
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A WORKING GROUP TO RECOMMEND WAYS TO
REDUCE INCIDENTS OF SEPSIS AND SEPSIS DEATHS IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, sepsis is a serious medical condition that is
2 caused by an overwhelming immune response to infection, whereby
3 immune chemicals released into the blood to combat infection
4 trigger widespread inflammation; and
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6 WHEREAS, the United States National Library of Medicine and
7 National Institutes of Health indicate that for sepsis, blood
8 pressure drops, resulting in shock, and major organs and body
9 systems, including the kidneys, liver, lungs, and central
10 nervous systems, stop working properly because of poor blood
11 flow; and
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13 WHEREAS, sepsis can lead to shock, organ failure, and
14 death; and
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16 WHEREAS, according to the National Institute of General
17 Medical Services, every year, severe sepsis strikes about
18 750,000 Americans, of which an estimated 28 percent to 50
19 percent will die, which is far more than the number of deaths in
20 the United States from prostate cancer, breast cancer, and AIDS
21 (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) combined; and
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23 WHEREAS, sepsis is among the leading causes of death in the
24 United States; and preventive measures are needed immediately to
25 address this rising health problem; now, therefore,
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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
28 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
29 Session of 2014, that the Director of Health is requested to
30 convene a working group to recommend ways to reduce incidents of
31 sepsis and sepsis deaths in the State; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group consider the
2 following:

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- 4 (1) Examine and identify barriers to quality care for
5 patients with sepsis;
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- 7 (2) Review and assess national models, best practices, and
8 guidelines comparative to Hawaii's needs;
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- 10 (3) Consider options for improving early recognition,
11 identification, and treatment of sepsis and septic
12 shock in Hawaii's hospitals;
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- 14 (4) Improve the collection, use, and reporting of quality
15 measures by medical staff related to the recognition
16 and treatment of sepsis;
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- 18 (5) Provide recommendations to better educate the public
19 about sepsis, including its symptoms, diagnoses,
20 treatment, and preventive measures;
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- 22 (6) Identify barriers and make recommendations to address
23 the costs of sepsis and costs necessary to combat
24 sepsis; and
- 25
- 26 (7) Any other recommendation deemed relevant by the
27 Director of Health to further the purpose of this
28 measure; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings and
31 recommendations of the task force be considered, and
32 incorporated as feasible, as part of a comprehensive plan to be
33 developed by the Department of Health to combat sepsis in the
34 State; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
37 submit a written report of its findings and recommendations,
38 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
39 than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
40 2015; and

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42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
43 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.

