

FEB 29 2024

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO EVALUATE  
HAWAII RESIDENTS' ENGAGEMENT WITH ADDICTIVE ONLINE  
ACTIVITIES.

1 WHEREAS, in 2023, thirty-three states, including Hawaii,  
2 filed a suit against Meta Platforms, Inc.; Instagram, LLC; and  
3 other companies for deliberately designing addictive features on  
4 their platforms; and

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6 WHEREAS, the State does not tolerate disingenuous and  
7 predatory practices against children; and

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9 WHEREAS, excessive social media use is one of a wide range  
10 of online activities that individuals may engage with  
11 problematically; and

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13 WHEREAS, many online activities are largely unregulated and  
14 unmonitored; and

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16 WHEREAS, many users engage with addictive or problematic  
17 online activities privately and anonymously, inhibiting  
18 recognition of the problem by oneself, family, or partners; and

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20 WHEREAS, a government cannot know what supports and  
21 safeguards are needed for its constituents without understanding  
22 the behaviors or activities the constituents engage in; and

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24 WHEREAS, various vulnerable and underserved communities in  
25 Hawaii are disproportionately engaged in addictive or  
26 problematic online activities; and

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28 WHEREAS, conducting a prevalence survey may help inform  
29 capacity-building efforts needed to best serve the people of  
30 Hawaii; now, therefore,

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# S.C.R. NO. 18

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the  
3 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
4 Health is urged to conduct a study to evaluate Hawaii residents'  
5 engagement with a range of online activities that can be  
6 inherently additive and disproportionately affect vulnerable and  
7 minority populations; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to better understand local  
10 participation in potentially addictive online activities, the  
11 Department of Health is urged to deploy as part of the study, a  
12 prevalence survey to measure social media, internet gaming,  
13 pornography, mobile phone use, gambling, and high-risk stock and  
14 crypto currency trading; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
17 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.

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OFFERED BY: 

