



State Central Committee Resolution 2021-03

Strongly Encouraging Members and the Public to Get Vaccinated against COVID-19

Whereas, the World Health Organization declared the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak a global pandemic in March 2020; and

Whereas, the pandemic has continued to spread around the world, causing nearly 220 million confirmed cases and 4.55 million deaths globally, including nearly 40 million cases and 645,000 deaths in the United States, of which 66,778 cases and 614 deaths have occurred in Hawai'i as of September 4, 2021; and

Whereas, through an incredible feat of scientific and technological advancement involving researchers around the world, several vaccines have been developed to protect against COVID-19 associated illness, hospitalization, and death; and

Whereas, three vaccines against COVID-19 have so far received Emergency Use Authorization approval from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), these three authorized COVID-19 vaccines have demonstrated their efficacy against symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in adults, and such efficacy has been demonstrated across different populations, including elderly and younger adults, in people with and without underlying health conditions, and in people representing different races and ethnicities; and

Whereas, the CDC has also confirmed that all authorized COVID-19 vaccines have demonstrated high efficacy against COVID-19 severe enough to require hospitalization, as well as high efficacy against COVID-19-associated death; and

Whereas, early evidence exists demonstrating a reduced viral load in vaccinated people who develop COVID-19, which suggests that any associated transmission risk is likely to be substantially reduced in vaccinated people; and

Whereas, while vaccine effectiveness against emerging SARS-CoV-2 variants remains under investigation, available evidence suggests that the three authorized vaccines offer protection against known emerging variants, including the Delta variant, and provide particular protection against hospitalization and death; and

Whereas, on August 23, 2021, after extensive evaluation of the data and information included in the manufacturer's submission of a biologics license application, the FDA granted approval for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, also known as Comirnaty, for the prevention of COVID-19 disease in individuals 16 years of age and older; and

Whereas, nearly 375 million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been safely administered to 207 million Americans, of which 1,882,907 doses have been safely administered to 1,024,764 Hawai'i residents; and

Whereas, the State Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly believes that widespread vaccination against COVID-19 will help keep our members and the public, along with their family members and the community at large, safe and healthy; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the State Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly encourages all members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and all members of the public who are eligible, and who do not otherwise have a medical contraindication or hold an objection based on bona fide religious tenets and practices, to get vaccinated against COVID-19 to keep themselves, their family members, and others in the community safe from significant COVID-19 illness; and, be it further

Resolved, that the State Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly encourages all members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and all members of the public, regardless of vaccination status, to adhere to all public health guidelines recommended by federal, state, and county agencies; and be it

Ordered, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice President Kamala D. Harris, CDC Director Dr. Rochelle P. Walensky, the members of the Hawai'i Congressional delegation, Governor David Y. Ige, Lieutenant Governor Joshua B. Green, the Democratic members of the Hawai'i State Legislature, Hawai'i Department of Health Director Dr. Elizabeth A. Char, and the Chair of the Democratic National Committee.

Adopted September 4, 2021