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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND  
TOURISM TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF LEGALIZING SPORTS  
BETTING.

1           WHEREAS, on May 14, 2018, the United States Supreme Court  
2 reversed a decision of the United States Court of Appeals for  
3 the Third Circuit, effectively allowing states to authorize  
4 sports betting; and

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6           WHEREAS, since this ruling, thirty-eight states have  
7 legalized sports betting; and

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9           WHEREAS, tens of thousands of Hawaii residents wager on the  
10 outcome of sporting events through illegal websites that are not  
11 subject to regulation or taxation; and

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13           WHEREAS, it is estimated that online gambling by Hawaii  
14 residents generates tens of millions of dollars for gambling  
15 organizations without any benefit to the State; and

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17           WHEREAS, West Virginia, a state with a similar population  
18 to Hawaii, collected more than \$2,800,000 in taxes in the first  
19 year after legalizing sports betting; and

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21           WHEREAS, legalizing and regulating sports betting can  
22 reduce issues of underage betting and ensure that proper  
23 consumer protections are in place; and

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25           WHEREAS, numerous studies have found associations between  
26 sports betting and damaging behaviors, such as problem gambling;  
27 and  
28



# H.C.R. NO. 155

1           WHEREAS, according to the National Council on Problem  
 2 Gambling, two million adults in the United States have a severe  
 3 gambling problem; and

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 5           WHEREAS, some states that have legalized sports betting  
 6 have experienced substantial increases in the amount of gambling  
 7 addiction hotline calls; and

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 9           WHEREAS, the State must consider the potential benefits and  
 10 consequences of sports betting in order to make an informed  
 11 decision on its legalization; now, therefore,

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 13           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 14 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
 15 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the Department of  
 16 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to  
 17 study the potential effects of legalizing sports betting; and

18  
 19           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business,  
 20 Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to submit a  
 21 report of its findings and recommendations, including any  
 22 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty  
 23 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025; and

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 25           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
 26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of  
 27 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

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OFFERED BY:           *Ce At*          

MAR - 8 2024

