

MAR 10 2017

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION TO ADOPT THE
PITCH SMART GUIDELINES FOR HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL PITCHERS.

1 WHEREAS, there is strong anecdotal evidence to support the
2 conclusion that young, amateur baseball pitchers are undergoing
3 Tommy John surgery to repair torn or ruptured ulnar collateral
4 ligaments of the elbow at unprecedented rates; and
5

6 WHEREAS, Tommy John surgery regularly requires a year or
7 more of recovery time and does not improve a pitcher's
8 performance levels; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the single most significant risk factor
11 contributing to the need for Tommy John surgery is daily,
12 weekly, and annual overuse; and
13

14 WHEREAS, it is important to provide coaches, pitchers, and
15 parents in the State with guidelines for pitch counts and rest
16 periods designed to limit the risk of serious arm injury to
17 young pitchers; and
18

19 WHEREAS, the Hawaii High School Athletic Association
20 sanctions high school interscholastic athletic events, including
21 baseball, for its ninety-six public and private high school
22 members across the State; and
23

24 WHEREAS, the Hawaii High School Athletic Association
25 recently adopted a daily pitch count limit and mandatory rest
26 requirements for baseball pitchers pitching in preseason and
27 state tournament games; and
28

29 WHEREAS, the Hawaii High School Athletic Association's
30 newly enacted pitch count limit and mandatory rest requirements
31 are a good first step, but do not do enough to protect the arms
32 of young, high school pitchers in the State; and
33



S.C.R. NO. 91

1 WHEREAS, USA Baseball and Major League Baseball have
 2 developed Pitch Smart guidelines pertaining to pitch counts and
 3 rest periods across all competitions for pitchers up to age
 4 twenty-two based on the recommendations of an advisory committee
 5 consisting of, among others, world-renowned physicians and
 6 leaders in the field of Tommy John surgery; and

7
 8 WHEREAS, adopting the Pitch Smart guidelines for high
 9 school pitchers in the State would direct coaches and players to
 10 follow the best, most up-to-date guidelines for protecting high
 11 school pitchers' arms from serious injury; now, therefore,

12
 13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
 14 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the
 15 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii High School
 16 Athletic Association is urged to adopt the Pitch Smart
 17 guidelines pertaining to pitch counts and rest periods to reduce
 18 the risk of arm injury in high school baseball pitchers to be
 19 followed by all baseball players and coaches of member schools;
 20 and

21
 22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director
 24 of the Hawaii High School Athletic Association.

OFFERED BY:

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with you
Michelle Sedani

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