
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AN ADVISORY REFERENDUM ON A STATE LOTTERY IN HAWAII.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that true democracy in
2 Hawaii demands fuller participation by its citizens in matters
3 that affect all residents of the State. One avenue through
4 which ordinary voters may more fully participate in their lives
5 is through the mechanism of an advisory referendum. The issues
6 of gambling, education, and the funding of transit systems in
7 the State have been come to the fore in recent years. Everyone
8 agrees on the importance of education and the need to generate
9 revenues to support teachers and the educational system. Fully
10 funding transit systems to alleviate traffic congestion in the
11 State, including a possible rail system on Oahu, would also
12 require massive amounts of money. Hawaii's economy has peaked
13 and is projected to decline in the next few years, and new ways
14 to generate tax revenues need to be explored. The legalization
15 and implementation of a state lottery to benefit education and
16 rail transit systems is an appropriate mechanism to generate
17 this much-needed revenue.



1 The legislature finds that it is appropriate for the public
2 to make its views known through a non-binding referendum
3 regarding whether to allow a state lottery in the State. The
4 purpose of this Act is to require a non-binding referendum on
5 the issue of whether the State should legalize a state lottery.

6 SECTION 2. At the general election of 2008, there shall be
7 an advisory referendum on whether the electorate wishes the
8 State to legalize a state lottery to benefit education and rail
9 transit in the State. The chief election officer of the State
10 shall submit a proposal to the electorate with instructions in
11 the form of the following question:

12 "Shall the State of Hawaii allow a state lottery to benefit
13 education and rail transit in the State?"

14 The chief election officer shall publish a notice of the
15 advisory referendum question and descriptive information on a
16 state lottery in a newspaper of general circulation in the State
17 at least thirty days before the date of the advisory referendum.
18 The notice of the advisory referendum shall also be available at
19 all public libraries in the State and the office of the county
20 clerk of each county.

21 The ballot shall print the question and the question shall
22 have a designated space to mark YES or NO. The chief election



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1 officer shall report the results of the advisory referendum to
2 the legislature prior to the convening of the 2009 Regular
3 Session.

4 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

654.2 (02)

JAN 19 2007



Report Title:

State Lottery; Advisory Referendum

Description:

Requires an advisory referendum consisting of a question to be placed on the ballot for the general election of 2008 on whether the electorate wishes the State to legalize a state lottery to benefit education and rail transit in Hawaii.

