
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH AND CONVENE A
SEPSIS BEST PRACTICES GROUP.

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, the current outbreak of dengue fever in Hawaii
24 County further necessitates heightened attention to sepsis, as
25 dengue shock syndrome is a type of sepsis; and

26
27 WHEREAS, dengue shock syndrome occurs due to the dengue
28 virus that causes abdominal pain, hemorrhage, and circulatory
29 collapse or shock, which can cause multi-organ failure; and

30
31 WHEREAS, the threat of mortality for both septic shock and
32 dengue shock syndrome are higher in children and the elderly,
33 who have weaker immune systems; and



1
 2 WHEREAS, in 2014, the Legislature recognized the
 3 seriousness of sepsis and requested the convening of a task
 4 force to recommend ways to reduce incidents of sepsis and
 5 sepsis-related deaths in the State; and

6
 7 WHEREAS, in its January 2015 report to the Legislature, the
 8 State of Hawaii Sepsis Task Force "concluded that the optimal
 9 approach to work towards early recognition of sepsis and
 10 reducing sepsis deaths across the [S]tate is to regularly
 11 convene experts from Hawaii's acute care hospitals in a Sepsis
 12 Best Practice[s] Group"; 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, that the Director of Health is requested to
 17 establish a Sepsis Best Practices Group; and

18
 19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Health invite
 20 one physician champion and one administrative representative
 21 from each of Hawaii's acute care hospitals to become members of
 22 the Sepsis Best Practices Group; and

23
 24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sepsis Best Practices Group
 25 engage in the following tasks recommended by the State of Hawaii
 26 Sepsis Task Force:

- 27
 28 (1) Meet regularly to discuss best practices, educational
 29 opportunities, and emerging federal sepsis policies
 30 and regulations, as well as recommend implementation
 31 of best practices, as necessary;
 32
 33 (2) Facilitate the performance of a sepsis improvement
 34 needs-assessment within each facility so that
 35 facilities can best determine resource allocation;
 36
 37 (3) Monitor the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid
 38 Services' consideration of National Quality Forum
 39 measure #0500 and address the impact that the measure
 40 is likely to have on Hawaii hospitals if adopted;
 41



- 1 (4) Work towards defining a more representative sepsis
- 2 incidence baseline in the State through administrative
- 3 or clinical data;
- 4
- 5 (5) Partner with each acute care hospital's associated
- 6 critical access hospital to disseminate current best
- 7 practices regarding early recognition and intervention
- 8 in sepsis; and
- 9
- 10 (6) Encourage the adoption of sepsis educational materials
- 11 and initiatives by facilities; and
- 12

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

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

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

OFFERED BY:

Brend Koyachi
State Representative

Richard King

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Mark J. Hall

[Signature]

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