
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE PROHIBITION OF GAMBLING IN
HAWAII, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE 2011 HAWAII SECONDARY STUDENT
CONFERENCE.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii and Utah are the only states that prohibit
2 gambling; and

3
4 WHEREAS, it is estimated that twenty million citizens of
5 the United States are problem or compulsive gamblers; and

6
7 WHEREAS, gambling is an addictive behavior that can cause
8 problem gamblers to neglect their job, family, and friends to
9 pursue gambling whether they win or lose, resulting in
10 bankruptcy or debt; and

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12 WHEREAS, four to six percent of high school students are
13 reported to be addicted to gambling, and another ten to fourteen
14 percent are at risk of becoming addicts; and

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16 WHEREAS, gambling leads to an increase in crimes, such as
17 fraud, identity theft, money laundering, pan-handling, and
18 robbery that could harm Hawaii's vital tourism industry; and

19
20 WHEREAS, when gambling was legalized in Atlantic City the
21 overall crime rate rose three hundred twenty percent and cases
22 of rape rose one hundred percent; and

23
24 WHEREAS, gambling leads to higher incarceration rates,
25 costing taxpayers an estimated \$30,000 per year per inmate; and

26
27 WHEREAS, casinos and other gambling establishments
28 adversely impact small business owners by taking away customers;
29 and



H.C.R. NO. 47

1 WHEREAS, various measures to permit gambling have been
 2 introduced in the current legislative session as a purported
 3 solution to the State's economic woes; and
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5 WHEREAS, after extensive debate and deliberation, the 2011
 6 Hawaii Secondary Student Conference recommends, in light of the
 7 adverse effects of gambling to the public health and welfare and
 8 the image and economy of our state, that gambling remain a
 9 prohibited activity; now, therefore,
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11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 12 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 13 of 2012, the Senate concurring, that this body recognizes the
 14 position of the 2011 Hawaii Secondary Student Conference and
 15 expresses its continued support for the prohibition of gambling
 16 in Hawaii; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports looking at
 19 options other than gambling to improve Hawaii's economy; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor.
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 24
 25

OFFERED BY: *[Signature]*
[Signature]
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FEB 10 2012

