
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO COLLABORATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO PROMOTE AWARENESS OF RECOMMENDED VACCINES FOR ADOLESCENTS, INCLUDING MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE.

1 WHEREAS, meningococcal disease is any infection caused by
2 the bacterium *Neisseria meningitidis*; and
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4 WHEREAS, although 1 in 10 people are carriers for this
5 bacteria with no signs or symptoms of disease, between 800 and
6 1,500 individuals fall ill from the *Neisseria meningitidis*
7 bacteria each year; and
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9 WHEREAS, 10 to 15 infected individuals out of 100 will die
10 even when treated, and 10 to 20 out of every 100 people who
11 survive will suffer from serious morbidity, including loss of
12 limbs and impacts to the nervous system; and
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14 WHEREAS, infants under one year of age and young adults
15 between the ages of 16 and 23 are among those most commonly
16 impacted by this disease; and
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18 WHEREAS, meningococcal disease is spread from person to
19 person via the exchange of the bacteria through respiratory and
20 throat secretion during close or lengthy contact, and community
21 settings in which large groups of people gather, like college
22 campuses, can increase the risk of the spread of meningococcal
23 disease; and
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25 WHEREAS, there are different strains or serogroups of
26 *Neisseria meningitidis*, with serogroups B, C, and Y accounting
27 for most meningococcal diseases in the United States, including



1 several recent outbreaks of serogroup B meningococcal disease on
2 college campuses in which some cases resulted in death; and
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4 WHEREAS, vaccines that provide protection against multiple
5 serogroups, including B, C, and Y which are the types most
6 commonly seen in the United States, are available, and
7 vaccination for serogroups A, C, W, and Y is routinely
8 recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
9 and
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11 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's
12 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends that the
13 decision to vaccinate against serogroup B be made on an
14 individual level in consultation with health care providers; and
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16 WHEREAS, the recent incidence of meningococcal disease has
17 served as a reminder of the critical role that awareness of
18 vaccines to prevent illness from multiple serogroups of
19 *Neisseria meningitidis* plays in prevention of this devastating
20 illness; and
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22 WHEREAS, in addition to meningococcal disease, the Advisory
23 Committee on Immunization Practices recommends that children
24 between the ages of 11 and 12 receive an annual influenza
25 vaccine as well as vaccines for the human papillomavirus and
26 tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis; and
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28 WHEREAS, promotion of preteen and adolescent vaccinations
29 is consistent with current medical practice and national
30 recommendations by the Advisory Committee on Immunization
31 Practices, American Academy of Pediatrics, and American Academy
32 of Family Physicians; now, therefore,
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34 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
35 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the
36 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
37 Health is requested to collaborate with the Department of
38 Education, Hawaii Association of Independent Schools, and the
39 University of Hawaii to provide information to students and
40 parents statewide about all vaccinations recommended for
41 adolescents, including but not limited to meningococcal disease



1 vaccinations and the various serogroups, symptoms, risks,
2 prevention, and treatment of meningococcal disease; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
5 requested to include information on the availability, benefits,
6 risks, and limitations of all vaccines recommended by the
7 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, including but not
8 limited to recommendations for meningococcal vaccinations to
9 prevent serogroups A and B, and specific information for
10 individuals at high risk of contracting meningococcal disease;
11 and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
14 requested to make recommendations to the Department of
15 Education, Hawaii Association of Independent Schools, and the
16 University of Hawaii regarding the immunization of current and
17 entering adolescent and young adult students; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,
21 Superintendent of Education, Chancellors of the University of
22 Hawaii's University and Community College campuses, and
23 Executive Director of Hawaii Association of Independent Schools.

