HR 9117 2007

House Resolution

A resolution declaring April 22-28, 2007, as "Immunization Awareness Week" in Florida.

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WHEREAS, vaccines have eradicated smallpox and polio in the United States of America and drastically reduced incidences of measles, diphtheria, rubella, pertussis, and other diseases, but despite this accomplishment, tens of thousands of people in the United States die from vaccine-preventable diseases, and

WHEREAS, every dollar spent on immunization saves an average \$10 in future disease-related health care costs, and

WHEREAS, immunization education and disease awareness programs lead to improved vaccine usage and better health outcomes, and

WHEREAS, rapid distribution of vaccines is of vital importance in the management and containment of disease under normal circumstances, but is even more so during mass outbreaks of disease or in the event of a natural disaster, and

WHEREAS, threats of bioterrorism and other disasters of widespread proportion exist in the world today, and access to vaccines and health care services is essential in the combat against such threats, and

WHEREAS, encouraging collaboration among Florida's university researchers and other private and public research efforts is necessary to the fostering of biotechnology research, the manufacturing and distribution of vaccines, and the establishment of biotechnology advisory bodies, and

WHEREAS, in order to protect the health of its citizens,

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residents, and visitors through preemptive measures, Florida is striving to become the nation's leader in research, manufacturing, and inoculation of immunizations and is committing itself to encouraging companies to locate themselves in Florida to help achieve this goal, NOW, THEREFORE,

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Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida:

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That April 22-28, 2007, is declared "Immunization Awareness Week" in Florida.