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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GAMING.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Americans illegally  
2 wagered approximately \$150 billion on sporting events in 2017.  
3 With access to the internet now ubiquitous, residents even in  
4 remote states such as Hawaii have been able to win money and  
5 items of value on sporting events and other outcomes in spite of  
6 legal prohibitions. Tens of thousands of Hawaii residents are  
7 estimated to participate in illegal internet gaming on  
8 unregulated online platforms, raising questions about whether  
9 these games are fair for Hawaii residents.

10           In 2018, the United States Supreme Court struck down a  
11 federal law that prohibited online sports gaming, enabling each  
12 state to choose whether or not to regulate such practices. The  
13 proliferation of easy online access and changing technology has  
14 enabled the rapid growth of numerous forms and outlets for  
15 online gaming, which, together with this Supreme Court decision,  
16 reinforce the need for the State to carefully evaluate the  
17 negative outcomes of online gaming, including criminal,



1 financial, and psychological impacts on local families and  
2 communities. In addition to an evaluation of the negative  
3 outcomes, the potential benefits of online gaming must also be  
4 considered, including support for the local economy, revenue,  
5 and entertainment. A task force evaluation of positive and  
6 negative outcomes associated with online gaming will help the  
7 State determine the best path forward in regard to modern  
8 gaming, and whether the State's gaming laws are outdated and  
9 need to be updated to properly address online gaming in the  
10 digital age.

11 The purpose of this Act is to create an online gaming task  
12 force to examine and recommend policy issues on the benefits and  
13 harms of online gaming.

14 SECTION 2. (a) There is established an online gaming task  
15 force to examine and make recommendations on policy issues  
16 regarding the benefits and harms of online gaming.

17 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members,  
18 or their designee:

19 (1) The chairs of the house standing committee on  
20 judiciary and the senate standing committee on



1            judiciary, who shall serve as co-chairs of the working  
2            group;

3            (2) The attorney general;

4            (3) The director of health;

5            (4) The superintendent of education; and

6            (5) The president and chief executive officer of the  
7            Hawaii tourism authority.

8            (c) The chairs of the task force may invite other  
9 interested parties to join the task force.

10           (d) The legislative reference bureau shall assist the task  
11 force with its reports to the legislature and prepare any  
12 proposed legislation.

13           (e) The task force shall submit a report on the status of  
14 it progress, including its findings and recommendations, and any  
15 proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty  
16 days prior to the convening of each regular session in 2020,  
17 2021, and 2022.

18           (f) The working group shall be dissolved on June 30, 2022.

19           SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.



**Report Title:**

Sports Wagering; Task Force

**Description:**

Establishes a task force to examine and make recommendations on policy issues regarding the benefits and harms of online gaming.  
(HB1107 HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

