
HOUSE 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
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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
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8 WHEREAS, influenza is also responsible for an average of
9 200,000 hospitalizations per year; and
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11 WHEREAS, health experts believe vaccinating children may
12 help prevent deaths and prevent influenza from spreading among
13 adults and the elderly; and
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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
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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
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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
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29 WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
30 recommends routine influenza vaccination for all children aged
31 six months through age eighteen; and
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33 WHEREAS, influenza vaccination is currently recommended for
34 those considered to be at high risk for severe complications



1 from influenza including children ages six months to five years,
2 adults age fifty or older, and people with weakened immune
3 systems, as well as persons who live or care for people at high
4 risk; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this body encourages increased
39 funding for the delivery of influenza vaccines to children,
40 including school-based vaccination programs; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairman of the Advisory
3 Committee on Immunization Practices.
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OFFERED BY:

Karen Chuana
Rick Curbum
Zor

MAR 18 2009

