

10       **A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS VACCINE**

20       **WHEREAS:**     The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2006, 9,710 women  
30                             will be diagnosed with cervical cancer and that about 3,700 women will  
40                             die from cervical cancer; and,

50       **WHEREAS:**     Cervical cancer can be caused by the Human Papillomavirus (HPV), a  
60                             very common sexually transmitted virus that typically goes away on its  
70                             own but occasionally changes cells on a women’s cervix, potentially  
80                             leading to cancer (American Social Health Association); and,

90       **WHEREAS:**     Studies have also suggested that HPV may also play a role in causing  
100                            certain other types of cancers (National Cancer Institute); and,

110      **WHEREAS:**     On July 8, 2006, the Food and Drug Administration approved a vaccine  
120                            that can prevent infection from four types of HPV for girls and women  
130                            aged 9 to 26. Two of these types are responsible for 70% of cervical  
140                            cancer cases (National Cancer Institute); and,

150      **WHEREAS:**     The Centers for Disease Control’s (CDC) National Immunization  
160                            Program and the federal Advisory Committee on Immunization  
170                            Practices (ACIP) have recommended the use of HPV vaccination for  
180                            girls upon reaching the ages of 11 to 12; and,

190      **WHEREAS:**     The ACIP also recommended that the HPV vaccine be added to the  
200                            Vaccines for Children Program, a federal entitlement program  
210                            administered by the CDC, which provides free vaccines to children  
220                            under the age of 18 who are uninsured, underinsured, or on Medicaid;  
230                            and,

240      **WHEREAS:**     The HPV vaccination costs \$120 per dose and requires 3 doses for a  
250                            total cost of \$360, making it among the most expensive vaccines ever  
260                            made (American Cancer Society); and,

270      **WHEREAS:**     Studies show the vaccine has been found to be more effective in people  
280                            aged 10 to 15 than those aged 16 to 23 (Kaiser Network); and,

290      **WHEREAS:**     According to the American Social Health Association, there is a  
300                            positive correlation between school immunization requirements and  
310                            reduction of disease and that school immunization requirements  
320                            promote rapid, widespread, and equal distribution across  
330                            socioeconomic levels; and,

340      **WHEREAS:**     Maryland State Law regarding school immunization requirements  
350                            allow exceptions for children whose parent or guardian object to  
360                            immunization on the ground that it conflicts with the parent’s or  
370                            guardian’s bona fide religious beliefs and practices; and,

380      **WHEREAS:**     CDC research has found that vaccines are unlikely to encourage young  
390                            adults to engage in risky sexual behavior because sexual risk is  
400                            influenced by many factors and fear of disease is not a major  
410                            motivation for abstinence.

420       **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature  
430                               recommends that the Centers for Disease Control make the HPV  
440                               vaccination available to girls under the Vaccines for Children program;  
450                               and,

460       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature urges  
470                               Congress to pass legislation that would provide funding of the HPV  
480                               vaccination to uninsured and underinsured adult women; and,

490       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the  
500                               Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene add the HPV  
510                               vaccine to the list of required vaccines for girls entering the tenth grade,  
520                               pending the addition of the HPV vaccine to the Vaccines for Children  
530                               program.

540       **MANDATES:** Dr. Julie Louise Gerberding, Director of the Centers for Disease  
550                               Control and Prevention  
560                               J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives  
570                               John Boehner, Majority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives  
580                               Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives  
590                               Bill Frist, United States Senate Majority Leader  
600                               Harry Reid, United States Senate Minority Leader  
610                               S. Anthony McCann, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Health  
620                               and Mental Hygiene

**SPONSOR:**

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