
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A STUDY OF THE SOCIAL IMPACTS OF A SINGLE STAND-ALONE CASINO IN WAIKIKI.

1 WHEREAS, the issue of legalized gambling in Hawaii has been
2 studied and considered at least three times since statehood
3 including in 1962, 1994, and 1997; and
4

5 WHEREAS, there have been over one hundred fifty proposals
6 in support of legalized gambling submitted to the Legislature
7 within the past nearly three decades, including land-based
8 casinos, shipboard casinos, pari-mutuel wagering facilities, and
9 the lottery; and
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11 WHEREAS, since the economic downturn, the Legislature has
12 proposed such legislation annually to generate revenue to
13 maintain essential government services; and
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15 WHEREAS, the State has also been exploring the development
16 of new visitor attractions and niche markets to improve the
17 growth of the visitor industry and increase Hawaii's
18 competitiveness; and
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20 WHEREAS, there are more than seventy countries with
21 legalized gambling; and
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23 WHEREAS, there are only two states that prohibit all types
24 of gambling, of which Hawaii is one; and
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26 WHEREAS, a single stand-alone casino in Waikiki has been
27 identified as a form of gambling that may be considered; and
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29 WHEREAS, those opposed to legalized gambling argue that all
30 forms of gaming are "immoral" and will lead to an increase in
31 crime, addiction, and the breakdown of families and communities;
32 and



1 WHEREAS, the Department of Business, Economic Development,
2 and Tourism prepared a report to the Nineteenth Legislature in
3 response to Senate Resolution No. 282, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, Regular
4 Session of 1996, noting that gaming will likely produce
5 relatively modest economic and fiscal benefits, but that it is
6 necessary to study further the larger, uncertain social costs of
7 crime and pathological gambling to the host community in
8 conjunction with economic and fiscal gains; and
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10 WHEREAS, to make a fully informed decision about a single
11 stand-alone casino in Waikiki, the Legislature needs
12 comprehensive and objective information about the social impact
13 of these forms of legalized gambling in Hawaii; now, therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
17 of 2012, that the Department of Business, Economic Development,
18 and Tourism is requested to conduct a study on the social
19 impacts of a single stand-alone casino in Waikiki; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Tourism Authority,
22 the Honolulu Police Department, the Department of Commerce and
23 Consumer Affairs, and the Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau
24 are requested to cooperate with the Department of Business,
25 Economic Development, and Tourism by providing access to
26 information and assistance in facilitating surveys that may be
27 deemed necessary; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business,
30 Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to submit a
31 report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no
32 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
33 Session of 2013; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Business, Economic
37 Development, and Tourism; the Director of Commerce and Consumer



1 Affairs; the Director of the Hawaii Visitors and Convention
2 Bureau; and the Chief of Police of the Honolulu Police
3 Department.
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OFFERED BY:

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