

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6021

A RESOLUTION urging the Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to review the data regarding cervical cancer and human papillomavirus, to evaluate current methods of public education and access to regular cervical cancer screening and to consider options for increasing screening accuracy.

WHEREAS, Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer in women worldwide after breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, According to United States cervical cancer statistics, the disease is the third most common gynecological cancer among American women, with approximately 12,200 new cases being diagnosed annually, and with 4,100 of these cases resulting in fatalities; and

WHEREAS, Cervical cancer is highly preventable with regular and accurate screening; and

WHEREAS, Widespread screening programs have helped reduce death rates from cervical cancer, but women are still dying; and

WHEREAS, Cervical cancer cases in the United States are generally attributed to lack of education and access to regular cervical cancer screening, and lack of screening accuracy; and

WHEREAS, Experience shows that increasing cervical cancer awareness among women, especially underserved women, significantly reduces the probability of mortality; and

WHEREAS, New screening technologies, including FDA-approved testing for human papillomavirus, offer new opportunities to eliminate finally this potentially deadly disease through early identification of women at increased risk; and

WHEREAS, Leading medical organizations, including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Cancer Society and Association of Reproductive Health Professionals have recently updated their screening guidelines to include FDA-approved testing for human papillomavirus; and

WHEREAS, Women are entitled to proper cervical cancer information, so that they can be empowered to make informed health care decisions, and access to routine screening, including the most accurate methods available: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That the House of Representatives recognizes the severity of the issue of cervical health and urges Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to review data regarding cervical cancer and human papillomavirus and evaluate current methods used to provide women with information regarding cervical cancer, access to regular screening and options for increasing screening accuracy.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.