

A RESOLUTION encouraging the citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to learn about the risks of human papillomavirus-related cancers and the benefits of the human papillomavirus vaccine.

WHEREAS, approximately 79 million Americans are infected with human papillomavirus (HPV), and approximately 14 million people will become newly infected each year; and

WHEREAS, each year in the United States an estimated 27,000 new cancers attributable to HPV occur: 17,600 among females, of which 10,400 are cervical cancer, and 9,300 among males, of which 7,200 are oropharyngeal cancers; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, Kentucky had one of the highest cervical cancer incidence rates at 8 per 100,000 females and one of the highest death rates from cervical cancer at 3.5 per 100,000 females; and

WHEREAS, HPV is a virus passed from one person to another during sexual contact and is most common in people during their late teens and early twenties, although almost all sexually active people will get HPV at some time in their lives, though most will never even know it; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, three available HPV vaccines protect against the types of HPV infection that cause most cervical cancers; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends the HPV vaccine for males and females from age 11 years up to age 26 years and before the initiation of sexual activity; and

WHEREAS, in Kentucky in 2013, approximately 27 percent of females and 10 percent of males aged 13 to 17 had received all 3 doses of the HPV; and

WHEREAS, the vaccine protects against 70 percent of cervical and other HPV-related cancers in total, and the recently released new vaccine has been shown to protect against 90 percent of HPV-related cancers; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration report that approximately 67 million doses of the HPV vaccine have been safely distributed; and

WHEREAS, additional information on HPV vaccination, including safety of HPV vaccines, can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site; and

WHEREAS, a recent study shows that administration of the HPV vaccine does not promote sexual activity among teens and pre-teens nor do they believe protection is less important;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. This honorable body encourages the citizens of the Commonwealth to learn about the risks of human papillomavirus-related cancers and the benefits of the human papillomavirus vaccine and urges all young people to receive the most recent HPV vaccine to help significantly reduce the occurrence of cervical cancers.