
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND
TOURISM TO CONVENE A TOURISM AND GAMING WORKING GROUP.

1 WHEREAS, under existing law, gaming, also known as
2 gambling, is largely prohibited within the State; and

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4 WHEREAS, legislation to legalize gaming has been introduced
5 in past legislative sessions; and

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7 WHEREAS, gaming activities operated within a comprehensive
8 policy framework may lead to economic growth and provide a
9 significant source of tax revenue; and

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11 WHEREAS, the Legislature requires information on the costs
12 and benefits of legalized gambling, including different gambling
13 operations, to evaluate and properly consider gambling for
14 Hawaii; now, therefore,

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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the
18 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
19 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to
20 convene a Tourism and Gaming Working Group; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
23 to:

- 24
25 (1) Research gaming experiences and programs of legalized
26 gambling in other states, including but not limited to
27 revenues generated, costs of administration,
28 preventive education, gambling counseling and
29 treatment, regulation, and enforcement;
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- 1 (2) Review gaming legislation that has been considered by
- 2 the Legislature and other states to determine if any
- 3 proposal has the potential to be implemented in the
- 4 State;
- 5
- 6 (3) Examine the potential for gaming activities at the New
- 7 Aloha Stadium Entertainment District and onboard
- 8 vessels operated within the exclusive economic zone;
- 9
- 10 (4) Develop a comprehensive tourism gaming policy
- 11 framework that addresses economic growth, job
- 12 creation, capital investment, tax revenues, and costs
- 13 associated with administration, regulation,
- 14 enforcement, and social programs to educate, counsel,
- 15 and treat problem gambling; and
- 16
- 17 (5) Examine how gaming activities may support the work
- 18 conducted by the Department of Business, Economic
- 19 Development, and Tourism and Hawaii Tourism Authority;
- 20 and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested

23 to consist of the following members:

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- 25 (1) The chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives
- 26 standing committees with primary subject matter
- 27 jurisdiction over economic development, or the chairs'
- 28 designees, who are requested to serve as
- 29 co-chairpersons of the working group;
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- 31 (2) The President of the Senate, or the President's
- 32 designee;
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- 34 (3) The Speaker of the House of Representatives, or the
- 35 Speaker's designee;
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- 37 (4) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and
- 38 Tourism, or the Director's designee;
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- 40 (5) The Attorney General, or the Attorney General's
- 41 designee;
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- 1 (6) The Director of Law Enforcement, or the Director's
2 designee;
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- 4 (7) The Director of Taxation, or the Director's designee;
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- 6 (8) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee;
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- 8 (9) The Director of Human Services, or the Director's
9 designee;
- 10
- 11 (10) The Executive Director of the University of Hawaii
12 Economic Research Organization, or the Executive
13 Director's designee;
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- 15 (11) One individual having knowledge, experience, and
16 expertise in the area of labor, to be invited by the
17 co-chairpersons of the working group;
- 18
- 19 (12) One individual representing Native Hawaiian culture,
20 to be invited by the co-chairpersons of the working
21 group;
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- 23 (13) One individual having experience in social services
24 and behavioral addictions, to be invited by the
25 co-chairpersons of the working group;
- 26
- 27 (14) One individual possessing academic and research
28 expertise in global tourism, sports, and entertainment
29 industries, to be invited by the co-chairpersons of
30 the working group;
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- 32 (15) Three individuals representing gaming corporations, to
33 be invited by the co-chairpersons of the working
34 group;
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- 36 (16) One individual from Aloha Hālawā District Partners
37 LLC, to be invited by the co-chairpersons of the
38 working group; and
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- 40 (17) Other interested parties having relevant experience
41 and expertise, to be invited by the co-chairpersons of
42 the working group; and



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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
3 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
4 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
5 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
6 of 2027; and

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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business,
9 Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to provide
10 necessary administrative support to the working group in
11 carrying out its duties, including the preparation of the report
12 to the Legislature; and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business,
15 Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to dissolve the
16 Tourism and Gaming Working Group on June 30, 2028; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
20 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Attorney General;
21 Director of Law Enforcement; Director of Taxation; Director of
22 Health; Director of Human Services; and Executive Director of
23 the University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization.

