

MAR 03 2016

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ENDORSE THE "SCREEN AT 23"
CAMPAIGN THAT SCREENS ADULT ASIAN AMERICANS FOR TYPE 2
DIABETES AT A BODY MASS INDEX OF 23.

1 WHEREAS, approximately 130,000 people, or 9.1 percent of
2 the population, in Hawaii have diabetes, 442,000 or 30.9 percent
3 have pre-diabetes, and residents of Asian American heritage
4 comprise 56.2 percent of the population of Hawaii; and
5

6 WHEREAS, diabetes is the fifth leading cause of death among
7 Asian Americans; and
8

9 WHEREAS, Asian Americans are 30 percent more likely to have
10 diabetes than White Americans and are also at greater risk of
11 developing pre-diabetes, diabetes, and associated risks at a
12 lower body mass index than White, Hispanic, Black, or Native
13 Americans; and
14

15 WHEREAS, Asian Americans face a health care disparity in
16 type 2 diabetes detection and diagnosis, as the current
17 guidelines for screening Asian Americans at a body mass index of
18 25 not only miss 32 percent of diabetes diagnoses in Hawaii, but
19 also underestimate the prevalence of pre-diabetes among Asian
20 Americans; and
21

22 WHEREAS, two out of three persons with type 2 diabetes die
23 from heart attack or stroke, and adults with diabetes are at
24 risk for developing end stage renal disease and kidney failure,
25 blindness, and lower limb loss; and
26

27 WHEREAS, the per capita health care cost of diabetes in the
28 State is \$14,377 per year, while the annual cost for diabetes in
29 the State is \$1,500,000,000 in medical costs and \$400,000,000 in
30 indirect costs and productivity loss; and
31

32 WHEREAS, early detection and treatment can mitigate
33 diabetes-related complications, risks, and costs; and
34



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1 WHEREAS, interventions focusing on nutrition, physical
2 activity, and healthy weight loss have been shown to reverse
3 pre-diabetes, improve glucose function in people with diabetes,
4 and reduce the need for multiple medications; and
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6 WHEREAS, screening Asian American patients at a body mass
7 index of 23 instead of 25 would unmask thousands of new diabetes
8 cases and more than three times that amount of new pre-diabetes
9 cases in the State, thereby initiating treatment or early
10 interventions to reduce negative co-morbidities like heart
11 diseases, kidney diseases, and limb amputation; and
12

13 WHEREAS, the National Institutes of Health recently found
14 that more than half of Asian Americans with diabetes are
15 undiagnosed, and community based participatory research and
16 studies on Asian American subpopulations have shown that Asian
17 Americans develop diabetes at a lower body mass index; and
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19 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization recommends screening
20 Asian patients at a lower body mass index than non-Hispanic
21 Whites, and the 2015 official guidelines of the American
22 Diabetes Association recommend that Asian Americans should be
23 tested for type 2 diabetes at a body mass index of 23; and
24

25 WHEREAS, the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific
26 Islander Diabetes Coalition has coordinated the "Asian BMI"
27 efforts of over 15 national and regional organizations,
28 culminating in the launch of the "Screen at 23" campaign; and
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30 WHEREAS, Hawaii has the opportunity to be one of the first
31 states to formally recognize and recommend screening adult Asian
32 Americans for type 2 diabetes at a body mass index of 23,
33 enabling thousands of individuals to get the early care and
34 treatment needed to live healthier and happier lives; now,
35 therefore,
36

37 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
38 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016,
39 that the Department of Health is urged to endorse the "Screen at
40 23" campaign's efforts to increase awareness of diabetes among
41 Asian American communities and to eliminate disparities; and
42



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
 2 also urged to encourage all public and private health care
 3 providers and facilities to participate in these efforts; and
 4

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 6 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Director of
 7 Health.
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