
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE TO INCLUDE A MANDATORY COURSE ON CHILDHOOD OBESITY
IN THE CURRICULUM FOR ALL MEDICAL STUDENTS.

1 WHEREAS, childhood obesity rates in the United States have
2 tripled over the past three decades, and today nearly one in
3 three children in the United States are overweight or obese; and
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5 WHEREAS, obese children may experience immediate health
6 consequences that can lead to weight-related health problems in
7 adulthood, including heart disease, high blood pressure,
8 diabetes, asthma, and sleep apnea; and
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10 WHEREAS, in addition to being at risk of poor physical
11 health, overweight and obese children are often targets of early
12 social discrimination and stigmatization that can cause low
13 self-esteem and hinder academic and social functioning; and
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15 WHEREAS, the recent rise in child obesity rates is
16 attributable to poor eating habits, lack of exercise, and
17 unhealthy lifestyles; and
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19 WHEREAS, the prevention and management of childhood obesity
20 can be greatly enhanced by raising awareness and knowledge
21 within the medical profession of the causes, risk factors, and
22 treatment options for this nationwide health problem; now,
23 therefore,
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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
26 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
27 Session of 2013, that the University of Hawaii John A. Burns
28 School of Medicine is requested to include a mandatory course on
29 childhood obesity in the curriculum for all medical students;
30 and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the mandatory course on
33 childhood obesity provide information regarding:
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- 1 (1) The incidence and prevalence of obesity among children
- 2 from birth through adolescence;
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- 4 (2) The short- and long-term consequences of childhood
- 5 obesity;
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- 7 (3) Major factors contributing to childhood obesity;
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- 9 (4) Approaches to the treatment of overweight or obese
- 10 children and adolescents; and
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- 12 (5) Individual and public health approaches to the
- 13 prevention of childhood obesity; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 16 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the University
 17 of Hawaii Board of Regents, the President of the University of
 18 Hawaii System, the Dean of the University of Hawaii John A.
 19 Burns School of Medicine, and the Director of Health.

20 OFFERED BY:

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MAR 13 2013

