
HOUSE 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

26
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

31



H.R. NO. 92

1 WHEREAS, in its January 2015 report to the Legislature, the
2 State of Hawaii Sepsis Task Force wrote "[i]t would also be
3 valuable to establish a baseline for Hawaii for future
4 evaluations of the impact of interventions", and recommended
5 that efforts should be put in place to "work towards defining a
6 more representative sepsis incidence baseline in the [S]tate,
7 either through the use of administrative or clinical data"; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the current outbreak of dengue fever in Hawaii
10 County further necessitates heightened attention to sepsis, as
11 dengue shock syndrome is a type of sepsis; now, therefore,
12

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

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study:

- 20
21 (1) Examine and identify barriers to quality care for
22 patients with sepsis;
- 23
24 (2) Compile data about the mortality rate from sepsis
25 throughout the entire State;
- 26
27 (3) Examine any potential links between septic shock and
28 dengue shock syndromes and any correlation with higher
29 rates of patients contracting sepsis in Hawaii County;
- 30
31 (4) Review and assess national models, best practices, and
32 guidelines in relation to Hawaii's needs;
- 33
34 (5) Consider options for improving early recognition,
35 identification, and treatment of sepsis and septic
36 shock in Hawaii's hospitals;
- 37
38 (6) Provide recommendations to improve the collection,
39 use, and reporting of quality measures by medical
40 staff related to the recognition and treatment of
41 sepsis;
- 42



H.R. NO. 92

- 1 (7) Provide recommendations to improve public education
- 2 about sepsis, including its symptoms, diagnoses,
- 3 treatment, and preventive measures;
- 4
- 5 (8) Identify barriers and make recommendations to address
- 6 the costs of sepsis and costs necessary to combat
- 7 sepsis; and
- 8
- 9 (9) Provide any other recommendation deemed relevant by
- 10 the Department of Health to further the purpose of
- 11 this measure; and
- 12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings and
 14 recommendations of the study be considered, and incorporated as
 15 feasible, as part of a comprehensive plan to be developed by the
 16 Department of Health to combat sepsis in the State; and

17
 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
 19 requested to submit a report of its findings and
 20 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
 21 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
 22 the Regular Session of 2017; and

23
 24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 25 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.

26
 27
 28

OFFERED BY: Richard Lee

Brend Kolynski
Steve Arcinetti

Bill Fullin

GLE

Mark J. Hall

Wm

Wm

