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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP  
TO RESEARCH AND RECOMMEND WAYS TO REDUCE THE NEGATIVE  
HEALTH IMPACTS AND CONSUMPTION OF SUGARY-FATTENED BEVERAGES  
IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, twenty-five percent of children between ten to  
2 seventeen years of age and fifty-eight percent of adults in  
3 Hawaii are overweight or obese; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the prevalence of obesity, diabetes, and tooth  
6 decay in Hawaii have increased dramatically over the past  
7 decade, and obesity-related medical expenditures in Hawaii were  
8 calculated to be over \$470,000,000 in 2009 and are continuing to  
9 increase; and  
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11 WHEREAS, there is overwhelming evidence that obesity,  
12 diabetes, and tooth decay are linked to the consumption of  
13 sugary-fattened beverages, including soft drinks, energy drinks,  
14 sweet teas, and sports drinks; and  
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16 WHEREAS, according to nutritional experts, sugary-fattened  
17 beverages offer little or no nutritional value and contain large  
18 quantities of added sugars; and  
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20 WHEREAS, a twenty ounce bottle of soda contains the  
21 equivalent of approximately sixteen teaspoons of sugar, despite  
22 the recommendations of the American Heart Association that  
23 Americans consume no more than five to nine teaspoons of sugar  
24 per day; and  
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26 WHEREAS, research shows that almost half of the added  
27 calories that Americans consume in their diets come from sugary-  
28 fattened beverages; and  
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1 WHEREAS, in addition to sugar, acids found in beverages  
2 like soda, energy drinks, and juice erode tooth enamel, making  
3 beverage consumption a contributor to dental cavities in  
4 children; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, according to the 2012 Rethink Your Drink  
7 Adolescent Survey Report, adolescents in Hawaii drink an average  
8 of 8.6 cans, glasses, or bottles of sugary-fattened beverages  
9 per week, and nearly all boys (ninety-four percent) and girls  
10 (ninety-three percent) reported consuming at least one serving  
11 of a sugary-fattened beverage in the past week; and

12  
13 WHEREAS, the State has an interest in promoting the  
14 welfare, health, and safety of its adolescents and residents,  
15 and should pursue goals that promote a healthier quality of  
16 life; now, therefore,

17  
18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of the Representatives of the  
19 Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
20 of 2018, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Health is  
21 requested to convene a sugary-fattened beverage working group to  
22 research ways to reduce the consumption of sugary-fattened  
23 beverages in Hawaii and provide recommendations; and

24  
25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
26 requested to include as members of the sugary-fattened beverage  
27 working group, representatives from the:

- 28  
29 (1) Department of Taxation;  
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31 (2) Department of Human Services;  
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33 (3) Hawaii Public Health Institute;  
34  
35 (4) American Heart Association;  
36  
37 (5) Hawaii Dental Association;  
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39 (6) American Academy of Pediatrics; and  
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41 (7) John A. Burns School of Medicine; and  
42



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, as part of its research, the  
2 sugary-fattened beverage working group is requested to consider:

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- 4 (1) Limiting the availability of sugary-fattened beverages  
5 in public schools by replacing sugary-fattened  
6 beverages with healthier alternatives;  
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- 8 (2) The impacts on public health, using a cost-benefit  
9 analysis and considering related fee structures, of  
10 replacing sugary-fattened beverages with healthier  
11 alternatives;  
12
- 13 (3) The potential impacts of a public education and  
14 awareness campaign about the health issues associated  
15 with sugary-fattened beverages and the benefits of  
16 replacing them with healthier alternatives;  
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- 18 (4) The projected benefits of reducing the cost of healthy  
19 beverages paid for by a surcharge on the sale of  
20 sugary-fattened beverages in Hawaii; and  
21
- 22 (5) Recommendations on the best use of funding to enhance  
23 the health of Hawaii's children and communities by  
24 replacing sugary-fattened beverages with healthier  
25 alternatives; and  
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the sugary-fattened beverage  
28 working group is requested to submit a report of its findings  
29 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
30 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
31 the Regular Session of 2019; and

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,  
34 Director of Human Services, Director of Taxation, Dean of the  
35 John A. Burns School of Medicine of the University of Hawaii,  
36 President of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Academy of  
37 Pediatrics, Board President of the Hawaii Division of the



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1 American Heart Association, and President of the Hawaii Dental  
2 Association.

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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Cen', written over a horizontal line.

MAR 09 2018

