

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 27

## 95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1692L.011

1 **Whereas**, during the transition from childhood to adulthood, adolescents establish  
2 unhealthy patterns of behavior and make poor lifestyle choices that affect both their current and  
3 future health. For example, 80% of adolescents who are obese will remain obese as adults; and  
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5 **Whereas**, many adolescents may not have access to primary health care and the  
6 National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) encourages the adolescent  
7 health care platform to occur in multiple settings, including traditional and nontraditional  
8 settings, such as schools; and  
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10 **Whereas**, adolescents and young adults are adversely affected by serious health and  
11 safety issues such as motor vehicle crashes, violence, and substance abuse. They also struggle  
12 to adopt behaviors that could decrease their risk of developing chronic diseases in adulthood -  
13 behaviors such as eating nutritiously, engaging in physical activity, and choosing not to use  
14 tobacco. Environmental factors such as family, peer group, school, and community  
15 characteristics also contribute to the challenges that adolescents face. In the past few years,  
16 immunizations have been licensed to provide protection for teens against infections and diseases  
17 such as meningococcal, pertussis, and cervical cancer; and  
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19 **Whereas**, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the  
20 American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American Academy of Family Practitioners  
21 (AAFP), and the American Medical Association (AMA) recommend a routine health care visit  
22 for adolescents aged 11-12 to receive recommendations on immunizations and routine health  
23 screenings for adolescents; and  
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25 **Whereas**, the United States Department of Health and Senior Services' Health  
26 Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has developed, in conjunction with AAP, the  
27 Bright Futures Initiative, which provides a set of guidelines including recommendations on  
28 immunizations and routine health screenings for adolescents; and

29       **Whereas**, NACCHO supports the development of an adolescent health care  
30 platform which would address unmet prevention needs among adolescents, including health care  
31 screenings and testing, age-appropriate immunizations, injury prevention, obesity prevention,  
32 and mental health screenings; and

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34       **Whereas**, ACIP recommends the use of FDA-approved vaccines for pertussis,  
35 tetanus, meningitis, and HPV in adolescents, and the Centers for Disease Control has launched  
36 a national campaign to raise awareness about adolescent health and immunizations; and

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38       **Whereas**, the Centers for Disease Control's National Immunization Survey (NIS)  
39 found that immunization coverage levels among adolescents in 2006 did not meet the Healthy  
40 People 2010 objective of 90% coverage for 13-15 year olds for any of the vaccines measured;  
41 and

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43       **Whereas**, the Society for Adolescent Medicine has found that adolescent well  
44 visits are one of the best tools of preventive care to ensure continued health from childhood to  
45 adulthood and that children and adolescents who regularly visit a primary care physician are less  
46 likely to have emergency room visits and preventable hospitalizations; and

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48       **Whereas**, because adolescents remain under the guardianship of their parents,  
49 parental awareness of the need for an adolescent well visit plays an enormous role in the  
50 incidence of adolescent well visits:

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52       **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of  
53 Representatives of the Ninety-fifth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate  
54 concurring therein, hereby urge the Department of Health and Senior Services to educate parents  
55 on the importance of an adolescent well physical to prevent chronic disease, appropriately  
56 intervene to better treat chronic disease, and update immunizations; and

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58       **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of  
59 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Margaret  
60 Donnelly, Director of the Department of Health and Senior Services.

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