

FEB 29 2024

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO EVALUATE HAWAII RESIDENTS' ENGAGEMENT WITH ADDICTIVE ONLINE ACTIVITIES.

1 WHEREAS, in 2023, thirty-three states, including Hawaii,  
2 filed a suit against Meta Platforms, Inc.; Instagram, LLC; and  
3 other companies for deliberately designing addictive features on  
4 their platforms; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, the State does not tolerate disingenuous and  
7 predatory practices against children; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, excessive social media use is one of a wide range  
10 of online activities that individuals may engage with  
11 problematically; and

12  
13 WHEREAS, many online activities are largely unregulated and  
14 unmonitored; and

15  
16 WHEREAS, many users engage with addictive or problematic  
17 online activities privately and anonymously, inhibiting  
18 recognition of the problem by oneself, family, or partners; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, a government cannot know what supports and  
21 safeguards are needed for its constituents without understanding  
22 the behaviors or activities the constituents engage in; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, various vulnerable and underserved communities in  
25 Hawaii are disproportionately engaged in addictive or  
26 problematic online activities; and

27  
28 WHEREAS, conducting a prevalence survey may help inform  
29 capacity-building efforts needed to best serve the people of  
30 Hawaii; now, therefore,

31  
32 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
33 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024,  
34 that the Department of Health is urged to conduct a study to  
35 evaluate Hawaii residents' engagement with a range of online

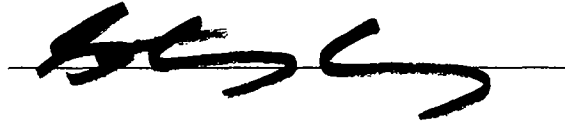


1 activities that can be inherently additive and  
2 disproportionately affect vulnerable and minority populations;  
3 and  
4

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to better understand local  
6 participation in potentially addictive online activities, the  
7 Department of Health is urged to deploy as part of the study, a  
8 prevalence survey to measure social media, internet gaming,  
9 pornography, mobile phone use, gambling, and high-risk stock and  
10 crypto currency trading; and  
11

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
13 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.  
14  
15  
16

OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. S. S.", is written over a horizontal line.