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## HOUSE 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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30 WHEREAS, in addition to sugar, acids found in beverages  
31 like soda, energy drinks, and juice erode tooth enamel, making



1 beverage consumption a contributor to dental cavities in  
2 children; and

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

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

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

22  
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
24 requested to include as members of the sugary-fattened beverage  
25 working group, representatives from the:

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27 (1) Department of Taxation;  
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29 (2) Department of Human Services;  
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31 (3) Hawaii Public Health Institute;  
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33 (4) American Heart Association;  
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35 (5) Hawaii Dental Association;  
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37 (6) American Academy of Pediatrics; and  
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39 (7) John A. Burns School of Medicine; and  
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, as part of its research, the  
42 sugary-fattened beverage working group is requested to consider:



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- (1) Limiting the availability of sugary-fattened beverages in public schools by replacing sugary-fattened beverages with healthier alternatives;
- (2) The impacts on public health, using a cost-benefit analysis and considering related fee structures, of replacing sugary-fattened beverages with healthier alternatives;
- (3) The potential impacts of a public education and awareness campaign about the health issues associated with sugary-fattened beverages and the benefits of replacing them with healthier alternatives;
- (4) The projected benefits of reducing the cost of healthy beverages paid for by a surcharge on the sale of sugary-fattened beverages in Hawaii; and
- (5) Recommendations on the best use of funding to enhance the health of Hawaii's children and communities by replacing sugary-fattened beverages with healthier alternatives; and

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, Director of Human Services, Director of Taxation, Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine of the University of Hawaii, President of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Board President of the Hawaii Division of the American Heart Association, and President of the Hawaii Dental Association.

OFFERED BY: 

MAR 09 2018

