

MAR 09 2018

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND
TOURISM TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF A STATE LOTTERY TO FUND
HAWAII'S PUBLIC EDUCATION.

1 WHEREAS, compared to other states, Hawaii is unique because
2 the State, rather than a county or local level jurisdiction, is
3 responsible for public education; and
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5 WHEREAS, as a result, funding for public education in
6 Hawaii is primarily sourced from the general fund of the State;
7 and
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9 WHEREAS, public education in Hawaii is not adequately
10 funded, as Hawaii's education expenditures rank lowest in the
11 nation; and
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13 WHEREAS, lagging state education expenditures drive Hawaii
14 families to compete for private school enrollment, leaving
15 Hawaii with one of the highest rates of private school
16 enrollment in the nation; and
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18 WHEREAS, continuous underfunding of public schools
19 undermines the State's goal of providing a quality education to
20 all of Hawaii's children; and
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22 WHEREAS, it is necessary to develop a new means of funding
23 Hawaii's public education system to ensure that the State will
24 be able to prepare children to meet the social and economic
25 demands of the twenty-first century; and
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27 WHEREAS, for forty-four states, state lotteries represent a
28 small, but valuable source of revenue; and
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30 WHEREAS, on average, about one percent of state revenue
31 comes from lotteries; and
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WHEREAS, nationally, in fiscal year 2015, state lotteries generated \$66,800,000,000 in gross revenue; and

WHEREAS, after costs for prizes, administration, and advertising, states were still left with net lottery proceeds of \$21,400,000,000; and

WHEREAS, funding public education is an important goal and a shared responsibility that can be achieved through creative solutions to provide sufficient revenues to fund quality education in the State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to study the feasibility of a state lottery to fund Hawaii's public education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism submit a report of its findings and recommendations 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 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Chair of the Board of Education; and Superintendent of Education.

OFFERED BY:

Marcia L. Inoué

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David Ige

With

[Signature]

[Signature]

