
HOUSE RESOLUTION

STRONGLY URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO INFORM FAMILIES ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF FREE IMMUNIZATIONS TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS UNDER TWENTY-ONE YEARS THROUGH THE HAWAII EARLY PERIODIC SCREENING, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT PROGRAM.

1 WHEREAS, vaccinations are essential to the prevention of
2 disease and reduction of health care expenses; and
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4 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
5 ("CDC") reported that in 2011, only 78.5 per cent of children
6 under three years of age received certain recommended
7 vaccinations and less than 74 per cent of children between
8 thirteen and seventeen years of age received recommended
9 vaccinations; and
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11 WHEREAS, the CDC reported that children living below the
12 federal poverty level received a lower rate of vaccination than
13 children living at or above the federal poverty level; and
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15 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Early and Periodic Screening,
16 Diagnosis, and Treatment Program ("EPSDT Program") is a
17 federally mandated program that provides preventive and
18 comprehensive health care services at no cost to Medicaid
19 eligible individuals under age twenty-one; and
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21 WHEREAS, the EPSDT Program furnishes the recommended
22 vaccinations at no cost to eligible children living below the
23 federal poverty level and, thus, eliminates economic barriers to
24 the recommended vaccinations; and
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26 WHEREAS, Medicaid eligible families may not be aware of the
27 availability of free vaccinations under the EPSDT Program; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Department of Education and Department of
 2 Human Services have the ability to inform children and families
 3 about the availability of free vaccinations under the EPSDT
 4 Program; now, therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 7 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 8 Session of 2013, that the Department of Education and Department
 9 of Human Services are strongly urged to inform children and
 10 families about the availability of free vaccinations under the
 11 EPSDT Program; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 14 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
 15 Education, the Superintendent of Education, and the Director of
 16 Human Services.
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OFFERED BY:

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