  
21 women to get regular examinations, cancers can be diagnosed at  
22 earlier stages and successfully treated; and  
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24           WHEREAS, cervical examinations are covered by health  
25 insurers, HMOs, Medicaid and Medicare, so cost is not a large  
26 factor in this preventive measure; and  
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28           WHEREAS, a vaccine is now available that is 100% effective  
29 in preventing disease from high risk types of HPV that account  
30 for 70% of all cervical cancer; and  
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1 WHEREAS, a few states now require girls to receive cervical  
 2 cancer vaccines prior to attending middle school, and the 2008  
 3 Legislature passed a resolution requesting the Department of  
 4 Health to outline the pros and cons of such a program in Hawaii;  
 5 and

6  
 7 WHEREAS, the Department of Health can ramp up its current  
 8 efforts to expand education about the causes, cures and  
 9 prevention of cervical cancer, and to encourage all women to get  
 10 regular pap and/or HPV tests; now, therefore,

11  
 12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 13 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
 14 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Health is  
 15 requested to expand its educational programs to increase  
 16 cervical screening and awareness by both men and all women, in  
 17 particular, and suggest new and innovative measures to better  
 18 disseminate information in order to prevent, and eventually  
 19 eradicate, cervical and related cancers - a dreaded disease; and  
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the director of the  
 23 Department of Health.  
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 25  
 26

OFFERED BY:

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