

MAR - 8 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM TO CONVENE A SPORTS WAGERING WORKING GROUP TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF THE POTENTIAL LEGALIZATION AND REGULATION OF ONLINE SPORTS WAGERING IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, a robust illegal sports betting market thrives in
2 the absence of a legal, regulated framework; and

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4 WHEREAS, the American Gaming Association estimates that
5 Americans wager over \$63,000,000,000 each year in the illegal
6 market with no oversight, consumer protections, or tax revenue
7 generated; and

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9 WHEREAS, sports wagering is offered safely and responsibly
10 by reputable operators in jurisdictions where sports wagering is
11 legal, and these operators implement robust measures with regard
12 to identity verification, consumer protection, responsible
13 gaming, and game integrity that are not present in the illegal
14 market; and

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16 WHEREAS, by channeling this activity into a legal market
17 and building a robust, responsible, and regulated market for
18 sports wagering, Hawaii stands to gain millions of dollars each
19 year in additional tax revenue; and

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21 WHEREAS, the legalization of sports wagering presents an
22 opportunity to generate significant revenue for Hawaii; now,
23 therefore,

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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
26 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024,
27 that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and
28 Tourism is requested to convene a Sports Wagering Working Group
29 to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the potential



1 legalization and regulation of online sports wagering in Hawaii;
2 and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals are
5 requested to serve as members of the Sports Wagering Working
6 Group:

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8 (1) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and
9 Tourism or the Director's designee;
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11 (2) The President of the Senate or the President's
12 designee;
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14 (3) The Speaker of the House of Representatives or the
15 Speaker's designee;
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17 (4) The Attorney General or the Attorney General's
18 designee;
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20 (5) The Director of Taxation or the Director's designee;
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22 (6) The Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs or the
23 Director's designee;
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25 (7) A representative from the Hawaii law enforcement
26 community to be selected by the Director of Law
27 Enforcement; and
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29 (8) Two representatives of the Sports Betting Alliance;
30 and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as part of the comprehensive
33 analysis, the Sports Wagering Working Group is requested to
34 identify, assess, or recommend:

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36 (1) The estimated revenue potential of a legal online
37 sports wagering market in Hawaii;
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39 (2) An appropriate regulatory structure to efficiently
40 implement and oversee online sports betting in the
41 State using the experience of other states with online
42 sports betting;



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- (3) The consumer protections available for patrons of online sports wagering, including responsible gaming; and
- (4) The experience of other states in implementing online sports wagering and benefits derived from the legalization of online sports betting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sports Wagering Working Group is requested to submit a report on its comprehensive analysis, including any findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Attorney General; Director of Taxation; Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Director of Law Enforcement; and Sports Betting Alliance.

OFFERED BY: 

