
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GAMBLING.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the stadium
2 development district established for aloha stadium is intended
3 to support public benefit uses, including athletics and
4 community events, and that gambling is inconsistent with the
5 State's long-standing public policy against casino gambling.

6 The legislature further finds that private developers may
7 speculate on the future legalization of gambling in Hawaii,
8 potentially affecting financing assumptions and community
9 expectations for state projects. The legislature affirms that
10 gambling shall be prohibited on any part of the new aloha
11 stadium development district.

12 The legislature additionally finds that gambling
13 enterprises can threaten the integrity of amateur athletics
14 through match-fixing, undue financial influence, and compromised
15 competitive environments. As the home of a Division I athletic
16 program, the State has a responsibility to ensure that



1 university of Hawaii student-athletes are not placed in casino-
2 affiliated environments.

3 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to:

4 (1) Prohibit any casino, gambling enterprise, or gambling
5 facility from being located on state lands within or

6 adjacent to the aloha stadium development district or
7 on any lands under the jurisdiction of the stadium

8 authority; and

9 (2) Ensure that athletic programs of the university of
10 Hawaii do not compete in venues that are operated by

11 or physically integrated with a gambling enterprise
12 while clarifying that standard naming-rights or

13 advertising agreements do not constitute prohibited
14 sponsorships.

15 Furthermore, the legislature intends that this Act shall
16 not be construed as authorizing any form of legalized gambling
17 in the State.

18 SECTION 2. Chapter 109, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
20 and to read as follows:



1 "§109- Prohibition against gambling. (a) As used in
2 this section:

3 "Casino" means any facility in which gambling occurs.

4 "Gambling" has the same meaning as in section 712-1220.

5 "Gambling enterprise" means any entity whose primary
6 business involves gambling or wagering activities.

7 "Gambling facility" means any structure used primarily for
8 gambling purposes.

9 (b) The stadium authority shall not authorize, permit, or
10 enter into any agreement allowing the development, construction,
11 operation, or management of any casino, gambling enterprise, or
12 gambling facility on any lands under its jurisdiction.

13 (c) The stadium authority shall not approve any master
14 development agreement, lease, or sublease that includes gambling
15 activities or contemplates the future establishment of such
16 activities."

17 SECTION 3. Chapter 206E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended by adding a new section to part IX to be appropriately
19 designated and to read as follows:

20 "§206E- Casino; gambling; prohibition. (a) As used in
21 this section:



1 "Casino" means any facility in which gambling occurs.

2 "Gambling" has the same meaning as in section 712-1220.

3 "Gambling enterprise" means any entity whose primary
4 business involves gambling or wagering activities.

5 "Gambling facility" means any structure used primarily for
6 gambling purposes.

7 (b) No casino, gambling enterprise, or gambling facility
8 shall be developed, constructed, operated, or permitted on any
9 state-owned lands located in the district, including any parcels
10 adjacent to, contiguous with, or functionally integrated into
11 the project area.

12 (c) No state agency shall enter into, extend, or amend any
13 lease, development agreement, license, or memorandum of
14 understanding that authorizes or contemplates the future
15 establishment of a casino, gambling facility, or gambling
16 enterprise on lands identified in subsection (b)."

17 SECTION 4. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
19 and to read as follows:

20 "§304A- Competition in gambling-affiliated venues;
21 prohibition. (a) As used in this section:



1 "Casino" means any facility in which gambling occurs.

2 "Gambling" has the same meaning as in section 712-1220.

3 "Gambling enterprise" means any entity whose primary
4 business involves gambling or wagering activities.

5 "Gambling facility" means any structure used primarily for
6 gambling purposes.

7 (b) University of Hawaii athletic programs shall not
8 schedule, participate in, or compete in any athletic contest
9 held in the state that is:

10 (1) A venue that is located within or physically attached
11 to a casino or gambling facility;

12 (2) A venue that is operated or managed by a gambling
13 enterprise; or

14 (3) A venue in which gambling activities are conducted.

15 (c) For the purposes of this section, a standard naming-
16 rights or advertising agreement that is sponsored by a gambling
17 enterprise shall be permitted; provided that the gambling
18 enterprise does not operate or conduct activities at the venue
19 and the venue is not physically integrated with a gambling
20 facility.



1 (d) The university of Hawaii shall adopt policies and
2 procedures to implement this section."

3 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

5

INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 14 2026



H.B. NO. 1527

Report Title:

New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District; University of Hawaii Athletic Programs; Gambling; Prohibition

Description:

Prohibits any casino, gambling enterprise, or gambling facility from being located on state lands within or adjacent to the Aloha Stadium Development District project area or on any lands under the jurisdiction of the Stadium Authority. Prohibits athletic programs of the University of Hawaii from competing in venues that are operated by or physically integrated with a gambling enterprise while clarifying that standard naming-rights or advertising agreements do not constitute prohibited sponsorships.

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