

# HEALTH LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

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The following pieces of legislation regarding health and minority populations may be relevant to readers of *Ethnicity & Disease*. Information on these bills was current when this issue went to press. We encourage readers to further investigate legislation of interest to their health disciplines.

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## HR 1316: STOP OXY ABUSE ACT OF 2011

Prescription drug abuse is prevalent in the United States. In one study, abuse was reported in 60% of zip codes surveyed, and the preferred drug

was OxyContin (followed by hydrocodone and other oxycodone preparations). This legislation would limit the use of any drug containing oxycodone

for the relief of severe-only instead of moderate-to-severe pain.

Sponsor: Rep Mary Bono Mack (R-CA)

Introduced 4/1/2011  
Referred to the Subcommittee on Health

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## HR 1394: LUNG CANCER MORTALITY REDUCTION ACT OF 2011

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death for both men and women, accounting for 28% of all cancer deaths. The National Cancer Institute estimates that in 2010, there were 222,520 new diagnoses of lung cancer and 157,300 deaths attributed to the disease. According to projections published in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*

in 2009, between 2010 and 2030, the incidence of lung cancer will increase by 46% for women and by 58% for men. The increase in the incidence of lung cancer among minority communities during that time period will range from 74% to 191%. The 5-year survival rate for lung cancer is only 15%, while the 5-year survival rate for

breast cancer is 89%, for prostate cancer 99%, and for colon cancer 65%. Yet in research dollars per death, lung cancer is the least funded of the major cancers.

This act would provide new resources and tools to health agencies, support early detection and treatment, and create programs to combat lung cancer in

vulnerable populations, including veterans, minorities, the poor, and women.

Sponsor: Rep Donna M. Christensen (D-VI)

Introduced 4/6/2011  
Referred to the Subcommittee on Health

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## HR 857: NATIVE HAWAIIAN MEDICAID COVERAGE ACT OF 2011

This legislation would amend Title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide 100% FMAP (Federal Medical Assis-

tance Percentages) under Medicaid for medical assistance provided to Native Hawaiians by a Native Hawaiian health-

care system or a federally qualified health center.

Sponsor: Rep Mazie Hirono (D-HI)

Introduced 3/1/2011  
Referred to the Subcommittee on Health

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