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# HOUSE 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

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

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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

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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

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

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



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, that this body recognizes the position of the 2011  
14 Hawaii Secondary Student Conference and expresses its continued  
15 support for the prohibition of gambling in Hawaii; and

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports looking at  
18 options other than gambling to improve Hawaii's economy; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
21 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor.  
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OFFERED BY:

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FEB 10 2012

