

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 709

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Immunization Awareness Month  
to raise awareness of the benefits of immunization.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 31, 2009

Ms. CASTOR of Florida (for herself, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. GONZALEZ, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MASSA, Mr. KIRK, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. RUSH, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BOSWELL, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Immunization  
Awareness Month to raise awareness of the benefits of  
immunization.

Whereas immunization is one of the most significant public  
health achievements of the 20th century;

Whereas the United States has eradicated smallpox and polio  
and seen the incidence of measles, pertussis, and diph-  
theria fall by more than 98 percent since the discovery  
of vaccinations;

Whereas vaccines are available for hepatitis A, hepatitis B,  
influenza, diphtheria, cervical cancer (HPV), measles,

meningococcal, mumps, pertussis, pneumococcal disease, polio, rabies, shingles, smallpox, tetanus, tuberculosis, typhoid fever, varicella, yellow fever, and several other diseases;

Whereas 1.7 million children die throughout the world annually from diseases that could have been prevented with readily available vaccinations;

Whereas only 77 percent of children in the United States have received all of the recommended vaccinations;

Whereas 50,000 adults die in the United States annually from diseases that could have been prevented with readily available vaccinations;

Whereas pneumonia and influenza are the 5th leading cause of death among adults over the age of 65;

Whereas less than 70 percent of adults over the age of 65 are vaccinated for both pneumococcal and influenza;

Whereas August is the ideal month for children to receive immunizations before school begins; and

Whereas the month of August would be an appropriate month to designate as National Immunization Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) supports the goals and ideals of National  
3       Immunization Awareness Month;

4               (2) encourages local communities to raise  
5       awareness surrounding the benefits of immunization;

6               (3) encourages individuals to receive rec-  
7       ommended immunizations;

1           (4) recognizes and salutes health care profes-  
2           sionals and researchers that have facilitated the suc-  
3           cess of immunizations in eradicating and drastically  
4           decreasing the incidence of several diseases; and

5           (5) recognizes and reaffirms the Nation's com-  
6           mitment to continued education surrounding immu-  
7           nization and to furthering every available oppor-  
8           tunity for the immunization of children, adults and  
9           senior citizens.

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