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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND THE SCHOOL OF NURSING AND DENTAL HYGIENE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO INCLUDE BREASTFEEDING IN EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM TO EDUCATE MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS TO ADVOCATE AND PROMOTE BREASTFEEDING AMONG EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

1           WHEREAS, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics,  
2 human breast milk is preferred for all infants, including even  
3 premature and sick babies, with rare exceptions; and  
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5           WHEREAS, according to the World Health Organization, a lack  
6 of exclusive breastfeeding during the first six months of life  
7 contributes to over one million avoidable child deaths each  
8 year; and  
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10           WHEREAS, human breast milk is safe and contains antibodies  
11 that help protect infants from common childhood illnesses,  
12 including diarrhea and pneumonia which are the two primary  
13 causes of child mortality worldwide; and  
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15           WHEREAS, recent studies show that babies who are  
16 exclusively breastfed for the first six months are less likely  
17 to develop ear infections, diarrhea, and respiratory illnesses  
18 and may also be less likely to develop childhood obesity; and  
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20           WHEREAS, breastfeeding also benefits mothers by inducing a  
21 lack of menstruation, which is a natural method of birth  
22 control; reducing risks of breast and ovarian cancer later in  
23 life; helping women return to their pre-pregnancy weight faster;  
24 and lowering rates of obesity; and  
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26           WHEREAS, breastfeeding is inexpensive and convenient, and  
27 breast milk is least likely to cause allergic reactions in  
28 babies; and  
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1           WHEREAS, the act of breastfeeding contributes greatly to  
2 developing and cementing the lifelong bond between mother and  
3 child and also increases self-esteem in mothers; and  
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5           WHEREAS, breastfeeding reduces health care costs for  
6 mothers and their babies; and  
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8           WHEREAS, although almost every mother can breastfeed  
9 successfully, some new mothers may need the encouragement and  
10 practical support of their families, health care providers, and  
11 employers; and  
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13           WHEREAS, health care professionals play a crucial role in  
14 providing the supportive education and encouragement necessary  
15 to convince expectant and new mothers to breastfeed their  
16 babies; now, therefore,  
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18           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the  
20 House of Representatives concurring, that the John A. Burns  
21 School of Medicine and the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene  
22 of the University of Hawaii are encouraged to include  
23 breastfeeding in an educational curriculum to educate medical  
24 professionals to advocate and promote breastfeeding among  
25 expectant and new mothers; and  
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27           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Dean of the John A.  
29 Burns School of Medicine, Dean of the School of Nursing and  
30 Dental Hygiene of the University of Hawaii, and Director of  
31 Health.  
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