
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING RETAIL STORES AND PHARMACIES DOING BUSINESS IN THE STATE TO ADOPT A POLICY ON A NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVEL GUARANTEEING AN INDIVIDUAL'S UNHINDERED ACCESS TO ALL UNITED STATES FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION-APPROVED CONTRACEPTIVES.

1 WHEREAS, the benefits of contraception are widely
2 recognized and include improved health and well-being, reduced
3 global maternal mortality, health benefits of pregnancy spacing
4 for maternal and child health, female engagement in the work
5 force, and economic self-sufficiency for women; and
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7 WHEREAS, ninety-nine percent of women in the United States
8 who have been sexually active report having used some form of
9 contraception; and
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11 WHEREAS, non-contraceptive benefits may include decreased
12 bleeding and pain with menstrual periods and reduced risk of
13 gynecologic disorders, including a decreased risk of endometrial
14 and ovarian cancer; and
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16 WHEREAS, according to the 2020 Hawaii Pregnancy Risk
17 Assessment Monitoring System report, between 2012 and 2016,
18 approximately forty-seven percent of all pregnancies in Hawaii
19 were unintended; and
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21 WHEREAS, the women most likely to have an unintended
22 pregnancy in the State were Native Hawaiian, Filipino, or
23 Pacific Islander; those under twenty years of age, unmarried,
24 and insured through Medicaid or uninsured before pregnancy;
25 those who had three or more previous live births; or those who
26 were at or below one hundred percent of the federal poverty
27 level; and
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29 WHEREAS, unintended pregnancy is related to adverse health
30 behaviors including late prenatal care; smoking during



1 pregnancy; placing the infant on their stomach or side to sleep,
2 which is a major risk factor for sudden infant death; and a
3 greater likelihood of postpartum depression; and
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5 WHEREAS, one issue contributing to unintended pregnancies
6 is lack of access to contraception, which includes availability,
7 affordability, insurance coverage, transportation, and
8 convenience; and
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10 WHEREAS, pharmacist refusals to fill contraceptive
11 prescriptions or provide emergency contraception, as well as
12 pharmacies that refuse to stock contraceptives, are considerable
13 barriers to access of this essential health care; and
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15 WHEREAS, the placing of condoms behind locked glass is an
16 access barrier to contraception that likely impacts the role
17 condoms play in reducing unintended pregnancy and offering
18 protection against sexually transmitted infections; and
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20 WHEREAS, a study conducted by the University of Iowa in
21 2011 showed an increase in retail sales of condoms when they
22 were moved from behind locked glass; and
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24 WHEREAS, access to comprehensive contraceptive care and
25 contraceptive methods are an integral component of essential
26 health care and thus retail stores and pharmacies should adopt
27 policies that ensure full, unrestricted access to contraception;
28 now, therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
31 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
32 Session of 2023, that retail stores and pharmacies doing
33 business in the State are urged to adopt policies on a national
34 and local level to guarantee an individual's unhindered access
35 to all United States Food and Drug Administration-approved
36 contraceptives; and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
39 Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Executive Officer of
40 Albertsons Companies, Inc.; Chief Executive Officer of Costco;
41 Chief Executive Officer of CVS Health; Executive Vice President
42 and President of Walgreens Pharmacy; President and Chief



1 Executive Officer of Walmart Inc.; Chairman and Chief Executive
2 Officer of Target Corporation; President of Times Supermarkets;
3 and President of Retail Merchants of Hawaii for distribution to
4 the store managers of every Safeway, Costco, Long's, Walgreens,
5 Walmart, Target, and Times retail location in the State that is
6 located within one mile of a high school.

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OFFERED BY:

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