

Senator Marleau offered the following concurrent resolution:

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 30.

A concurrent resolution to urge the Michigan Department of Education and Department of Health and Human Services to encourage all educational institutions to participate in a school or community-based influenza vaccination program.

Whereas, Influenza is a contagious respiratory illness caused by the influenza virus. Every year in the United States more than 200,000 people are hospitalized due to influenza-related complications and about 36,000 people die from influenza-related causes; and

Whereas, School-age children are three to four times more likely to be infected with influenza than adults. They typically have the highest infection rates during outbreaks of influenza and serve as a major source of transmission within communities. Influenza cases lead to absenteeism, medical care visits, and parental work loss; and

Whereas, The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends routine seasonal influenza vaccination for all persons six months of age and older. School or community-based vaccination programs may be an effective way to vaccinate students and reduce transmission and infection rates in the larger community; and

Whereas, A school or community-based program should be run by health care providers, using only vaccines approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration. Individual student participation should be voluntary with parental consent, but no child, regardless of insurance, should be refused a vaccine. Vaccination should be offered to all students as soon as the vaccine becomes available before the start and throughout the influenza season; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That we strongly urge the Michigan Department of Education and Department of Health and Human Services to encourage all educational institutions to participate in a school or community-based influenza vaccination program; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the state Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.