

## HPV Bill: The Facts

### What is HPV?

HPV stands for human papilloma virus. HPV infections are very common among sexually active people. At any time about 20 million people in the U.S. have them. Between 10 and 15 million have high-risk types that are associated with cervical cancer. HPV is so common that about three out of four people have HPV at some point in their lives. But most people who have it don't know it.

**The HPV vaccine** can prevent two of the types of HPV that cause **70 percent of the cases of cervical cancer**.

### HPV Prevention Facts

- In 2006, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved a new vaccine against HPV.
- Clinical trials have demonstrated 100% efficacy of the new vaccine in preventing cervical cancers caused by HPV.
- The CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends the routine vaccination of girls ages 11 and 12 (and as young as 9) and for young women ages 13 to 26 who have not been vaccinated.
- A 2005 study found only 40% of women ages 18 to 75 knew about HPV and fewer than half were aware of the link between HPV and cervical cancer.

### North Dakota HPV Legislation

- In 2007 the North Dakota Legislature passed HB 1471, to create a new program within the state Department of Health to educate the public about the human papilloma virus and the HPV vaccine. Sponsored by Representatives Ekstrom, Hawken, Nottestad and Potter and Senators Erbele and Heckman.