

## Senate Resolution 304

By: Senators Watson of the 1st, Hatchett of the 50th, Hodges of the 3rd, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Brass of the 28th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Supporting the inclusion of new RSV immunization technologies, including vaccines and  
2 monoclonal antibodies, within the federal VFC program; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, RSV is a highly transmissible seasonal virus that can have severe and  
4 unpredictable outcomes for infants, including hospitalization; and

5 WHEREAS, nearly all children will be infected with RSV by age two, and most infants  
6 requiring hospitalization were previously healthy and born at term; and

7 WHEREAS, RSV is the leading cause of hospitalization among infants in the United States;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, RSV is the most common cause of bronchiolitis (inflammation of the small  
10 airways in the lung) and pneumonia (infection of the lungs) in children younger than one  
11 year of age in the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, the current RSV season has resulted in significant morbidity and increased  
13 mortality; and

14 WHEREAS, in the United States, RSV infections typically occur during late fall, winter, and  
15 early spring, meaning urgent preparation is needed; and

16 WHEREAS, monoclonal antibodies for RSV show promise for preventative protection  
17 against RSV; and

18 WHEREAS, RSV disproportionately affects infants with Medicaid coverage, Native  
19 Americans, and Alaskan Natives; and

20 WHEREAS, the Vaccines For Children (VFC) program is a federally funded program that  
21 provides vaccines at no cost to children who might not otherwise be vaccinated because of  
22 inability to pay; and

23 WHEREAS, VFC coverage is critical to ensure equity and access for all infants in order to  
24 have the greatest impact on disease burden.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
26 support the inclusion of new RSV immunization technologies, including vaccines and  
27 monoclonal antibodies, within the federal VFC program.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
29 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the  
30 press.