
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO GATHER
BASELINE INFORMATION ON THE INCIDENCE OF SEPSIS IN HAWAII
AND THE SEPSIS MORTALITY RATE.

1 WHEREAS, sepsis is a serious medical condition caused by an
2 overwhelming immune response to bacterial infection, whereby
3 immune chemicals released into the blood to combat infection
4 trigger widespread inflammation; and

5
6 WHEREAS, sepsis can lead to shock, organ failure, and
7 death; and

8
9 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
10 indicates that sepsis kills more than 258,000 Americans each
11 year and leaves thousands of survivors with life-changing after
12 effects; and

13
14 WHEREAS, there are over 1,000,000 cases of sepsis in the
15 United States each year, with sepsis being the ninth-leading
16 cause of disease-related death in the nation; and

17
18 WHEREAS, patients hospitalized for sepsis or septicemia had
19 longer lengths of stay and more than an eight-fold increase in
20 in-hospital mortality than patients hospitalized for other
21 diagnoses; and

22
23 WHEREAS, there is currently no database of mortality rates
24 by sepsis or incidence of sepsis-related infection across the
25 State; and

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27 WHEREAS, in 2014, the Legislature recognized the
28 seriousness of sepsis and requested the convening of a task
29 force to recommend ways to reduce incidents of sepsis and
30 sepsis-related deaths in the State; and



H.C.R. NO. 140

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2 WHEREAS, in its January 2015 report to the Legislature, the
3 State of Hawaii Sepsis Task Force wrote "[i]t would also be
4 valuable to establish a baseline for Hawaii for future
5 evaluations of the impact of interventions", and recommended
6 that efforts should be put in place to "work towards defining a
7 more representative sepsis incidence baseline in the [S]tate,
8 either through the use of administrative or clinical data"; and
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10 WHEREAS, the current outbreak of dengue fever in Hawaii
11 County further necessitates heightened attention to sepsis, as
12 dengue shock syndrome is a type of sepsis; now, therefore,
13

14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
15 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
16 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
17 Health is requested to conduct a study to gather baseline
18 information on the incidence of sepsis in Hawaii and the sepsis
19 mortality rate; and
20

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study:

- 22
- 23 (1) Examine and identify barriers to quality care for
24 patients with sepsis;
 - 25
 - 26 (2) Compile data about the mortality rate from sepsis
27 throughout the entire State;
 - 28
 - 29 (3) Examine any potential links between septic shock and
30 dengue shock syndromes and any correlation with higher
31 rates of patients contracting sepsis in Hawaii County;
 - 32
 - 33 (4) Review and assess national models, best practices, and
34 guidelines in relation to Hawaii's needs;
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 - 36 (5) Consider options for improving early recognition,
37 identification, and treatment of sepsis and septic
38 shock in Hawaii's hospitals;
 - 39
 - 40 (6) Provide recommendations to improve the collection,
41 use, and reporting of quality measures by medical



1 staff related to the recognition and treatment of
2 sepsis;

3
4 (7) Provide recommendations to improve public education
5 about sepsis, including its symptoms, diagnoses,
6 treatment, and preventive measures;

7
8 (8) Identify barriers and make recommendations to address
9 the costs of sepsis and costs necessary to combat
10 sepsis; and

11
12 (9) Provide any other recommendation deemed relevant by
13 the Department of Health to further the purpose of
14 this measure; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings and
17 recommendations of the study be considered, and incorporated as
18 feasible, as part of a comprehensive plan to be developed by the
19 Department of Health to combat sepsis in the State; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
22 requested to submit a report of its findings and
23 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
24 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
25 the Regular Session of 2017; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.
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OFFERED BY: Richard Hayes

Ben Kolyni
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Bob Bell

GSE

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[Signature]