HAwAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
Minutes of December 21 and 22, 2020, via Videoconference
DHHL Main Office, Hale Pono‘i, Kapolei, O‘ahu, Hawai‘i

Pursuant to proper call, the meeting of the Hawaiian Homes Commission was held via teleconference, moderated by Chairman William Aila Jr., from Hale Pono‘i, 91-5420 Kapolei Parkway, Kapolei, O‘ahu, Hawai‘i, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT  William J. Aila Jr., Chairman
          Randy K. Awo, Maui Commissioner (via videoconference)
          Zachary Z. Helm, Moloka‘i Commissioner (via videoconference)
          David B. Ka‘apu, West Hawai‘i Commissioner (via videoconference)
          Michael L. Kaleikini, East Hawai‘i Commissioner (via videoconference)
          Russell K. Kaupu, O‘ahu Commissioner (via videoconference)
          Pauline N. Namu‘o, O‘ahu Commissioner (via videoconference)
          Dennis L. Neves, Kauai Commissioner (via videoconference) (9:44 a.m.)
          Patricia A. Teruya, O‘ahu Commissioner (via videoconference)

COUNSEL  Ryan Kanaka‘ole, Deputy AG (via videoconference)

STAFF   Tyler I. Gomes, Deputy to the Chairman
         Leah Burrows-Nuuanu, Secretary to the Commission
         Andrew Choy, Acting Planning Manager
         Kahana Albinio, Acting Land Management Division Administrator
         Juan Garcia, Homestead Services Division Administrator
         Cedric Duarte, Information & Community Relations Officer
         Stewart Matsunaga, Acting Land Development Division Administrator
         Paula Aila, Acting Contact and Awards Division Administrator
         Jamilia Epping, Information Specialist
         Michael Lowe, Information Specialist

ORDER OF BUSINESS

CALL TO ORDER
Chair Aila called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. Eight (8) members were present via videoconference at roll call. Commissioner Neves joined at 9:44 a.m.

Pursuant to the Governor’s 17th Proclamation, related to COVID-19 Emergency, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes (“HRS”) Chapter 92 regarding public agency meetings and records are currently suspended through February 14, 2021, to the extent necessary to enable boards to conduct business without holding meetings open to the public and to allow state agencies the ability to effectively and efficiently provide emergency relief and engage in emergency management functions.

Chair Aila stated Item F-1 would be moved to the afternoon. Deputy AG Craig Iha will replace Deputy AG Ryan Kanaka‘ole from 1:00 pm.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION/ACTION
Moved by Commissioner Helm, seconded by Commissioner Awo, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Neves excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 16 & 17, 2020, AND DECEMBER 1, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING

Commissioner Teruya asked to remove “he stated he would have an answer for her tomorrow” from Item G-1, paragraph 2.

Commission Secretary Leah Burrows-Nuuanu stated for the record that Commissioner Neves asked to change the word “beneficiaries” to “permittee” on page 13.

Commissioner Kaleikini stated a minor edit on page 4; the testifier’s name is spelled “Masaoka.”

MOTION/ACTION
Moved by Commissioner Awo, seconded by Commissioner Teruya, to approve the November 16 & 17, 2020, and December 1, 2020 minutes, as amended. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Neves excused.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON AGENDIZED ITEMS (via weblink only)

Testimony on agendized items was submitted in writing via the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands website at www.dhhl.hawaii.gov/hhc/hhc-contact.

Chair Aila stated there were 168 public testimonies up until Friday. Late testimonies were 56.

Note: Testimonies are attached.
Note: Commissioner Neves joined the meeting at 9:44 a.m.

ITEMS FOR DECISION MAKING

CONSENT AGENDA

HOMESTEAD SERVICES DIVISION

ITEM D-2 Approval of Consent to Mortgage (see exhibit)
ITEM D-3 Approval of Streamline Refinance of Loans (see exhibit)
ITEM D-4 Approval of Homestead Application Transfers/Cancellation (see exhibit)
ITEM D-5 Commission Designation of Successors to Application Rights – Public Notice 2016 & 2019 (see exhibit)
ITEM D-6 Reinstatement of Deferred Application Rights – Public Notice 2016 & 2019 (see exhibit)
ITEM D-8 Approval of Designation of Successors to Leasehold Interest and
ITEM D-9 Approval of Assignment of Leasehold Interest (see exhibit)
ITEM D-10 Approval of Amendment of Leasehold Interest (see exhibit)
ITEM D-11 Approval to Issue Non-Exclusive Licenses for Rooftop Photovoltaic Systems for Certain Lessees (see exhibit)
ITEM D-12 Commission Designation of Successor – THEODORE P.K. MORTENSEN, Residential Lease No. 8780, Lot No. 16, Waimanalo, O’ahu

ITEM D-13 Commission Designation of Successor – LUCY M. KEAHI, Residential Lease No. 10948, Lot No. 11, Waiakea, Hawai’i

ITEM D-14 Commission Designation of Successor – JASON M. KEAHILIHAU, Agricultural Lease No. 6970, Lot No. 26, Maku’u, Hawai’i

ITEM D-15 Commission Designation of Successor – ABRAHAM POAI, Residential Lease No. 1445, Lot No. 35, Waiakea, Hawai’i

ITEM D-16 Commission Designation of Successor – MYRTLE FUJIMOTO, Residential Lease No. 1497, Lot No. 4, Waiakea, Hawai’i

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION
Homestead Services Division Administrator Juan Garcia presented the following: Motion to approve the 14 Consent Agenda items as listed in the submittal.

MOTION
Moved by Commissioner Teruya, seconded by Commissioner Neves, to approve the 14 Consent Agenda items as listed in the submittal.

DISCUSSION
Commissioner Teruya commented on Item D-2, Nanakuli Lease 5195, thanking J. Garcia for responding to Ms. Chalker. She asked that communication and responses to beneficiaries be improved. She asked about the size of the lot in Item D-9, and what is meant when a lessee states “moving off-island” as a reason for transfer. She also asked if lessees could build swimming pools. J. Garcia stated that all improvements require a building permit. If there is a DCCR, it depends if the DCCR allows it or not. In Nanakuli there is no DCCR, so the lessee would have to apply and obtain a building permit from the county and bring it to the Department for approval.

Commissioner Kaleikini asked if in Item D-2 when a lessees’ reason for refinancing is “cash out” whether the Department requires a reason. J. Garcia stated the Department does not. The lessee can use the funds or whatever they choose, the borrowed amount is the appraised value of the property.
moved by Commissioner Teruya, seconded by Commissioner Neves, to approve the 14 Consent Agenda items as listed in the submittal.

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MOTION: [X] UNANIMOUS [ ] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED
Motion passed unanimously- nine (9) Yes votes

REGULAR AGENDA

HOMESTEAD SERVICES DIVISION

ITEM D-7 Substitution of Qualified Spouse for Hawai‘i Island Wait List – JACK E. LA’AU

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION
Homestead Services Division Administrator Juan Garcia and Application Branch Supervisor Nicole Bell presented the following:
Motion that the Hawaiian Homes Commission approve the substitution of Qualified Spouse for Jack E. La‘au, who is an applicant on the Hawai‘i Island wait list.

MOTION
Moved by Commissioner Helm, seconded by Commissioner Neves to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.

DISCUSSION
Commissioner Neves asked about the qualification of J. Lau. N. Bell stated it was discovered in 1980 that J. Lau was not qualified. Mrs. Lau is qualified with a blood quantum of 68.75% and was never an applicant on the wait list. Commissioner Neves asked if the couple was divorced after Mr. Lau passed away or before he passed away? N. Bell stated they were divorced when J. Lau passed away.

Deputy Attorney General Ryan Kanaka’ole stated the item was eligible for discussion in an executive session under HRS 92 J-1(6).

MOTION/ACTION
Moved by Commissioner Neves, seconded by Commissioner Helm to convene in an executive session pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(4) and 92 J-1(6), HRS, to consult with its attorney on
questions and issue pertaining to the Commission’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION IN 10:04 AM

The Commission anticipates convening an executive meeting pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(4), HRS, to consult with its attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Commission’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities on these matters.

ITEM D-7 Substitution of Qualified Spouse for Hawai‘i Island Wait List – JACK E. LA‘AU

EXECUTIVE SESSION OUT 11:07 AM

The original motion to Item D-7 was withdrawn, and a new motion was proposed.

MOTION
Moved by Commissioner Teruya to defer Item D-7, Substitution of Qualified Spouse, to a Workshop to be scheduled by the staff of DHHL. Seconded by Commissioner Namu’o.

ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Teruya to defer or table Item D-7 to a Workshop to be scheduled by the staff of DHHL. Seconded by Commissioner Namu’o.

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Motion passed unanimously- nine (9) Yes votes

ITEM D-17 Cancellation of Lease – JERRYL G.K. MAUHILI, Agricultural Lease No. 6254, Lot No. 70-B, Pana‘ewa, Hawai‘i

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION
Homestead Services Division Administrator Juan Garcia presented the following:
Motion that the Hawaiian Homes Commission approve the cancellation of Lease No. 6254, Lot No. 70-B, Pana‘ewa Hawai‘i. There is no qualified successor to the lease interest.
MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Neves to approve the motion as stated in the submittal. Seconded by Commissioner Ka’apu

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Motion passed unanimously- nine (9) Yes votes

ITEM D-18 Cancellation of Lease – FRANCIS J.K. PETERS, Agricultural Lease No. 10176, Lot No. 26, Pana’ewa, Hawai‘i.

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION
Homestead Services Division Administrator Juan Garcia presented the following:
Motion that the Hawaiian Homes Commission approve the cancellation of Lease No. 10176, Lot No. 26, Pana’ewa, Hawai‘i. There is no qualified successor to the lease interest.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Neves to approve the motion as stated in the submittal. Seconded by Commissioner Helm

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MOTION: [X] UNANIMOUS [ ] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED
Motion passed unanimously- nine (9) Yes votes

RECESS 11:17 A.M.
RECONVENCED 11:27 A.M.
LAND MANAGEMENT DIVISION

ITEM F-1 Approval to extend Right of Entry Permit 678 to State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW), Hawai‘i Island, Access to mauka boundary of TMK (s) 3-8-001 :009, :002, :007 for fence inspection. Access to the Makai boundary road of TMK 3-26-018 :002, for fence inspection and access to remote parts of Hilo and Mauna Kea Forest Reserves for natural resource management.

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION
Acting Land Management Division Administrator Kahana Albinio and East Hawai‘i District Property Development Agent Kualii‘i Camara presented the following:
Motion that the Hawaiian Homes Commission approve to extend the Right of Entry Permit 678 to DLNR and DOFAW to access the mauka boundary for fence inspection; and access the makai boundary for fence inspection and to access remote parts of the Hilo and Mauna Kea Forest Reserves for natural resource management.

MOTION
Moved by Commissioner Neves, seconded by Commissioner Awo, to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.

DISCUSSION
Commissioner Neves asked how often a fence inspection is done and how do they access it. K. Camara stated inspections are done quarterly, and they access the fence by truck, and if wet, by ATV.

Commissioner Helm asked how long the extension is. K. Camara stated he is working with DLNR for a longer-term or an MOU.

Commissioner Kaleikini stated the partnership with DLNR is critical, and they have invested a lot in the project. He asked how old the forest is. K. Camara said over 1000 years old.

K. Camara added that the Big Island Evasive Species Committee (“BIESC”) helps with ROD (“Rapid Ohia Death”) surveys and monitoring of the forest through imaging. ROD is a fungus decimating the Ohia forest. It is starting to show on other islands, and there is no cure for it but prevention. BIESC has a limited right of entry.

Commissioner Teruya asked who removes the cattle and whether it is contracted. K. Camara stated there are two feral removal licensees, not contractors. There are conditions to provide meat and cattle to the beneficiaries. The licenses are 3–5-year licenses.

Commissioner Awo stated for the record that the Mokupuni Council would like to participate in these kinds of initiatives on any island.
ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Neves to approve the motion as stated in the submittal. Seconded by Commissioner Awo

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MOTION: [X] UNANIMOUS [ ] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED
Motion passed unanimously; nine (9) Yes votes


RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION
Acting Land Management Division Administrator Kahana Albinio presented the following: Motion that the Hawaiian Homes Commission approve and authorize an additional Rent Relief and Deferment Period, Addendum No. 3, to DCI Paradise LLC, Hilton Garden Inn, Kauaʻi, General Lease Nos. Nos. S-3831, S-3840, and S-4647, Wailua, Kauaʻi Island, TMK Nos. (4) 3-9-006:016 and 020

MOTION
Moved by Commissioner Neves, seconded by Commissioner Helm, to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.

DISCUSSION
K. Albinio introduced Land Agent Kaipo Duncan and Cindy Bolton of DCI Paradise LLC ("DCI").

C. Bolton thanked the Commission on behalf of the Chang family, for all its prior considerations. The hotel has been closed for ten months with no idea when Kauai will re-open for business. DCI is asking for an additional 12-month deferral starting January 1, 2021.

Commissioner Kaʻapu asked if interest accrues during the deferral and when the rents deferred would begin to be repaid. K. Albinio stated interest accruing at 4% as it was in the initial authorization for rent relief, although it is not stated in the request. There is no date mentioned in the submittal, and the term is determined upon the Commission’s decision.

Commissioner Kaʻapu suggested putting all the facts in writing, such as when the Department will get repaid and how much the Department will get repaid. He asked if there was any type of
security a personal guarantor so that if the company goes upside down, the Department would have a way to get some money back. Lastly, Commissioner Ka’apu stated he is reluctant for a 1-year deferral because the vaccine is coming, and the Mayor of Kaua’i is looking for a way to open. He noted a short deferral period is more palatable and can be revisited.

C. Bolton asked if the Commission could give them 6-months.

Commissioner Ka’apu moved to amend the motion to include the interest, a date that is certain by when the deferred payments will be repaid. K. Albinio stated he intended to make it equal or like what was presented to the Commission in April, which is the 4% interest rate and 6-months after the deferment period ends to pay back, and 3-years to pay it back.

**AMENDED MOTION**

Moved by Commissioner Ka’apu, seconded by Commissioner Awo to amend the motion to include a 6-month deferral extension, interest at 4%, a date by which to pay back, the description of when to pay back, and the process.

Commissioner Ka’apu stated he is okay with the 6-months. Commissioners Namu’o and Helm concurred with 6-months.

Commissioner Teruya stated she does not support the 6-months and prefers the 3-months. Commissioner Kaupu stated he prefers three months.

Commissioner Helm asked what the losses were for each month. K. Albinio stated pages 2 and 3 lists the annual rents that the Department should be getting from each lease.

Chair Aila stated that he believes 3-months is too short with the COVID numbers increasing and the time it would take to get people vaccinated. He stated 6-months is a reasonable time frame.

**AMENDED MOTION/ACTION**

Moved by Commissioner Ka’apu to approve the amended motion of 6-month deferral extension, interest at 4%, a date by which to pay back, the description of when to pay back, and the process. Seconded by Commissioner Awo,

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MOTION: [ ] UNANIMOUS [X] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED
Motion passed unanimously- eight (8) Yes votes. One (1) No vote.
MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Ka’apu, seconded by Commissioner Awo, to approve the amended motion of 6-months extension, interest at 4%, a date by which to pay back, the description of when to pay back and the process.

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MOTION: [ ] UNANIMOUS [X] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED
Motion passed unanimously- eight (8) Yes votes. One (1) Abstention

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICE

ITEM H-1 Approval of Pilot Loan Program and related Program Budget Costs from the Native Hawaiian Rehabilitation Fund for Fiscal Year 2021

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION
Administrative Services Officer Rodney Lau and Executive Assistant Jobie Masagatani presented the following:
Motion that the Hawaiian Homes Commission approve the Pilot Loan Program and related Program Budget Costs from the Native Hawaiian Rehabilitation Fund for Fiscal Year 2021

MOTION
Moved by Commissioner Helm, seconded by Commissioner Neves, to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.

DISCUSSION
Commissioner Helm asked how much money is allocated to the Pilot Loan Program. R. Lau stated the amount is $1.5 million total, $1 million for loans and $500,000 is to create the program.

Commissioner Awo stated the Mokupuni Council meeting had some questions such as:
- Is the Department using the program to expand the Trust inventory?
- Is the Department taking a subordinate position, and what are the risks?
- Will the Department require participation in a counseling program?
- How does it affect the waitlist if you qualify? What are the conditions to get back on the waitlist if the intent is to reduce the list?

Commissioner Teruya asked what the $500,000 will be used for. Executive Administrator Jobie Masagatani stated that there are legal issues to deal with if the Department should take a
subordinate position because it is a fee simple purchase. Due diligence is required, and the staff is already overextended. For the implementation part, the Department may need to work with a third-party vendor. If only half of the funds are used, the Department can allow the balance to go to the program’s implementation. The Department anticipates a positive reaction, and if it is expanded, Administrative Rules would be required. The program is a test to see what can and cannot work. Commissioner Teruya asked if the funds were budgeted. J. Masagatani stated they are looking at the Native Hawaiian Rehabilitation Funds (NHRF), which is at the Commission’s discretion.

Commissioner Kaupu asked to confirm the waiting list question posed by Commissioner Awo. J. Masagatani stated the primary purpose of the program is to address the waiting list. One of the conditions of accepting the grant is that you would take your name off the list.

**ACTION**

Moved by Commissioner Helm to approve the motion as stated in the submittal. Seconded by Commissioner Neves

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MOTION: [ ]UNANIMOUS [X] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED
Motion passed unanimously- Nine (9) Yes votes.

**ITEM H-2** Transfer of Hawaiian Home Receipts Fund Moneys at the End of Second Quarter, FY 2021

**RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION**
Administrative Services Officer Rodney Lau presented the following:
Motion that the Hawaiian Homes Commission approve the transfer of the entire receipts deposited in Hawaiian Home Receipts as of December 31, 2020, to the Hawaiian Homes General Loans Fund.

**DISCUSSION**
None.
MOTION/ACTION

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MOTION: [ ] UNANIMOUS [X] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED
Motion passed unanimously- Nine (9) Yes votes.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

GENERAL AGENDA

REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION – In writing via weblink only, information below

ITEM J-1   Germain Meyers – Various Concerns
ITEM J-2   Liko Wallace – Nā‘iwa Homestead Association
ITEM J-3   Sharmaine Tua – Waianae Residential Lease – Harassment and Vandalism
ITEM J-4   Ellen Sanborn – Waimanalo Right of Entry
ITEM J-5   Blossom Feiteira – Various Concerns

Commissioner Awo asked to discuss the Public Testimony request regarding Kalaupapa. The request is that the National Park explains in writing why they changed from an EIS to an EA. The Executive Director for Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa asks the Department to support them in developing a working group with knowledgeable individuals who participated in the GMP process in Kalaupapa. The group does not want the National Park Service to make the selection, but the community members.

Commissioner Teruya stated for the record Item J-3, Sharmaine Tua from the ahupua‘a of Nanakuli brought to the Department’s attention in September about the increase of harassment toward her family. She visited the family, who had not heard anything from the Department when she turned in her concerns. S. Tua requests that the Commission and Department speak to her and her family. Chair Aila stated E-Team is investigating and will report.

Commissioner Helm stated he agreed with Commissioner Awo on his comments regarding Kalaupapa.
Commissioner Kaupu addressed the submittal for Item J-4, asking if the parcel was the subject of the ROE Pilot Project. K. Albinio confirmed that it is.

Commissioner Kaupu asked if E. Sanborn is current on what she owes to the Department for the parcel. K. Albinio said he would find out but that as of November 30th, the right of entry has been surrendered. Commissioner Kaupu stated the folks who subleased from E. Sanborn are still on the property. K. Albinio confirmed, and the Department has not formally extended anything as of today’s date.

RECESS 11:53 AM
RECONVENED 11:59 AM

WORKSHOPS

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

ITEM C-1 For Information Only – Legislative Proposal to Authorize Limited Casino Gaming in the Form of a Single Integrated Resort Property in Kapolei on Hawaiian Home Lands Designated for Commercial Use

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION
Deputy to Chairman Tyler Gomes, Legislative Analyst Lehua Kinilau-Cano presented the information briefing on the Legislative proposal to authorize limited casino gaming in the form of a single integrated resort property in Kapolei on Hawaiian Home Lands designated for commercial use.

Deputy Gomes stated the status quo is not working for the Hawaiian Home Lands beneficiaries. The State of Hawai‘i is looking at a $1.4 billion deficit annually, every year for 4-years. In this Legislative session, funding will be sparse, but there will be opportunities. This legislative request is the one opportunity.

Deputy Gomes presented the PowerPoint titled A Plan for the Next 100 Years.

Note: The Slide presentation is attached.

Lack of Developable Land
The first issue is residential demand vs. supply. O‘ahu makes up over 50% of the individuals waiting for homesteads. O‘ahu has 10,870 applicants on the waitlist compared with the supply of 1,645 acres of land. The Department cannot put 10,870 applicants on 1,645 acres of land. The Department does not have enough developable lands to solve its waitlist needs.

Lack of Resources to address the Waitlist Timely
The second issue is time. If the Department is producing homes at the rate it is now, it would take 182 years to solve the problem of the waitlist, assuming no one applies after today. Half of the wait listers are over age 60 and do not have the time and resources to construct a home. At least 2000 native Hawaiians have died on the waitlist.

Deputy Gomes asked the Commission to have an open mind and consider this bill designed to
- Put Hawaiians on Hawaiian Home Lands
- Address the waitlist
Stop native Hawaiians from dying on the waitlist

Deputy Gomes stated the bill does not require federal recognition; it does not get into federal law; it does not trigger the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. It is an administrative bill under State law to give the Department the authority to do something like this.

The last issue is money. The Commission approved the 2022-2023 Budget Request of $145.9 million. Last year the Department received $20 million, $120 million short of its request. No solutions have been proposed.

The bill gives the governor authority to appoint a 5-member Commission, the Hawai‘i Gaming Commission. It will be administered as an attached administrative agency under DHHL, but DHHL will not control it. DHHL will not have any operation over-sight to maintain integrity. Deputy Gomes stated it wants to make sure that DHHL is the beneficiary of the revenue and that it is not controlling that over-sight. A separate Commission will be created with a specific set of expertise as tribal experts state that the quality of individuals on the Commission will dictate its success. The Hawai‘i Gaming Commission will appoint a Commission Executive Director.

Deputy Gomes stated that this bill is the single greatest opportunity the Department must put itself in the dominion of exercising economic self-sufficiency. Self-sufficiency is self-determination, and a self-reliance is an act of sovereignty.

DISCUSSION
Commissioner Awo stated the evidence is around that the calvary is not coming anytime soon. The political leaders have continued to grow the housing crisis for residents and are adamantly opposed to gaming but offer no substitutions for revenues to help. He stated the concerns of those who oppose it are legitimate and real. Part of the problem was the lack of information since this was the first opportunity to consider the information. He thinks the proposal has merit, and if done wisely and carefully, and consider where the beneficiaries stand. He feels it is important to consult with the beneficiaries.

Deputy Gomes stated the Department is committed to doing beneficiary consultation on the development agreement side, involving a land disposition. Now that this is out, certain states will spend extra time and money to kill this Bill. The longer time is spent thinking about it, the greater the opportunity for them to buy its failure, and a year from now, the Department will lose this at the Legislature.

Commissioner Helm stated he was caught off guard. It is all about beneficiary consultation and getting feedback from the people. Informing and educating them might help them have a different thought. In 2012, there was a proposal to do lottery gaming and suggested that it not take the land away. He also stated that it is possibly the start of a conduit to criminal activity. He thought the possible revenues were impressive, but how do you get there. It seems like the last leg of options. We talked about renewable energy and shopping centers, but this was not brought up then.

Deputy Gomes stated the land in question is not available for residential use. It is a term of how the Department received it so that it could not be used for homes anyway. It is a question of what commercial activity Commissioners want to put on it. As far as a conduit for criminal activity, the data shows that crime can be mitigated. There is no real link between increased criminal activity and the introduction of a single casino.
Commissioner Ka’apu stated the problem is with a one-day notice asking the Commission to decide on something that has a very long impact on the Department. If this had been the result of a committee formed by the Commission to study it and look at different things, talk to people, it might have been different. He feels that the Deputy is making a statement and asking the Commission to trust that his conclusion is correct. He is not able to know anything other than what Deputy Gomes has told the Commission. The reaction from the public and beneficiaries resulted from that. The Commission did not drive it, but something that popped up overnight, and the Commission is asked to vote positively.

Commissioner Ka’apu stated while there may be benefits, the Department says it is an effort for self-sufficiency, for self-determination; however, in the plan, the selection process is given to a political body, the Governor, to make decisions for Hawaiians. The Commission was just presented with how poorly the political body has treated DHHL. He does not understand how the gaming commission would represent the beneficiaries’ interest if there is only one Hawaiian on the gaming commission. He is not convinced to support the effort. The Commission should take its time to understand what it is that we are getting into. Beneficiary consultation is required since this is a disposition of land that will not be used for homes. The Commission must determine that it is not suitable. He thinks the Department should look for alternatives. He does not want to jump into something without knowing all the ramifications.

Deputy Gomes stated he thinks the Commission already has determined that the land is not suitable for homesteading because it is designated in the Regional Plan. One of the greatest incursions into the success of gaming must deal with the strength of the regulatory framework. The gaming commission needs to have a specific set of expertise to ensure success. He understands that it is not self-determinative in nature, but from amongst other models, it was the safest to ensure the integrity of the entire operation.

Commissioner Kaleikini stated the key element is beneficiary consultation, which is in the works. Education is critical going forward. He sees this as a viable opportunity to address the waiting list. Waiting another 180 years is unacceptable. He tends to favor this option. He understands that the Commission is the first step, and if it gets to the Legislature, that is the next step. Chair Aila stated that the Department has reached out, and there are some interested in having the discussion.

Commissioner Kaupu stated Deputy mentioned going the State Legislature route instead of the American Indian Gaming route. How does it affect the ability to, at some point, do something under the other option? Deputy Gomes stated it does not, but it does demonstrate a level of economic sovereignty. He does not believe it jeopardizes someone’s ability to pursue other options from a legal perspective. Commissioner Kaupu asked by going the Legislative route; the political reality is the Department must give a lot of the control piece. How does the Commission know the revenue comes to the Department, therefore the beneficiaries? If this goes forward, what is to stop the next administration from changing the numbers? How is that piece controlled?

Deputy Gomes stated the reality is the Department cannot, but a risk analysis thought process must be used. Is it worth it to accept that the Department is $200 million short every year? Is it acceptable not to try and clear the waitlist? There is nothing to stop the Legislature from changing the percentages. Commissioner Kaupu stated the Commission should consider how it preserves the benefits of a program put together to present to the current Legislature. The series of concessions to control, whether it is the Commission’s makeup that does not answer to the
Hawaiian Homes Commission, whether it is one location as Kapolei is mentioned as the location, are these what is going to sell when it is presented to the Legislature? Why would the Department look into those kinds of restrictions now instead of developing them overtime? The main one for him is why Kapolei? One of the sovereign-like rights we have is the ability to entitle lands. Why is the Department tying itself into the State to dictate that? Deputy Gomes stated limiting it geographically increases the opportunity for support and answers where it is going. The constant concern is not having a whole slew of casinos and a back door industry out of control. This is a much more limited scope.

L. Kinilau-Cano stated one of the issues in the testimonies is the Department is using Hawaiian Home Lands. The Bill was drafted to state that it is land for commercial use distinctly. The discussion is about the type of commercial use. O‘ahu was the site because it has the most recent update to its Island Plan, which went through extensive beneficiary consultation where beneficiaries already know what areas in Kapolei are designated for commercial use. It was drafted for lands that cannot be used for residential because of the limitations that came with the land.

Deputy Gomes stated if the Commission is more comfortable with five members appointed by the Governor subject to the advice and consent of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, that is an amendment that can be made now or later. There are opportunities to work with the Bill.

Commissioner Namu‘o stated she thinks the presentation was well done. She is not sure if there is any support for the Bill, but she looks at it as the first step, and she will wait for more information. She felt the Commissioners should keep their minds open. She read through all the testimonies, news articles and heard testimonies. This may not be the right time for something like this, but no one will give the Department money.

Deputy Gomes stated if Commissioners wanted to hear from Dr. Spindy, who is in San Diego, they could see if she is available for tomorrow’s meeting. If there was an interest in listening to someone whose entire Ph.D. and doctoral experience is in the study of impacts to the community, staff could try to arrange it for tomorrow.

L. Kinilau-Cano stated that she read through the testimonies and compared the names of testifiers with names of lessees and applicants; roughly ten percent are beneficiaries.

Commissioner Neves stated that we could not wait another 100 years. It does not make any sense. The Native Americans started with gambling and got into a lot of trouble when they tried to do it themselves. They learned and went out and got a professional organization to run the casinos. The organization runs the casinos, and the Native Americans collect the checks. The gaming commission’s responsibility is to look at the gaming structure, types of machines, and regulations. When the consultant looks for a company to run the casinos, they know what they are looking for. He felt that the cap of $50 million to the facility needs to be taken off. He stated if the Department and Commission do it right, it could take care of its problems in a short period. He talked of two tribes in Connecticut that contribute $3 billion to the State in slot revenues from 2016 to 2017. The tribes get 53% of the gross revenue. He stated what Deputy Gomes put on the table gives more to chew on and gives a better idea of where the Department is coming from. He is passionate about this and thinks it is something the Department needs to do. Deputy Gomes stated they would be happy to take the $50 million cap out. He also stated that the consultant would be a consultant to the Gaming Commission and not Hawaiian Home Lands.
Commissioner Teruya stated she commends the beneficiaries or non-beneficiaries that did take time to submit their testimony, whether it was supportive or opposition. She read through the whole thing. Her weekend was not Christmas shopping; it read all the documents and made sure she understood and took the time to read.

She stated when she talked about the deficit on one of the agenda items, and she talked about the Kauai deficit. She stated if the Department does not collect market value rent on all its commercial entities, it is less funding to the Department. She wanted to correct that statement because it made it sound like she supported his deficit, and it was not because of the casino; it was because of the Kaua‘i. She mentioned the deficit several times because the Department does not charge the proper market value rents. One of her concerns is the HART project in Kapolei, market value land we are still waiting for the City and County to pay up to the Department of their responsibility and kuleana. The market value property of putting in the transit HART goes into our Department. DHHL needs to make sure that it charges proper market value rents.

She considered Vice Chair Kaʻapu’s comments and agreed that it is such a rush. Commissioners listened to the presentation today, and tomorrow it is on the agenda for action. Many Commissioners mentioned beneficiary consultation as a priority to make sure beneficiaries are engaged.

Having beneficiary consultation through the COVID is tough, and she knows the experience because she went through it. It is very difficult to have a beneficiary consultation virtually because you are on a teleconference. Everybody has masks, and you do not have the opportunity to have that one-on-one like we normally do in a beneficiary consultation. Beneficiary consultation at COVID time does not work.

The Commissioner from Hawaii passes everything, take the casino in Hawaii. She has been on the neighborhood board for 27-years and chaired the Waianae and Nanakuli Board. She worked with officials representing her districts, like Maile Shimabukuro and Representative Eli, on how to address illegal gambling in their community. There are problems with illegal gambling and distribution all along in her West Oahu. It is an insult that the casino is proposed for West O‘ahu, putting more people in oppression.

She went to Church past weekend, and many HPD District 8 Officers were appalled and concerned. She asked how is this going to be enforced? She stated that she is surprised that it came on the agenda. Is this was an Aila thing? Where did it come from? Did it come from the Governor? What is going on?

Having the Governor appoint is wrong; it would be too political, and to have just one beneficiary on it is another insult to Native Hawaiians and beneficiaries. She thanked everyone who took the time to send in testimony. They did take the time to reach out to the Commission. She thinks the Department is rushing into this in this Legislature 2021.

L. Kinilau-Cano stated the language reads at least one member, and it does not say that it is only one member. If there are native Hawaiians with the expertise, willing to come home and
be a resident of the State of Hawai‘i. To serve on the Board or Commission, you must be a resident of the State of Hawai‘i.

Chair Aila stated because he put it on the agenda, it could be considered an Aila thing. Chair Aila stated staff looked at options, the timing issues, folks coming, and saying do not let us die on the waitlist. They looked at how to provide the amount necessary so beneficiaries would not have to wait 182 years. Chair Aila reminded the Commissioners that they represent the beneficiaries, but the Commissioners must perpetuate the Trust in perpetuity.

Commissioner Awo stated he understands what Deputy said about waiting, and powerful voices will lobby to kill the Bill. At the front for him are the voices that oppose the Bill. He does not feel he has enough time to educate himself to cast his vote tomorrow.

Commissioner Helm stated he believes there are other options to generate revenue. He suggested the Governor turn over the Aloha Stadium to Hawaiian Home Lands as a venue for sports. He stated the Department needs to reach out to the beneficiaries for their response on the Bill. He is not sure what his stance is now. Chair Aila stated the stadium authorities already have plans for that property.

Commissioner Ka‘apu commented that he appreciated the Chair sharing the fiduciary duties of the Trustees. One of the most important fiduciary duties the Commissioners have is to make informed decisions, understanding all the aspects of what is being asked of them. He does not have all the information to fulfill his fiduciary duty as a Commissioner. He received the Bill, which he stated was just the proposal to bring in gaming. It does not provide information for the impact on the Department, the impact on the Commission, or the impact on the beneficiaries other than what Deputy Gomes presented. It is his job as a Commissioner is to examine it, run it through, vet it. He does not like to receive an item on Monday with an expectation to vote on it the next day. He has received numerous feedback from people on the Big Island, and none was in support. He is not against any method of raising money for the beneficiaries, but it should be a collective effort from a policy standpoint.

Commissioner Kaleikini stated he supports the initiative. He believes beneficiary consultation and education is key. If through beneficiary consultation, the result is against the Bill, and if the Bill does get to the Legislature, he will commit to going to the Legislature in opposition at that time based on the beneficiary consultation.

Commissioners Kaupu and Namu‘o had no further comments or questions.

Commissioner Neves stated he is leaning towards approving the process. Things still must be ironed out, but it gives the opportunity for the Commission to do its fiduciary duty to the beneficiaries and get them on a piece of land.

Commissioner Teruya stated she stands with Commissioner Ka‘apu regarding informed decisions and the Commission’s fiduciary duty. She is strongly opposing the venue and will be lobbying at the Legislature in opposition to any gambling establishments in Kapolei, West O‘ahu, on DHHL land.

RECESS 1:35 PM
RECONVENED 1:47 PM
LAND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

ITEM E-1       For Information Only – Moloka‘i Project Status

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION
Acting Land Development Division Administrator Stewart Matsunaga offered a slide presentation for Molokai Capital Improvement Project Updates.

DISCUSSION
Commissioner Helm wished Jeff Fujimoto the best on his retirement. He asked if there is any possibility of filling the position. Chair Aila stated if the state gets any kind of relief, then there might be an opportunity for more positions to be freed up.

Commissioner Teruya asked what year did the CIP funding budget lapse. S. Matsunaga stated it lapsed June 30, 2020, but they were able to get the monies back.

LAND MANAGEMENT DIVISION

ITEM F-3       For Information Only – Nanakuli Village Center Update; General Lease No. 281, Nanakuli Hawaiian Homestead Community Association, Nanakuli, O‘ahu Island

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION
Acting Land Management Division Administrator Kahana Albinio introduced Kali Watson, President of the Hawaiian Community Development Board, and Senior Vice President Patti Barbie. They presented a video on the Nanakuli Village Update.

DISCUSSION
K. Watson stated that because of the COVID situation, the Kalani Hookaha Learning Center opening would occur next year. The Waianae Comprehensive Clinic should be starting up operations at the beginning of next year. That will be the final building that will complete the entire Nanakuli Village Center.

K. Watson stated it was the Nānākuli Hawaiian Homestead Community Association’s idea, and it is something they should be proud of.

Commissioner Teruya asked if former Commissioner Mike Kahikina served on the Commission during 2012 – 2018 when Nānākuli Village was proposed to the Commission? K. Albinio stated he believed that former Commissioner Kahikina recused himself from any votes.

Commissioner Teruya asked K. Watson to share more about the community give back. K. Watson stated from the generated revenues. There will be net proceeds distributed to the Nanakuli Hawaiian Homestead Community Association (NHHCA). The Association will determine what kind of distributions will be made. There have been discussions of internships, scholarships, assistance in house construction, and counseling programs. Commissioner Teruya stated that it is difficult due to the lack of having meetings for beneficiaries since 2016, the community does not receive any communication from Nānākuli Hawaiian Homestead Association.

Commissioner Teruya asked K. Watson to put up a fence or wall to divide the Nānākuli Shopping Center behind Long’s Drug Store from the homestead. An incident happened where a
stolen vehicle was chased and these individuals drove right into the homesteader yard over the plants that you planted and straight into the back of Longs shopping center to Farrington Highway, getting away. She asked what the homestead is planning to do with the Butler Building, as it can be used for community use. She also stated that she hopes the community associations can get together and work together.

Chair Aila stated there is no disposition for the Butler Building yet.

Commissioner Awo asked about the anticipated net proceeds generated. What is the expected amount they will be poured back into the community? K. Watson stated the costs had exceeded the budget. They just started to break even, and there has been a little bit of a shortage, so he and his partners have stepped up and have not taken any developer’s fee. Once the new market tax credits are played out, they will not have to cover the generated loans. Then there will be a step up in revenues that can go to the Homestead Association, which will require them to come back to the Commission to ask for an extension on the lease for a longer amortization period. The banks will need this to allow them to refinance and get a better cash flow for the program. Commissioner Awo asked what the set up for the Association to receive the money was. K. Watson stated it is a 501 c 3 with annual reporting requirements, and the Board makes the decisions. Chair Aila said the non-profit is paying lease rent on the property, just over $9,000 per month, and the annual rent is $110,000.

**MOTION/ACTION**

Moved by Commissioner Teruya, seconded by Commissioner Helm, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

**RECESS** 3:05 PM
HAUNAOM REMOSSION
Minutes of December 22, 2020, via Videoconference
DHHL Main Office, Hale Pono’i, Kapolei, O‘ahu, Hawai‘i

Pursuant to proper call, the meeting of the Hawaiian Homes Commission was held via teleconference, moderated by Chairman William Aila Jr., from Hale Pono‘i, 91-5420 Kapolei Parkway, Kapolei, O‘ahu, Hawai‘i, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT
William J. Aila Jr., Chairman
Randy K. Awo, Maui Commissioner (via videoconference)
Zachary Z. Helm, Moloka‘i Commissioner (via videoconference)
David B. Ka‘apu, West Hawai‘i Commissioner (via videoconference)
Michael L. Kaleikini, East Hawai‘i Commissioner (via videoconference)
Russell K. Kaupu, O‘ahu Commissioner (via videoconference)
Pauline N. Namu‘o, O‘ahu Commissioner (via videoconference)
Dennis L. Neves, Kauai Commissioner (via videoconference)
Patricia A. Teruya, O‘ahu Commissioner (via videoconference)

COUNSEL
Ryan Kanaka‘ole, Deputy AG (via videoconference)

STAFF
Tyler I. Gomes, Deputy to the Chairman
Leah Burrows-Nuuanu, Secretary to the Commission
Andrew Choy, Acting Planning Manager
Kahana Albinio, Acting Land Management Division Administrator
Juan Garcia, Homestead Services Division Administrator
Cedric Duarte, Information & Community Relations Officer
Stewart Matsunaga, Acting Land Development Division Administrator
Paula Aila, Acting Contact and Awards Division Administrator
Jamilia Epping, Information Specialist
Michael Lowe, Information Specialist

ORDER OF BUSINESS

CALL TO ORDER
Chair Aila called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. Nine (9) members were present via videoconference at roll call.

Pursuant to the Governor’s seventeenth Proclamation, related to COVID-19 Emergency, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes (“HRS”) Chapter 92 regarding public agency meetings and records are currently suspended through February 14, 2021 to the extent necessary to enable boards to conduct business without holding meetings open to the public and to allow state agencies the ability to effectively and efficiently provide emergency relief and engage in emergency management functions.

Commissioner Ka‘apu stated he had some factual questions that he wanted to propose about the gaming proposal before going into executive session. He asked Chair Aila, from his perspective, if he believes that it is important for the Commission to have all the facts prior to deciding on this matter?
Chair Aila stated he believes that is the most prudent thing to do when there is an opportunity to flesh everything out as completely as possible. He does not believe that the Commission will have this opportunity next year. It will be difficult enough if we can move forward this session, and it will be extremely difficult to move forward in the following session. As pointed out by Deputy Gomes, there will be opposition from locals and lobbyists from Las Vegas. Sometimes one must make decisions with the best facts one has going forward. If the Commission chooses to move forward this year, there will be ample discussions from all community sectors, including beneficiaries, non-beneficiaries, and government officials. There will not be a willingness from the Legislature or the decision-makers to consider something as bold, visionary, and out-of-the-box as this is before the Commission today.

Commissioner Ka’apu asked the Chair, before putting this on the agenda for yesterday and decision making today, you would agree that this is a quick turnaround for an important and massive decision-making item?

Chair Aila agreed that the weight of the decision is heavy. He proposed that the Commission look at the conditions in which for 100 years the Department has not been funded. There is no mechanism to fund the Department to the level of revenue necessary to make a positive impact on the beneficiaries. After reviewing all the possibilities, where the Department is at today, where the Department may be tomorrow, or when the economy gets better, nobody is going to come to the Department’s rescue. This is the opportunity for the Department to rescue itself. Chair Aila stated the Department stands at a precipice to make a difference for future generations or be safe and lose the opportunity. As the Chairman of the Department, there is nothing on the horizon that will provide potential revenue as this proposal.

Commissioner Ka’apu asked if $30 million a year is correct. Chair Aila stated that is the minimum. Other gaming operations have generated more than a billion. There is a low and a high. Commissioner Ka’apu asked why the aversion to setting up a committee, as done before, for something that has such a huge impact. In this case, the Commissioners must rely on a presentation made yesterday.

Commissioner Ka’apu stated his concern is that a substantial amount of control is being given up, and he does not think that can be done under 206. The Department can delegate responsibility to the Governor to appoint another Commission to take care of HHL. Commissioner Ka’apu asked if the Department consulted with any of the Department’s experts in reaching this decision, and when did this decision arise?

Chair Aila stated it was a last-minute initiative to look at the possibilities, and he and staff talked with some folks in the Indian country that have the experience, which helped tweak the Bill. If the concern is that gaming is outside of the purview of the HHL Commission, then the Bill can be tweaked to account for that. The separation was to be transparent in integrity to the processes. He stated that the Department was advised that the gaming commission must be as ethical and transparent as possible for organized crime not to become involved. If the Commission feels it needs to have oversight, the Department is not opposed to tweaking the Bill for it to be more palatable to the Commission.

Commissioner Ka’apu felt that the Commission was being rushed, and in its present state, the HHL Commission has no role at all in any of it. The Commission only gets an annual report. There is no recourse if the gaming commission does not do what it is anticipated to do. They are affecting Hawaiian home lands for a long time, and the Commission has no control under the current proposal.
Chair Aila disagreed with Commissioner Ka’apu and stated he believes that the HHL Commission has the ultimate control because it controls the disposition where the gaming will occur. It will control the final development contract of what gets built, what conditions are put into place, and what is the return to the Department. The gaming commission looks at how to transparently issue a license and the management of the operator. If the HHL Commission does not like it, it does not have to issue the disposition.

Commissioner Ka’apu stated the EA had been delegated to the gaming commission. What would the gaming commission know about the environmental protection of the Department’s property? Why is this delegated to the gaming commission? Chair Aila stated the HHL Commissioners can make amendments. Chair Aila stated there would never be another more successful potential opportunity if it is not done in this Legislative Session.

Chair Aila stated that Commissioners had been around long enough to understand that there are periods of timing in which there may not be all the facts, but to trust that as the process moves forward, it can be amended to make it as pono as possible. Once it goes to the Legislature, the Commission has no control and is stuck with the status quo, and this is what is driving the staff and him to present this opportunity.

Commissioner Ka’apu stated he had a concern about the beneficiary consultation not being required because the property is commercial. The commercial use envisioned in the General Plan does not envision a casino. Beneficiary Consultation is required before the Commission approves this. Where in Kapolei is the casino going to be? Chair Aila stated that it was left open to decide when the time comes to issue a disposition.

Commissioner Ka’apu stated lots of trust is put in five people the Commission does not know and has not yet been appointed. The HHL Commission has no authority other than issuing the lease.

Commissioner Awo aligned his concerns with Commissioner Ka’apu. Commissioner Teruya recommended Beneficiary Consultation. Commissioner Helm was concerned with the fact that the proposal was last-minute. Commissioner Teruya stated that the Item could be moved to be deferred or tabled.

Commissioner Kaupu stated that he would like to go into an executive session to talk with counsel.

**MOTION/ACTION**

Moved by Commissioner Ka’apu, seconded by Commissioner Helm to convene in an executive session pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(4), HRS, to consult with its attorney on questions and issue pertaining to the Commission’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities. Motion carried unanimously.
EXECUTIVE SESSION IN 10:04 AM

The Commission anticipates convening an executive meeting pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(4), HRS, to consult with its attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Commission’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities on these matters.

1. Update on issues related to Telecommunication Services on Hawaiian Home Lands.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OUT 11:07 AM

ITEMS FOR DECISION MAKING

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

ITEM C-1 Approval of Legislative Proposal to Authorize Limited Casino Gaming in the Form of a Single Integrated Resort Property in Kapolei on Hawaiian Home Lands Designated for Commercial Use

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Deputy to the Chairman Tyler Gomes, assisted by Legislative Analyst Lehua Kinilau-Cano presented the following:

MOTION

Moved by Commissioner Ka‘upu, seconded by Commissioner Neves, to approve the Legislative Proposal to Authorize Limited Casino Gaming in the Form of a Single Integrated Resort Property in Kapolei on Hawaiian Home Lands Designated for Commercial Use.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Teruya stated she would be voting “No” for lots of reasons. She reiterated the fiduciary duty of having a beneficiary consultation. She stated she does not want to rush into this. She hoped to have a committee to discuss this massive decision further.

Commissioner Awo commended the Department for the work and research that went into it. He agreed that the political institutions have continued to fail native Hawaiians the necessary funds to provide homes. He stated it is required to become financially whole and independent. He disagreed with the short turnaround given to the Commissioners to decide. He still has many questions that remain unanswered. He stated that he would be voting “No” on this proposal.
MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Ka’upu to approve the Legislative Proposal to Authorize Limited Casino Gaming in the Form of a Single Integrated Resort Property in Kapolei on Hawaiian Home Lands Designated for Commercial Use. Seconded by Commissioner Neves.

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MOTION: [ ] UNANIMOUS [X] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED
Motion passed- five (5) Yes, votes. Four (4) No, votes.

Commissioner Kaupu asked for a briefing on what the next steps are for the action the Commission just took. Chair Aila brought the staff back to brief the Commission.

Deputy Gomes stated the next step would be to incorporate the changes that were expressed to accurately reflect what the Commission wants to be accomplished in the Bill. The deadline for the Governor’s package was yesterday, so staff will have to get the Bill to the Governor’s office and the Attorney General’s office for review. From there, the decision will be in the hands of the Governor whether he wants to include the Bill in his package or not. There is no sufficient information about when or how that works.

If it is not introduced as part of the Governor’s package, it would require the Department to find sponsorship in both houses of the Legislature. If it is the case, the introduction deadline is a week after the opening day, which is the third week of January. Deputy believes it is January 20, 2021.

There is about a month for review, final edits, potentially finding sponsors, and then bringing the Bill to the Legislature.

Commissioner Kaupu stated that due to the limited time, the consultation process should start immediately to get as many people as can. Commissioner Kaupu’s understanding is the Department will do all it can to catch up in the process. Chair Aila stated that is correct.

Commissioner Teruya asked to be dismissed to go to her doctor’s appointment.

Note: Commissioner Teruya was excused at 1:16 p.m.
ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

REGULAR AGENDA

HOMESTEAD SERVICES DIVISION

ITEM D-1  HSD Status Reports

A. Homestead Lease and Application Totals and Monthly Activity Reports  
B. Delinquency Report

DISCUSSION

None.

ITEM D-19  For Information Only – Extend Postponement of Mortgage Payment

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Homestead Services Division Administrator Juan Garcia and Homestead Services Branch Manager Dean Oshiro presented information on the deferment of loan payments.

D. Oshiro stated that Chair Aila had exercised his authority to allow the Department to extend the deferral of mortgage payments for another three months. Payments will be due in April 2021.

Commissioner Kaleikini asked how many beneficiaries participated in mortgage deferrals. D. Oshiro stated when the postponement period ends, Fiscal will be updating all the accounts. Exhibit B shows that the delinquency rate has gone higher; it is because the Department does not have the capability to take out all the reports. The April report will show changes.

PLANNING OFFICE

ITEM G-1  For Information Only – Status Report on Kalaupapa Planning and Management, Kalawao County, Island of Molokaʻi

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Acting Planning Office Manager Andrew Choy and Planner Nancy McPherson presented the Status Report on Kalaupapa Planning and Management.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Helm asked how many beneficiaries from upside or on the waiting list were able to give feedback. N. McPherson stated in 2015, they had consultation meetings topside and there were close to 70 or 80 beneficiaries at the meeting along with the National Park Service (NPS) staff.

Commissioner Helm asked what the National Park Service’s cooperation is like? N. McPherson stated the NPS is having a lot of challenges, the trail went out again, then COVID, they are under-staffed, but Superintendent Erica Espinola has admitted they need to do a better job engaging with topside folks. As soon as the programmatic agreement is approved and the general management plan is finalized, the staff does outreach with the beneficiaries.
Commissioner Awo stated according to Valarie Monson of Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa, and it appears that there are engagement and interaction with NPS. Still, it is dismissive of the community wanting to move forward. They wanted to create a separate working group. N. McPherson stated DHHL’s mission is homesteading, but the Department has a fiduciary duty to engage with its beneficiaries. DHHL is the lessor and has a long-term lease with NPS. There are two sides to the issues. The Kalaupapa Settlement is on Hawaiian Home Lands, and there are concerns about adequate maintenance and preservation of the patient's homes. NPS is not adequately staffed and funded to keep up. The other side is Kalawao, DLNR, where Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa wants to do their memorial. That is an issue between Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa, NPS, and DLNR. The Department must stay focused on its responsibility when you have a general lease and allow the NPS to manage the Kalaupapa Settlement while also listening to its beneficiaries and making sure NPS is responsive. There are jurisdictional complexities.

A. Choy stated the general management plan is broad, and NPS is going through the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 process. A lot of beneficiary comments are not covered in the NHPA’s process. A committee was suggested to address those issues and opportunities coming out of the Section 106 process that does not necessarily fall under historic preservation.

N. McPherson stated the Department is trying to figure out a process that will engage as many beneficiaries as possible.

Chair Aila stated there is a challenge of better recognition in gathering rights and issues dear to the beneficiaries. NPS does not know how to deal with that, and they are trying to get the Department to regulate the gathering rights. The Department does not feel it is the right entity to start regulating gathering rights in Kalaupapa, especially on DLNR lands. That is an inherent conflict that leads to the frustration of the beneficiaries.

Commissioner Awo asked what would the working group look like to achieve success regarding the GMD process? A. Choy stated in terms of composition, page 9 of the submittal states some of the staff’s initial thoughts about who would comprise the working group.

Commissioner Awo asked who drives the selection process? A. Choy stated it would come initially by the Department.

Commissioner Kaupu asked about the community use slide and whether the community use areas are within the NPS’s engagement areas? N. McPherson stated five areas are community use. He asked about the area that the beneficiaries want to use only for beneficiary use and not general use. N. McPherson stated that it is a general lease. The Department is exploring ideas.

Commissioner Kaleikini asked how many patients still reside in Kalaupapa. N. McPherson stated between 2-4, and the rest of the patients are at Hale Mohalu Leahi Hospital on O‘ahu. The patients have a right to return to Kalaupapa if they can. Commissioner Kaleikini asked about the patients’ participant level? DOH is protective of the patients, especially with the COVID. Several are involved with Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa.
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on January 19 & 20, 2021, TBA

MOTION/ACTION
Moved by Commissioner Awo, seconded by Commissioner Neves, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

2:06 PM

Respectfully submitted:

[Signature]
William J. Aila Jr., Chairman
Hawaiian Homes Commission

Prepared by:

[Signature]
Leah Burrows-Nuuanu, Commission Secretary
Hawaiian Homes Commission

APPROVED BY:
The Hawaiian Homes Commission at its regular monthly meeting on:

[Signature]
William J. Aila Jr., Chairman

Attachments:
1. Public Testimony – Total of 282 Testimonies
2. Slide Presentation – C-1 Legislative Proposal Casino
3. Slide Presentation – F-3 Nānākuli Village Update
A PLAN FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS

DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS
The state and its people do further agree and declare that the spirit of the Hawaiian homes commission act looking to the continuance of the Hawaiian homes projects for the further rehabilitation of the Hawaiian race shall be faithfully carried out.

Hawai‘i State Constitution
Article XII, Section 2
RESIDENTIAL
DEMAND VS. SUPPLY

- 1,699 apps, 1,190 acres
- 10,870 apps, 1,645 acres
- 838 apps, 742 acres
- 75 apps
- 3,869 apps, 1,544 acres
- 5,909 apps, 4,387 acres
182 YEARS
to meet demand at our current rate

MORE THAN

1/2

WAITLISTERS
over the age of 60

MORE THAN

2000

NATIVE HAWAIIANS
have passed while on the waiting list
$4.5 BILLION
CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE OF INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS ALONE TO DEVELOP 28,000 LOTS – NOT ACCOUNTING FOR NEW LAND ACQUISITION

$145.9 MILLION
FY '22-'23 BUDGET REQUEST

$20 MILLION
FY '21 ACTUAL APPROPRIATION
STATES ALLOW TRIBAL GAMING
501 Gaming Operations
$33.72B Revenue
TAX REVENUE

Payments made by tribal governments to Federal, State, and Local governments.
HAWAII'I GAMING COMMISSION

GOVERNOR

- Corporate finance and securities
- Criminal investigations and law enforcement
- Legal and policy issues related to gaming
- Regulatory administration or industry management
- Native Hawaiian under HHCA

COMMISSION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ADMINISTRATION
- Issuance of Gaming License
- Collection of taxes
- Accounting of revenue
- Adoption of Regulations

ENFORCEMENT
- Investigation of violations
- Imposition of fines
- Inspection of records
- Ejection of individuals
Authorization of limited gaming

01. One twenty-year license
02. One integrated resort
03. On DHHL land
04. In Kapolei
05. On land designated for commercial use
HISTORY & EXPERIENCE

• HISTORY OF OR BONA FIDE PLAN FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OR INVESTMENT IN HAWAI’I

• VERIFIED SOURCES OF CAPITAL TO DEVELOP, CONSTRUCT, & MAINTAIN THE I.R. FACILITY

• UNBLEMISHED HISTORY OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY, TAX ISSUES, OR BANKRUPTCY

• DEVELOPMENT PLAN THAT PROVIDES MAXIMUM REVENUE TO DHHL

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

• TRAINING PLAN FOR NATIVE HAWAIIANS TO QUALIFY FOR JOBS AT THE I.R.

• ECONOMIC BENEFIT TO COMMUNITY & PLAN FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OR INVESTMENT

• NO WAGERING ON HAWAII COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS IN ANY OTHER JURISDICTIONS

• PLAN FOR CREATING PARTNERSHIPS WITH UH AND EXISTING EDUCATIONAL INSITUTIONS FOR TRAINING NATIVE HAWAIIANS FOR JOBS
$50M MIN. INVESTMENT FOR DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

DHHL TO CONTRIBUTE $5M TO FUND INITIAL OPERATIONS OF COMMISSION

LICENSEE TO REFUND DHHL THE $5M BY THE FIRST DAY OF OPERATIONS
GROSS GAMING REVENUE

WAGERING TAX
45%

NET GAMING REVENUE
55%
WAGERING TAX

- **Hawaiian Home Operating Fund**: 75% of Wagering Tax
- **State General Fund**: 15% of Wagering Tax
- **Native Hawaiian Rehabilitation Fund**: 5% of Wagering Tax
- **State Gaming Fund**: 5% of Wagering Tax

FUNDS FOR:
- Home Development & Land Acquisition
- Home Development
- Land Acquisition
STATE GAMING FUND

COMPULSIVE GAMBLERS PROGRAM & PUBLIC SAFETY

NATIVE HAWAIIAN JOB TRAINING AT THE INTEGRATED RESORT

ROADS & INFRASTRUCTURE

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS FOR HAWAI‘I GAMING COMMISSION
Studies show that there is no direct link between gaming and crime. Research suggests that communities with casinos are equally as safe as communities without them. In fact, in some cases, the number of crimes and crime rates decreases after the introduction of casinos to a community.

The introduction of an integrated resort or casino lead to a statistically insignificant increase in violent street felonies, which evened out over time.

Vehicular crime decreased in studied casino areas.

Residential burglary and drug crime demonstrated a statistically insignificant decrease in studied casino areas.

Studies show that there is no direct link between gaming and crime. Research suggests that communities with casinos are equally as safe as communities without them. In fact, in some cases, the number of crimes and crime rates decreases after the introduction of casinos to a community.

When the number of visitors to gaming cities is taken into account, the risk and incidence of victimization actually decreases for residents.

The threat of illegal and unregulated gambling is greater than the introduction of a single integrated resort on O‘ahu.

An integrated resort will increase crime in the surrounding neighborhood.
CONCERNS RELATED TO PROBLEM GAMBLING

An integrated resort will introduce problem gambling to Hawai‘i

Hawai‘i residents and native Hawaiians will develop gaming problems at alarming rates

Integrated resorts and casinos cause problem gambling

Local youth will become problem gamblers

WHAT THE DATA SAYS

Problem gambling prevalence, state to state, is between 1-2%, including in Hawai‘i, where the problem gambling prevalence is 2.2%.

Momentary rise in problem gaming in initial rollout, but over time, the rate stabilizes at 1-2% of the population

Third-Party academic research fails to link disordered gambling rates to gambling expansion

Data shoes a decline in gambling among 80,000 public school students in Minnesota since 1992
“IN THEIR SPORTS AND GAMES THE HAWAIIANS DIFFERED FROM ALL OTHER BRANCHES OF THE POLYNESIANS IN THEIR PASSION FOR BETTING.”

DR. KENNETH EMORY, BISHOP MUSEUM
Hawaiian Homes Commission Meeting
December 21 & 22, 2020
PUBLIC TESTIMONY OTHER

1. Al Hee
2. Cora Schnackenberg
3. Hiilani Haili Finau
4. Kainoa MacDonald
5. Kekoa Enomoto
6. Lono Lindsey
7. Valerie Monson
Aloha e Commissioners;

I submit this testimony to insure the HHC understands License 372, because it is important that it be allowed to stand, not to benefit Sandwich Isles or Waimana Enterprises who have been obligated to its terms, but in order to protect the homesteaders and strengthen your negotiating position with Hawaiian Tel as it completes the purchase of the Paniolo assets. I am the beneficiary who the HHC issued 372 to some 24 years ago.

Background of 372

Although 372 was issued by the HHC under Chairman Kali Watson, its origin began with the HHC under Chairwoman Hoaliku Drake. Each Commissioner was fully engaged in approving 372 as it promised to address the continual problem of not enough money to develop infrastructure. It was a bold step, not unlike the next item on your agenda about the casino on HHL which, if you believe the press, also seeks to address the $6 Billion needed to develop infrastructure.

372 has successfully addressed the chronic problem of homesteaders not having a phone because Hawaiian Telephone refused to serve remote, rural areas of HHL; and in those homestead areas where it did provide service, the service was inferior to the service to non-beneficiaries living in Honolulu. DHHL was required to pay for the infrastructure and give Hawaiian Tel a non-beneficiary license so it could also serve the surrounding non-HHL areas with the infrastructure built on HHL. 372 is patterned after other licenses the HHC approves with two important exceptions:

1. It is a beneficiary benefit License; and,
2. It requires someone other than DHHL to pay for, build and operate the necessary telecommunications infrastructure throughout HHL.

372 is a “beneficiary benefit” License. This means that the infrastructure built as a result of 372 can ONLY BE USED TO BENEFIT BENEFICIARIES. This is in
contrast to the more common “non-beneficiary benefit” License, which allows the assets on HHL to be used to benefit non-beneficiaries.

How 372 Affects Future Beneficiaries

The statewide telecommunications infrastructure which cost Sandwich Isles over $400 Million to build is used EXCLUSIVELY for beneficiaries. The only time it has been used for non-beneficiaries has been in emergencies. After Hawaiian Telcom purchases the Paniolo assets out of bankruptcy, Hawaiian Telcom will have the use of 372 but also its obligation to ONLY use the assets to serve beneficiaries IF 372 IS LEFT INTACT.

On Wednesday, 12/16 we received the position paper Ryan Kanakaole, representing the AG and DHHL, filed with the Bankruptcy Court saying in part:

1. 372 is in default; and,
2. DHHL will issue a new license to Hawaiian Telcom.

We were not given any prior notice.

The Kanakaole filing DOES NOT say Hawaiian Telcom is limited to using the 372 facilities on HHL to ONLY benefit beneficiaries. Hawaiian Telcom is purchasing the Paniolo assets to increase their profits by reestablishing their monopoly in interisland cables. With the Paniolo purchase, they will own two and one half of the three interisland cables. Comparatively, in 2009 when Paniolo was completed, Hawaiian Telcom saw it as a threat to their interisland customers and dropped their prices of interisland capacity by more than 50%. The purchase of Paniolo represents a large increase in revenues provided it can be used for non-beneficiaries. Unlike Sandwich Isles, Hawaiian Telcom is a publicly traded company. Its mission is to make a profit for their shareholders NOT help HHL beneficiaries.

The Kanakaole filing has also had the unintended consequence of negating several millions of dollars of liability the Paniolo Trustee currently has, for the use of 372 after taking possession of the Paniolo assets. The liability is to meet the requirements of 372 which the Trustee agreed to with Sandwich Isles. DHHL cannot step into the shoes of Sandwich Isles and further this claim. Any money collected from that liability will be used to build more infrastructure that is needed to comply with 372. The Paniolo assets without the 372 imposed
beneficiary benefit obligations is much more valuable. Is anyone surprised that the Paniolo Trustee has been working with DHHL to get DHHL to make this filing? The Paniolo Trustee claimed the license was in default in his Court filing made several weeks before the Kanakaole filing.

When the HHC, under Chairwoman Hoaliku Drake decided DHHL was NOT equipped to participate directly in the federal programs to provide telecommunications infrastructure, they understood that a beneficiary owned company would be better suited to withstand any political pressure to allow the statewide infrastructure to be used for the benefit of non-beneficiaries than the Governor appointed / Senate confirmed commissioners and the state funded DHHL. Their guarantee was 372, a beneficiary benefit license with onerous performance requirements. This is exactly what is happening now. Can DHHL negotiate a license with Hawaiian Telcom, as advantageous for the beneficiaries as 372? DHHL recently made an UNSUCCESSFUL attempt, led by former Chairperson Masagatani, to get Spectrum to provide service. Spectrum declined because of 372. Hawaiian Telcom will apply as much political pressure as is necessary to get what they want, a non-beneficiary benefit license with NO OBLIGATION TO PAY FOR AND BUILD INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGHOUT HHL and NO OBLIGATION TO PUT THE BENEFICIARIES FIRST. That is the only way they can profit from their purchase. As most commissioners do not live on HHL, will the HHC be able to withstand the political and public interests of allowing Hawaiian Telcom to use the Paniolo assets to improve the service to non-beneficiaries and still fulfill your fiduciary obligation to the beneficiaries? The Kanakaole filing has put the HHC in this NO WIN, conflict of interest position.

All of this can be avoided by rescinding the Kanakaole filing and finding 372 is NOT in default until such time that the HHC conducts a contested case hearing to fully investigate this issue as should have occurred.

In Defense of 372 and Request for a Contested Case Hearing

Under Chairwoman Masagatani, DHHL has made multiple attempts to invalidate 372, dating back to 2018. Sandwich Isles responded each time and the matter was dropped without further correspondence. She once explained to me that despite the success of 372, building infrastructure without cost to DHHL, she believed that it is bad policy to issue an exclusive license. I explained the
exclusivity was a REQUIREMENT to borrow funds from RUS and any company providing phone service to HHL will require a license. The difference being, 372 REQUIRED Sandwich Isles to build, at its own cost, communications infrastructure for ALL of HHL and RESTRICTS the use of the infrastructure to ONLY HHL. Despite its success, the policy implications of 372 apparently has been bothering her since it was issued, as she was the Deputy Director at the time.

Sandwich Isles received notice on March 2, 2020. Sandwich Isles timely responded, refuting the allegations of default, and requested a contested case hearing. DHHL responded with a follow-up letter in June but did not address the request for a contested case hearing. Both Sandwich Isles and Waimana responded in June again disputing the default and “. . . reiterate[d] its request for a contested case hearing should DHHL wish to proceed. We are tired of this constant bantering” DHHL did not respond. We therefore believed the default was satisfied and DHHL dropped the matter as it had done so previously.

If the HHC allows this latest Kanakaole filing to stand, Sandwich Isles has no choice but to resolve this publicly in Court. We are trying to avoid that and exercise our due process rights by requesting the contested case hearing. A contested case hearing will allow the HHC to ask any and all questions and allow us to provide a full explanation without DHHL interpretation. The basis for finding a default is flawed. It is based on two provisions. The first that we have violated the standard of service and the second that we have not paid fees required by 372.

372 requires the “same level of service as the surrounding areas.” DHHL has misconstrued that to mean that there should not be any complaints. Although the vast majority of customers are satisfied, all utilities have complaints. Utility services are taken for granted until it does not work. Then we are upset when it is not fixed immediately and we remember all of the times we have been unhappy whether it was the utility’s fault or not. Each of us has at one time felt we were not receiving the service from Spectrum or Hawaiian Telcom that we are paying for. A few years ago, Hawaiian Telcom did not restore phone service to a commercial customer one block away from Honolulu City Hall for 30 days. Sandwich Isles standard of service is the same as or better than Spectrum or Hawaiian Telcom. Sandwich Isles consistently exceeded the PUC standards for
telecommunications service. As you well know, for every vocal homesteader that is not satisfied there are 100’s that are.

Secondly, the License Fee for 372 is $1, which the HHC waived as part of the License. The confusion exists because, although 372 does not require it, For years Sandwich Isles (Wireless) gave the revenues from the towers to DHHL because it was not needed at the time to meet the requirements of 372 to build and operate the telecommunications infrastructure. Sandwich Isles could have kept the revenues.

The need for funds changed dramatically after DHHL, under Chairwoman Masagatani, petitioned the FCC to break the exclusive provision of 372 without our knowledge or consent. Although we objected because it is not grounded in law and has been overturned by the courts in many jurisdictions, the FCC dismissed our objections and happily agreed. Of course, DHHL did not appeal and thereby set a precedent of allowing another agency to dictate what the HHC can do with trust lands, a violation of the HHC Act. The loss of exclusivity means any company, building telecommunications infrastructure on HHL is no longer eligible for RUS loans. The funding alternative in 372 gives Sandwich Isles the choice of reimbursing DHHL “for all costs to install telecommunications infrastructure.” That is what the cell tower revenues are used for now.

If we are forced to settle this in court we will prove, among other things:

1. Sandwich Isles, as a beneficiary owned company with land rights granted under 372, was denied its due process rights to a contested case hearing;
2. Sandwich Isles is not in default;
3. DHHL violated 372 numerous times; and,
4. Any new license DHHL issues to another party, including Hawaiian Telcom, cannot include the rights-of-ways covered by 372.

We will ask for damages, attorney fees and restoration of 372. We would prefer a negotiated settlement instead of a lawsuit.

Barring that, the public will witness another case of DHHL furthering the interests of non-beneficiaries at the expense of beneficiaries. The best opportunity to find any solution is with 372 intact. An intact 372 begins any
negotiation with HHL AND ITS BENEFICIARIES IN THE ADVANTAGEOUS position. The Kanakaole filing negates that. This path will not benefit Sandwich Isles or Waimana, any change in 372 would have to be approved by the HHC. For 24 years, Sandwich Isles has met the requirements of 372 by focusing on beneficiaries exclusively. Hawaiian Telcom’s $50M purchase is testament to the wisdom of issuing 372. Even in bankruptcy, the beneficiaries do not need to be sacrificed. Unfortunately, if not handled correctly Hawaiian Telcom’s purchase will be at the expense of the beneficiaries.

372 was a bold step by the HHC that resulted in over $400M of private money invested in HHL EXCLUSIVELY for the benefit of its beneficiaries. It resulted in ALL homesteaders having phone and internet whether they live in Kahikinui or Kapolei. The HHC accomplished this quietly, without public or political involvement. In regards to telecommunications, the 372 built facilities have made HHL important to the rest of Hawaii. The ONLY way the current and future beneficiary benefits under 372 can be taken away is with YOUR concurrence in the Kanakaole filing. Even the bankruptcy court is powerless, in regards to 372, because it involves Trust Lands. This is why the Paniolo Trustee and Hawaiian Telcom worked to get the Kanakaole filing. The Kanakaole filing is another embodiment of the dog with a bone, looking at its reflection in a pool of water. He opens his mouth to get the other bone he sees and ends up with nothing. The first was the DHHL’s request to negate the exclusivity. Allowing the Kanakaole filing to stand puts the current homesteaders’ service in jeopardy. Is Sandwich Isles supposed to continue to serve them? Rescinding the Kanakaole filing does NOT diminish any of your options, but it will strengthen your position in negotiating for the benefit of native Hawaiians.

I applaud your consideration of innovative funding solutions that are outside-the-box like gambling. However, if successful, will a future HHC seek to overturn your efforts 24 years from now? Let’s stop being our worse enemy and making HHL a public spectacle. The HHC needs to rescind the Kanakaole filing NOW and keep the interests of beneficiaries before non-beneficiaries.

Mahalo for your consideration,
Al Hee
Chairman William J. Aila Jr.
Department of Hawaiian Homelands
Hawaiian Homes Commission
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

Subject: Supplemental Demand and Notice of Violation ltr dated June 9, 2020

Dear Chairman Aila,

This letter responds to your letter dated June 9, 2020.

Our actions are governed by License 372. The amounts you claim are owed for "... license fees through May 2020." License No. 372 states:

"TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same unto LICENSEE, its legal successors and assigns, in perpetuity, commencing on May 1, 1995, unless sooner terminated as hereinafter provided, LICENSOR agreeing and LICENSEE understanding that the nominal rental of ONE AND NO/100 DOLLARS ($1.00) for the entire term is waived."

If you would like to audit the books to verify if SIC is profitable, we will make the necessary arrangements. However, we will not pay for your audit. Again, nothing in License 372 requires the Licensee pay for the audit.

"For purposes of demonstrating compliance with this paragraph, LICENSEE agrees to allow LICENSOR access to LICENSEE'S financial statement, provided, that all material and information will be kept strictly confidential."

When DHHL requested the FCC nullify the exclusive provision of the License, DHHL knowingly violated the fundamental provision for issuing the License.

"FURTHER, LICENSOR determines that the issuance of this LICENSE established herein is essential for LICENSEE to obtain necessary funds needed to construct and operate the necessary telecommunications;"

Your violation has made it impossible for SIC to "obtain necessary funds needed to construct and operate the necessary telecommunications." The monies SIC and its affiliates previously shared with DHHL voluntarily, were excess when we were able to "obtain necessary funds." It was shared in the spirit of the License which was to demonstrate that a beneficiary
owned company could and would help DHHL fulfill its mission. Sending an invoice for payments that are not required by the License does not create a contractual obligation. If DHHL had not violated the License by asking the FCC to void the exclusivity of the License, DHHL would continue to enjoy the excess funds. Those funds should now be used to reimburse DHHL for the infrastructure it has paid for.

“In the alternative LICENSEE at its option, may choose to reimburse LICENSOR for all costs to install telecommunications infrastructure provided the telecommunications infrastructure is installed to LICENSEE’S specifications.”

DHHL latest violation to the quiet enjoyment of License 372, the parking of over 40 derelict vehicles at SIC’s Puunene Central Office without our knowledge or consent, is indicative of DHHL’s continued efforts to undermine all efforts to fulfill our obligations under the License.

We do not agree that the service currently being provided violates the License. SIC reiterates its request for a contested case hearing should DHHL wish to proceed. We are tired of this constant bantering. May I suggest a meeting to discuss and hopefully resolve these and any other issues including any changes to the License? Please contact Al Hee at 540-5790 to set up the meeting or if you or your staff have any questions.

Aloha,

Breanne Kahalewai, CEO
Sandwich Isles Communications, Inc.

Cc: HHL Commissioners c/o DHHL
William J. Aila, Jr., Chairman  
Hawaiian Homes Commission  
P.O. Box 1879  
Honolulu, HI 96805  

Dear Mr. Aila,

I am in receipt of your letter of June 9, 2020 which you state is a supplement to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' (DHHL) Demand Notice of Violation dated March 2, 2020. I am at a disadvantage, not having received a copy of the March 2, 2020 letter.

I surmise from your June 9, 2020 letter that you believe Waimana Enterprises, Inc. (WEI), Sandwich Isles Communications, Inc. (SIC) and all of its affiliates are in default under License 372. However, upon review of License 372, the only dollar amounts pertain to:

1. A $1.00 rental that was waived for the entire term;  
2. Infrastructure costs that either are covered by the licensee directly or are reimbursed to DHHL; and  
3. One-half of one percent (1/2%) of annual net profit for job training and education.

Our responses, given the three items above are:

1. There is no rental amount due;  
2. Prior to 2018, the licensee paid for infrastructure directly, while also making payments to DHHL that after 2018 should be credited towards reimbursing costs of infrastructure that DHHL advances; and  
3. My understanding is that SIC wrote a check for a little more than $137,000 to DHHL for job training and education.

I do not believe there is a default of payments based on the requirements of the license.

We believe that WEI has more than lived up to its obligations, ensuring that thousands of homesteaders are provided telecommunication service, most particularly for those living in areas shunned by other service providers and the department. Now that WEI and SIC have put in the hard work to build a network to serve homesteaders throughout the state, I wonder what the motivation is behind the accusations you level against a company that has installed millions of dollars of improvement on homestead lands so that they can be developed for housing to meet the goals of your department. We have worked with DHHL from the outset to benefit the homesteaders with the construction of state-of-the-art telecommunication's infrastructure, including installing lines underground so that homesteaders...
continue to receive service even in inclement weather that often topples the Hawaiian Tel phone lines during severe winter storms.

Before License 372, DHHL paid for all infrastructures, including telecommunications. WEI found a way to save DHHL, and ultimately the homesteader, from having to pay this cost. During this current pandemic, public and private sectors should be working collaboratively to ensure the continuity of service. It is disheartening to see projects get a green light from DHHL and spend hundreds of millions of dollars only to have DHHL have a change of heart to threaten the financial viability of companies that have served the beneficiaries.

Aloha,

Wendy Hee, President
Waimana Enterprises, Inc.

Cc: Hawaiian Homes Commission
Aloha Commissioners:

My name is Cora Schnackenberg representing the Ahonui Homestead Association (AHA) on Molokai, Hawaii. Our project is identified as Top Priority Project #1 Ualapue Kuleana Homestead (subsistence) and Cultural Resource Management Plan on the Molokai Regional Plan 2019-20 and approved by Commissioners on 2/19/2020.

I am testifying on several items dated 12/21-22/2020.

H-1 Per Kupunas, the priority and opportunity should be given to those who are on the top of the waiting list, first. These beneficiaries maybe contemplating to purchase a home, and this may encourage them.

C-1 Our Kupunas and members are concern for the following reasons:
1. How long ago was this in the planning? What was the timeline to the application process? There was no beneficiary’s consultation in Molokai on this matter. As beneficiaries it takes far too long in past projects and they are held to bureaucratic steps. Concern: Beneficiaries are held to follow the rules and its process and why is not working with more Hawaiian Homestead to initiate projects?
2. Based on the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act – DHHL’s duty is to put the people on their land is a priority and not a casino.
3. What trust fund will the purchase of this come out from?
4. No, to the Casino “gaming” application.
5. We would like to invite our DHHL commissioner(s) to our Ahonui Homestead monthly meeting via zoom to speak with our beneficiaries on Molokai, due to the pandemic we reserve the rights to protect our kupuna’s health and safety and have the opportunity to provide public testimony. We request virtual meetings as this will affect the entire state.

E-1 In references to the October 2020 hand-outs, there was information on Water not so much on the other projects. The agenda that was sent by mail, did not specify the different projects.

a. AHA continue to request funds allocation to supports Priority Project #1 Ualapue Kuleana Homestead (subsistence) Project and Cultural Resource Management Plan. To obtain our planner, infrastructure, planner, and staff to initiate the project process.

b. To request funds allocation for the Naiwa Project for infra-structures with a timeline of 2021.

c. To request funds allocation to improve the Hoolehua, domestic water system.

d. And other projects that will meet the beneficiaries needs on the island of Molokai.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 808 646-0051.
Cora Schnackenberg
President of Ahonui Homestead Association (AHA)
**Aloha to whom this may concern,**

My name is Hi'ilani Haili Finau I am one for four lease holders for lot #12009 address Honolulu HI 96813.

I am writing this message in request to remove my oldest brother William Bradley from the lease.

The house is in horrible condition with the foundation planks coming undone. The roofing and ceiling both falling in. When it rains the house has more damage internally and caused by water. Mold growing in all rooms. The wood is rotting and many aspects of the house need to be replaced. With all that being said in January 2020 I reached out to William and the other two lease holders and asked if we could come to an agreement on signing a new mortgage for the house so that it can be rebuilt. William refused. He replied with, "Its not my problem. You can pay me out for my portion of the houses value." The houses value isn’t worth anything as it is unlivable. When I explained the circumstances of the home to William as we are not in compliance with Hawaiian Homes rules of conduct he replied he didn’t care if we lost the home if it meant he would haven’t to pay for anything. William hasn’t lived in Hawaii for over 15 years now and has no interest in returning or the state of our property. It is merely out of spite he wishes for us to lose the home. When I became of age at 18 years old I moved into the home and have worked over the last several years with my husband to pay off the delinquency on the mortgage for the home.

Today my husband and I live in the home with our two children a one year old and a two year old, we also have one on the way. My youngest brother Matthew Haili 3rd also lives with us in the home. Rebuilding the house is of the top priority for us but as all lease holders have to be on any loan or to receive any assistance we have been unable to move forward with renovations on the house. I have gone to Home street bank and Habitat for humanity who both replied they could not help without all lease holders on any agreement.

We want to keep the home, repair it, rebuild it and raise our children here but we won’t be able to do so much longer with the home in its condition. I have reached out to William Bradley on numerous occasions where he does not responded or responds with hateful words. Over the years as Jeremy Caneso our loan officer also helped us to pay off the delinquency he would reach out to William who would also not get back to him either.

I humbly ask as a mother for your help in moving forward with our home.

My brother, husband and I am glad to come before the commission to share our testimony together. Our pictures of the house, whatever is necessary to move forward.

Mahalo nui,
Hi'ilani Haili Finau
December 18, 2020

Aloha mai Hawaiian Homes Commissioners,

My name is Kainoa Lei MacDonald-Gonsalves, and I serve as Virtual Meeting Facilitator for Maui/Moloka‘i Hawaiian Homesteads, I am also an owner of Credit Edge Solutions LLC, I represent 9,148 Maui waitlist beneficiaries. I am advocating on agendized items C-1, E-1 and F-1. But first, I thank Maui Commissioner Randy Awo for his consistent and exemplary attendance at monthly meetings of the Maui/Lana‘i Mokupuni Council, a consortium of 18 beneficiary entities on two islands. I ho‘omahalo Commissioner Awo for his gracious accommodation of beneficiaries’ concerns, questions and recommendations.

At Thursday’s 12/17/20 Mokupuni Council Zoom meeting, I facilitated this meeting among 17 attendees representing a dozen beneficiary entities on two islands. Although Commissioner Awo will represent our input, I respectfully summarize the consensus mana‘o at last week’s meeting, as follows:

• Concerning agendized item C-1 Approval of legislative proposal to authorize limited casino gaming in the form of a single integrated resort property in Kapolei — We believe DHHL must hold statewide beneficiary consultations on this hot-button matter.

• Regarding agendized item E-1 For information only - Molokai project status — We discussed holding (1) a face-to-face Zoom talk-story with Maui legislators: state Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, and with state Rep. Kyle Yamashita, CIP coordinator for the House Committee on Finance, and (2) a letter-writing campaign to all Maui legislators. The purpose would be to seek legislators’ support of DHHL’s 2021-23 proposed $298 million budget that includes allocations, as for Ho`olehua, Molokai, water-system improvements.

• With respect to agendized item F-1 Approval to extend Right Of Entry Permit 678 to state DLNR Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW), Hawai‘i island, granting access to mauka boundary and makai-boundary road of various TMKs for fence inspection and access to remote parts of Hilo and Mauna Kea forest reserves for natural resource management — Mokupuni leaders considered DHHL mandates built into non beneficiary land-use permits to homelands statewide. The provisos would require permittees proactively (1) to mentor beneficiaries on how to malama the respective homelands and eventually take over the lease, (2) to share the permittee’s educational, research and/or other materials, if available, about the respective parcel, and (3) to educate about the ‘aina ho’opulapula (homelands). In the latter case, a keiki/opio educational program could teach the next generation about the respective trust-lands legacy.

Mahalo for this opportunity to advocate on behalf of Maui County beneficiaries, and I offer Season’s Greetings.

Me ke aloha,
Kainoa Lei MacDonald-Gonsalves
December 18, 2020

Aloha mai e kakou na Hawaiian Homes Commissioners, 'O Kekoa Enomo ko ’u inoa, and I serve as president of the Maui/Lana’i Mokupuni Council. I present advocacy on agendized items C-1, E-1 and F-1. But firstly, I want to express appreciation Maui Commissioner Randy Awo for his consistent and exemplary attendance at monthly meetings of the Maui/Lana’i Mokupuni Council, a consortium of 18 beneficiary entities on two islands. I thank Commissioner Awo for his gracious accommodation of beneficiaries’ concerns, questions and recommendations.

At last week's 12/17/20 Mokupuni Council Zoom meeting, I was among 15 attendees representing a dozen beneficiary entities on two islands. Commissioner Awo will represent our input; however, I respectfully summarize the consensus mana’o at last week’s meeting, as follows:

• Regarding agendized item C-1 Approval of legislative proposal to authorize limited casino gaming in the form of a single integrated resort property in Kapolei — We believe DHHL must hold statewide beneficiary consultations on this hot-button matter.

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Me ka `onipa’a,

Kekoa Enomoto
2019-23 president, Maui/Lana’i Mokupuni Council
Aloha, my father passed his lease on to me in February, 2017. Our lot is in the Puukapu area on the Big Island. I have been trying to secure a construction loan since 2017, but because of the UXO addendum placed into our lease during the transfer, I have been unable to get a loan for construction.

The remediation process was supposed to reach a final proposal and vote December 2019, but the department of Health had questions about the report submitted by the Army Corps of Engineers and the contractors that completed the scans for UXOs, and as far as I know the process is still on going. Final remediation may not include a complete clearance of the land and satisfy the removal of this addendum as it is virtually impossible to prove a negative - ie, how can one prove with 100% certainty that there are no UXO’s on the property.

Despite the lack of Unexploded Ordinance being found in the area, having a secure job and good credit I am still unable to build a home on our land. This has been a frustrating process, your help would be appreciated.
December 18, 2020

William Aila, Chairman
Hawaiian Homes Commission
Department of Hawaiian Homelands
PO Box 1879
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96805

Dear Chairman Aila and Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa, a nonprofit organization established in 2003 at the request of the Kalaupapa residents. Ka ‘Ohana is dedicated to honoring and remembering each of the nearly 8,000 men, women and children who were taken from their families and isolated at Kalaupapa from 1866-1969 because of government policies regarding leprosy, now also called Hansen’s disease.

One of the most rewarding parts of our mission is helping descendants reconnect to their Kalaupapa ancestors. Through an extensive digital library of records and other information Ka ‘Ohana has compiled over the years, we have been able to help more than 800 descendants learn about their Kalaupapa kupuna.

We thank the DHHL staff for their report as it contains some of the same concerns held by Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa.

Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa submitted testimony on August 17, 2020, that I am attaching. This testimony remains relevant to today’s presentation and discussion with a background of Ka ‘Ohana and a summary of our involvement in the General Management Plan process conducted by Kalaupapa National Historical Park (KNHP) since 2009.

From 2009-2015, the KNHP presented the GMP as an Environmental Impact Statement which we had no reason to believe the process would change. Suddenly -- and without a discussion among those of us who have faithfully given up enormous amounts of time to participate -- KNHP announced just before Thanksgiving, 2018, that the GMP was being changed to an Environmental Assessment. We have never received a sufficient explanation of why this decision was made with no input from the public or other agencies.

Ka ‘Ohana has also attended each of the monthly or bi-monthly meetings on the development of a Programmatic Agreement to accompany the now GMP/EA that began in May, 2020.
I am re-emphasizing two requests of the Commission that were expressed in our letter to the Commission in August.

We are respectfully asking the Hawaiian Homes Commission to:

*Request that Kalaupapa National Historical Park (KNHP) provide DHHL with a written explanation of why it decided to change from a GMP/EIS to a GMP/EA unilaterally with no discussion among the consulting parties who have been involved in this process for many years, including DHHL, owner of almost 1,300 acres at Kalaupapa -- and provide specific details of the rationale behind this decision.

*Support the development of a Working Group of knowledgeable organizations or individuals who have participated in the GMP process faithfully over the years to provide advice and oversight to Kalaupapa National Historical Park which currently has no real oversight at Kalaupapa.

This working group needs to “have teeth” so KNHP takes the recommendations of the Working Group seriously and is held accountable. The idea of such a group has been discussed by consulting parties during the Programmatic Agreement meetings. Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa believes the Working Group should not be appointed by the NPS because the federal government might simply seek individuals who would simply rubberstamp any NPS projects.

In the long run, we believe KNHP will benefit greatly from the knowledge and advice of this Working Group and in getting to know these individuals.

Thank you for your time and consideration -- and best wishes to you all for a Merry Christmas and a brighter 2021.

Warmest aloha,

Valerie Monson
Executive Director
Dear Chairman Aila and Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa, a nonprofit organization made up of Kalaupapa residents, family members/descendants, friends of the community and anyone who supports remembering this important history. Ka ‘Ohana was the idea of Bernard K. Punikai`a, one of the great leaders in the history of Kalaupapa. Ka ‘Ohana was established in 2003 at the request of Punikai`a and other Kalaupapa residents. The President of Ka ‘Ohana has always been a Kalaupapa resident: our current President is Clarence “Boogie” Kahilihiwa.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony for the Hawaiian Homes Commission on the ongoing management of Kalaupapa.

Over the years, Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa has created a number of programs to help descendants reconnect to their Kalaupapa ancestors and to educate the general public, students and teachers by providing a way to learn a more accurate and inclusive history of Kalaupapa. We have helped more than 800 descendants reconnect to their Kalaupapa ancestors, developed traveling exhibits that have appeared on every island at least once and are in the midst of establishing The Kalaupapa Memorial which will display the names of nearly 8,000 men, women and children who were forcibly isolated at Kalaupapa because of government policies regarding leprosy (now also called Hansen’s disease).

Kalaupapa National Historical Park began discussions on its General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement in the Spring of 2009. For the past 11+ years, Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa has been an active participant in this process, conducting our own research, attending meetings and providing testimony every step of the way. In 2009, Ka ‘Ohana developed a 28-page Position Paper for the future of Kalaupapa and endorsed by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Senator Mazie Hirono (then US Representative) and others. We have spent
countless hours trying to help NPS develop the best plan possible for the future of Kalaupapa. Our Position Paper and subsequent comment letters issued in 2013, 2015 and 2019 are all available on our website: www.kalaupapaohana.org

We submitted our last comments on the GMP/EIS in June, 2015. We were shocked to hear in 2018 -- shortly before Thanksgiving -- that NPS had made the unilateral decision to change from a GMP/EIS to a GMP/Environmental Assessment. We have continued to ask NPS why -- after six years of presenting the GMP as an EIS and seemingly being very close to issuing a Record of Decision -- it would suddenly change from an EIS to an EA. We have not received a sufficient answer.

In March, 2019, five key organizations -- the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, the State Historic Preservation Division, The Maui County Cultural Resources Commission, Historic Hawai‘i Foundation and Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa -- all submitted testimony that did not support NPS’ conclusion to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact on the GMP/EA.

Since May 7, 2020, we have been involved in regular conference call meetings with NPS and other consulting parties -- including DHHL -- on a Programmatic Agreement to accompany the GMP/EA. Most of these meetings include participants expressing frustration at the process and a lack of understanding of what the PA will accomplish.

We are respectfully asking the Hawaiian Homes Commission to:

*Request that Kalaupapa National Historical Park (KNHP) provide DHHL with a written explanation of why it decided to change from a GMP/EIS to a GMP/EA unilaterally with no discussion among the consulting parties who have been involved in this process for many years, including DHHL -- and to provide specific details of the rationale behind this decision.

*Support the development of a Working Group of knowledgeable organizations or individuals who have participated in the GMP process faithfully over the years to provide advice and oversight to Kalaupapa National Historical Park which currently has no real oversight at Kalaupapa.

This working group needs to “have teeth” so KNHP takes the recommendations of the Working Group seriously and is held accountable. The idea of such a group has been discussed by consulting parties in the Programmatic Agreement meetings. Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa believes the Working Group should not be appointed by the NPS because individuals could be sought out who would simply rubberstamp any NPS projects.

We thank you for your attention to this very important matter. There are only 12 Kalaupapa residents who have the right to live at Kalaupapa under the old laws. Through Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa, the number of descendants reconnecting to their Kalaupapa ancestors and making
sure their legacy is always remembered is growing. The descendants will keep Kalaupapa alive for years to come.

Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa would be happy to meet with the Hawaiian Homes Commission at anytime. Please feel free to contact me at: vmonson@kalaupapaohana.org

With aloha,

Valerie Monson
Executive Director
Hawaiian Homes Commission Meeting
December 21 & 22, 2020
PUBLIC TESTIMONY C-1

1. Linda Jury
2. Carm Celine Akim
3. Grace Kealoha
4. Shawnette Osborne
5. Luwella Leinardi
6. Jadeen Tuinei
7. Randy Akau
8. Momi Ventura
9. Mokihana Komoda
10. Roxanne McCloesky
11. Bronson Azama
12. Kimberly Sales
13. Anapela Nunes
14. Luna Porras
15. Colleen Tano
16. Lynn McDermott
17. Cory Harden
18. Diana Gasper
19. Jeremy Odaka
20. Jamie White
21. Laulani Teale
22. Charles Roseberry
23. Henri Freitas
24. Lily Cabinatan
25. Anna Subiono
26. Nicole Tafaoa
27. Nolen Kekawa
28. Beth Leeds
29. Henry Lacson
30. Patrick Kahawaiolaa
31. Caroline Anakalea
32. Kathleen Hilliard
33. Leona Leialoha
34. Craig Horie
35. Anuhea Torres-Leialoha
36. Michael Linnolt
37. Corrie Hamilton
38. Brieanne Nakanelua
39. Joy McLeod
40. Abirana Kekawa
41. Natasha Boteilho
42. Bailey Spears
43. Renolds Fruean
44. Andrew Gomes
45. Forest Frizzell
46. Ed Wise
47. Kellie Dinwiddie Kala
48. Maelani Lee
49. Nawahine Kahoopii
50. Tristin Manuel
51. Moses Kealamakia
52. Sophronia Josselin
53. Kara Kelai
54. Stephen Loo
55. Noel Shaw
56. Olivia Taylor
57. Makaokalani Minihan
58. James Nozzolillo
59. Melissa Akoni
60. Kalai Hanohano
61. Chariya Terlep-Cabatbat
62. James Minihan
63. Sharleah Beckley-Conradt
64. Ava Taesali
65. Alan Gervasi
66. Mikiala Leslie
67. Joseph Palimoo
68. Angela Gomes
69. Yvonne Tatom
70. Jacob Kawelo
71. Kieran Rowan-Choy
72. Lauren Wood
73. Sarah Forster
74. Eva Hopper-Aspacio
75. Allen Cardines Jr.
76. Debra Javar
77. Kawehi Ibarra
78. Kyle Contrades
79. Jan Makepa
80. Norie Rabo
81. Alexis Terlep
82. Tammy Luat-Hueu
83. Raelene Like
84. Lindsay Terkelsen
85. Daviann Arroyo
86. Allen Cardines Jr.
87. Heather Phan
88. Keke Manera
89. Ashley Quibol
90. Skye Wong
91. Malia Marquez
92. Lorie DuBois
93. Pedro Maynes Jr.
94. Kenvin Lum
95. Emma Lancism
96. Gemma Vanover
97. Parker Simkowski
98. Jenna Simkowski
99. Ah Ching Poe
100. Sarah Hicks
101. Mission Vaughn
102. Blaise Wong
103. Dawn Shimata
104. Bridget Fox
105. Charlene Holani
106. Jonnette Kimbrel
107. Kalei Glozib
108. Casey Poe
109. Tess Meyer
110. Abcde Shepherd
111. Melva Aila
112. Ryan Posiulai
113. Nathan Torres
114. Morgan Lawson
115. Aimee Wickler
116. Jarrae Manasas
117. Moira McGrain
118. Tanya Alana
119. Erica Evans
120. Isabell Banks
121. Luis Nunez
122. Francisco Perez
123. Kayla Haalilio
124. Keline Kahau
125. Jouiee Luah
126. Winston Sacapulo-Uepa
127. Omar Al-Tamimi
128. Amalia Ito
129. Jaleesa Jenkins
130. Shana Renzi
131. Pono Bailey
132. Desiree Pia
133. Sarah Valdez
134. Jorden Barlow
135. Leila Machado
136. Edward Gomes
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209. Kelsea Armstrong 246. Carol Lopez
210. Michelle Ramos 247. Naomi Tachera
211. Kelli Keawe 248. Rebecca Soon
212. Kahala Chrupalyk 249. Alexa Conching
213. Kanani Higbee 250. Cassie Conching
214. Kaui Lucas 251. Dorene Fuller
216. Lori Buchanan 253. Keoni DeFranco
217. Tiare Kaoleopono 254. Alexandria Brewster
218. Vanessa Thill 255. Mahealani Cypher
219. Phillip Nishimura 256. Shanalee Rabacal
220. Steven Thomas 257. Sharen Fuller
221. Mailani Makainai 258. Shaizan Rabacal
222. Damien Jaklevick 259. Courtney Conching
223. Thomas-Ryan Cleek 260. Lisa Kaano
224. Cheryl Burghardt 261. Trixie Kaliko
225. Hung Nguyen 262. Keola Kaliko
228. Kiane Kanaha 265. William Kaliko
229. Kamuela-Dawn Napoleon 266. Olivia Nguyen
230. Sasha Kawi 267. Juanita Kawamoto
231. Sasha Kahanu 268. Lillie Makaila
232. Iokepa Kaeo 269. Jarrett Keohokalole
233. Kekaiokalani Naone 270. Olu Campbell
234. Cindy Fallis 271. Lahela Spencer
235. Chassidy Reis-Moniz 272. Mel Windman
236. Savannah Blietz 273. Kapiolani Nee
237. Megan Munoz 274. Helen Dana
238. Nicole Mijares 275. Charley Ice
239. Kristen DelaCalzada 276. Kalona Kekahu
240. Lahela Mattos 277. Zedrik Dana
241. Edward Gomes 278. Elizabeth Perreira
243. Nanea Wong 280. Keora Flanary-Olayvar
244. Troy Wong 281. Ryan Kalawaia
245. Donna Kealohanui 282. Grace Tsubaki-Noguchi
In response to the request to make a game room on DHHL land, I take a strong opposition! The effects of gambling and culture that surrounds it is no good for our people! The justification that monies can be generated through these types of avenues for our people is hypocritical, as the damaging effects of gambling will only hurt the very people monies generated is supposed to help! We need to find better ways to utilize our resources and more accountability to us, the kanaka, to ensure homelands resources is reaching the people it was meant for!
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<td>Subject</td>
<td>Submit Written Testimony</td>
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<td>Message</td>
<td>No to legalization of gambling in any form. No casino in Kapolei, not in any Hawaiian Homestead Lands.</td>
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DHHL is truly a piece of work! It blows my mind just to think how DHHL prioritize like pre-schoolers! Commissioners, it’s your responsibility to voice to the department first and foremost, what benefits beneficiaries and lessee and uplift our voices, not to become DHHL/the State slaves! I am truly upset that the dept. can even think of discussing a matter like this when we have a lifelong waitlist that you continued to deliver promises but no actions to rid of it once and for all and lets not forget our entire island is in crisis due to the pandemic which know one knows when it shall end, unless you all think you are God! But through experiences, I am certain that DHHL, along with some Commissioners have already made the decision to make this happen, similar to the Native Hawaiian concerns in the past by manipulating majority of the Commissioners to agree with thee already conflict of interest chair, who was already paid unrecorded amount of money, to finally make many Non-Native Hawaiians rich by sealing the deal and our lands and abusing our trust once again and the Hawaiians keep suffering! Same vicious cycle never ends! DHHL has a fiduciary responsibility and duty to eligible successors and beneficiaries, not Non-Hawaiians, unless the waitlist for residential, mercantile, ag, and pastoral lands are exhausted whereas Native Hawaiians will flourish and survive now and future generations….then and only then can we consider non-hawaiians, but under the direction and majority rule approved by the homestead associations can that occur, till then NATIVE HAWAIIAN LIVES MATTER 1ST!
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:02 AM
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W
Subject: HCC Contact:

First Name
Shawnette

Last Name
Osborne

Phone

Email

Subject
Submit Written Testimony

Message
Re C-1 on Agenda for Tuesday Dec 22nd, 2020 Hawaiian Homes Commission Meeting.

I vote against legalizing gambling on hawaiian home lands. I vote against any form of gambling on homestead lands.
I am requesting that the discussion of usage of ‘gambling casino’ on DHHL be postponed. We are in a pandemic that requires absolute attention, to prevent deaths, safety and preventive measures understanding. Our Hawaiian Homes are multi generational, essential workers and lack there off or limited medical Insurance. Due to poor management and political agendas, we Hawaiian Homesteaders are casualties of ‘civil rights’ or ‘Breach of Trust’. Therefore, I am requesting ‘Gambling Casinos’ not be on the agenda for December’s meeting.
On Wed, Dec 16, 2020 at 8:36 AM Jadeen Tuinei <> wrote:
Aloha Honorable DHHL Commissioners,

I am writing to ask your support in OBJECTING the proposed Casino and Gaming in Kalaeloa. This land and the people in it were perpetuated in righteousness, and we are already seeing alot of crimes and now deaths taking place due to illegal gamerooms popping up more than ever before. I do not foresee this as a progress in the right direction for our people and our state, but, see this as a start to bigger and more organized crimes.

Thank you for receiving my concerns...Homeowner, in Kanehili Homestead, Kapolei.

Jadeen Tuinei
--- Forwarded message ---
From: K D
Date: Wed, Dec 16, 2020 at 10:52 AM
Subject: Re: December 21 & 22, 2020 - Hawaiian Homes Commission Meeting 9:30 a.m.
To: Patty

Patty Teruya, O'ahu Commissioner

I wasn’t familiar with this proposal until I heard rumors circulating yesterday and read about it today. I think our trust lands can be better utilized if we increase the farming and agriculture opportunities so we can produce better quality and healthy vegetables, fruits and meat for our native Hawaiian people. The bottom line is we need food. Especially now. Our focus should be how we can get food on the tables for our families and work towards sustainability for the current and future generations. Without food we don’t survive and exist. This can increase our food supply, and boost our economic development by creating jobs for our people. Just my input.

Mahalo,

Randy Akau
President, Kanehili Homestead Association
As Hawaiian People We Have Struggled And Clawed Our Way Through An American Economy That Was Foreign. This Casino Has Absolutely NO PLACE In Hawai'i Nei!!!!! The usa Doesn't Seem To Care, Accept Or Return Anything That Is Inherently Ours From Numerous Generations Ago In Hawai'i Nei. We Have Been Under Illegal Occupation For Over 126 Years.!!! All We Want Is For Our 3 Main Hawaiian Organizations To Join Together So These Decisions Can Be Dealt Wth. America Is An Unknown And Unwanted Entity To The Hawaiian Islands And Therefore The Hawaiian Kingdom. Mahalo
Aloha mai kakou,

I am a leasee on Kauluokaha'i homestead in Kapolei since July 2019. My community is a beautiful place to live and it's such a joy to be part of the many Hawaiians who are empowered by having a safe place to call home for current and future generations. Some of us waiting 50 plus years to finally realize the dream of owning a home, only to now be threatened with a gaming casino!! A'ole!!

I do not support this in any shape, form or fashion. Stop selling out our peace and homeland security to people who have no interest in our well being. People who are motivated by the "evil and all mighty dollar." We will be the ones who will reap the destruction of gaming casino(s) while DHHL and their counterparts line their profitable pockets at the continued oppression of our people. We all know that gaming casinos attracts criminals. Just read the newspaper or listen to the news if you don't.

KEEP YOUR GAMING CASINOS OFF OF MY HOMELAND!!

With Sincere Humility...
First Name

Roxanne

Last Name

Mccloskey

Phone

Email

Subject

To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

Message

As a DHHL Kapolei, Oahu leasee ..regarding casino proposal..i think its a great idea! Granted ! lots of hurtles (security) to overcome .. its a great step forward!
Aloha mai kākou,

I would like to submit written testimony regarding section IV. Executive Summary, under item 1. Legislative Proposal to Authorize Limited Casino Gaming in the Form of a Single Integrated Resort Property in Kapolei, Island of O‘ahu, on Hawaiian Home Lands Designated for Commercial Use. I hereby state that I am deeply opposed to this measure.

The Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL) should not proceed with an initiative to build a resort on DHHL lands in Kapolei. We should not be developing lands that are clearly suitable for housing. I acknowledge that the lands being considered are designated for commercial use, however, DHHL is not new to the concept of requesting land rezones. The precedent being set is the commercialization of lands to be a priority over that of providing kānaka maoli with adequate housing. We have houseless kānaka who are still waiting for housing on these lands, not to mention many individuals who have since passed while remaining on the waitlist, meanwhile, there clearly remains politics at play amongst a commission we should trust.

I would implore that as a collective, we need to consider our roles under our ongoing illegal occupation. OHA is our fiduciary and an initiative like this has no place in the hands of DHHL, regardless of if the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act allows such. There are much better ideal locations for an initiative like this including working in tandem with OHA to possibly consider constructing this Casino in the failed Kaka‘ako development initiative. This may help condense urban sprawl and in turn, protect our kānaka on the West Side from dealing with the negative socio-economic impacts that may follow.

Should we as a people consider this initiative we simply cannot just jump the gun. We need to consider the ramifications of opening Pandora’s box. Legalizing gambling can have immense negative impacts upon Kānaka Maoli, who are not identified as beneficiaries of DHHL. In doing this we could be setting the stage for other developers to make Hawai‘i the next Monte Carlo, and we all know how much our people do not benefit from the baggage tourism holds as is.

I request that the Department of Hawaiian Homelands not consider going forward with this initiative, and instead work with our community, and OHA to identify either a better location for such commercial activity or consider other initiatives to gain revenue.

Me ke aloha,
Bronson Azama
Kama‘aina o He‘eia, Ko‘olaupoko, O‘ahu.
I am writing in regards to the casino that is possibly being built in Kapolei. A casino or any other structure that is built for the purpose of providing homes for Hawaiians should not be built on Hawaiian Home Lands. The purpose of Hawaiian Home Lands is to return Hawaiians to their land by building homes for them to live in, yet the powers that be keep selling Hawaiian Home Lands to the highest bidder while thousands of beneficiaries continue to die on the waiting list just so the politicians can get even richer than they already are. Enough already. Stop allowing Hawaiian Home Lands to be used as a tool to make the government rich. That's not what that land is for. Hawaiian Homes beneficiaries should be the first priority.
I don't think casinos is the way to go, I truly feel that we are better than that and that this type of business bring the wrong energy to an already very wronged people. Why can't parcels be set a part for kanaka owned businesses only? Or something for kanaka blood people to find our own determination without percentage at least so the children of kanaka can be at peace with perpetuated knowledge of wealth gained by pono means. Why not invest in generational wealth? Instead of get rich quick schemes. Help us level up is the least that can be done. casinos is not the way to go.
Aloha kākou, I don’t think Kapolei is the place for a casino at all, nor anywhere in Hawai’i. Poverty is already disproportionately affecting the West side of O’ahu so why would the Hawaiian Homeland Commission want to put an institution that Kanaka Maoli could just succumb to wasting their money. It’s hewa! Does the revenue gambling provides really outweigh the cost of further oppressing Native Hawaiian communities? The answer is no!
Very sneaky proposal to introduce a casino onto a Hawaiian Homelands land. Do you understand what "Ua mau ke ea o ka aina ika pono" means? It appears you do not - neither cognitively nor in your heart. Decades of experience with Native Americans show that contrary to popular beliefs, Native Americans do NOT benefit the indigenous peoples as promised. Beware! The benefits of your solution do not outweigh the risks, especially to an already marginalized population. In fact, Native Americans face greater risk of becoming problem gamblers! (see first Google result). The goals of Native Hawaiians should NOT be to get a job at a casino. Additionally, gambling brings into our backyards every negative and destructive behavior of community living. Are you watching current news about the rise in crime on the Las Vegas strip? Raise your sights and your morals. You know better. People are already committing crimes that bring in a few bucks like stealing, burglary, purse snatching, tire and car part stealing for drugs. Now they will have still another reason to commit crimes which will be to pay off gambling debts. Rich people can afford the losses. Poor people cannot.

BIG IDEA: Why don't you provide a center for technology training for Hawaiians on DHHL lands. That way, they can learn skills to bring them out of poverty and groveling at gambling tables. Did you know that a person who completes security certification in technology (2 year program) or a 2 year Medical tech training can bring in greater incomes than college grads? Please use your money, resources and influence to propose more beneficial and productive solutions for Hawaiians than becoming a casino worker or worse, a gambler. Hawaiian families will suffer. Think about it.
**Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W**

**From:** dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:18 PM  
**To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
**Subject:** HCC Contact:

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<th>Lynnell</th>
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<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>I strongly DISAGREE regarding casinos using covid19 to justify such a ludacris idea will warrant major protest and Citizens push backs given the corrupted history of DHHL, beneficiaries has NOT recieved any payments till current with other land usages thousands + are still waiting unnecessary to recieve rewards while many + dies waiting! Use the commercial lands to build apartments that would house beneficiaries instead of bringing foreigners unto Hawaiian Homestead lands where crimes will be at its highest ever. Covid-19 is NOT justified enough to this ludacris idea using quotes from our ancestors is also MISINTERPRETED. We kanaka Maoli are NOT Americans nor have we been Recognized as like the Indians we are a separate identity that does NOT fit into the category. Hawaiian Homestead lands are for benefitting Hawaiians NOT for any other! Proposing such without consulting the beneficiaries is already VIOLATING the Federal guidelines that is Queen Emma lands of her surviving beneficiaries entitlements that DHHL must uphold and nothing else! Without first consulting the beneficiaries is already starting off on the wrong foot!!! DHHL is to protect ALL lands in inventory for the benefit of Kanaka Maoli!</td>
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**Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W**

From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:05 PM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

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**Message**

WE NEED MORE HOMES FOR OUR HAWAIIANS NOT A CASINO!! HOW DARE YOU EVEN THINK OF USING LAND THAT'S DESIGNATED FOR HOMES FOR OUR NATIVE PEOPLE!! NO WAY DO I SUPPORT THIS!!
Hello,

My name is Jeremy. I was born in Hawaii, but raised in Washington. I've thought about this for some time. Would it be possible for Hawaiians to use casinos as a source of revenue like Native Americans? I've also thought about the social cost to us as well. If it were feasible, could gambling be limited to out of state people "tourists" only? This could be done based on out of state identification like drivers license. It's just an idea.
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<td><strong>Subject</strong></td>
<td>Submit Written Testimony</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Message</strong></td>
<td>I oppose the building of casinos on homestead land.</td>
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<td>Subject</td>
<td>To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>With much respect, I strongly oppose commercial gaming of all kinds in&lt;br&gt;If sovereignty does not encompass the ability to reside within aloha and pono, and to take care of our people AND others upon our land without engaging in exploitive, predatory schemes, then it is not actual sovereignty. Mahalo, and best wishes to all. Aloha.</td>
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Aloha,

I am a long time kama'aina of Hawaii. I am also part Cherokee Indian. The Cherokee Nation were made many promises over the years in regards to allowing legal gambling, a la Casinos and the alleged “fruits” it provided them. However after many years, due to the nature of all man, the Cherokee Nation in the areas of the Casinos are failing. In fact, you find very few Cherokee at around or in any of the casinos, while peoples such as Indi people are running all of the local stores which are just outside those casinos. The once very proud Cherokee Indian individual are now, in many cases, alcoholics and living on the streets as paupers, while the Executives who Own and run the casinos are filthy rich and the state gathers a large sum form that operation. For these reasons and more, I would ask that this idea not go forward as it would damage the Kanaka in the long run and further erode the legacy, history and break down further what we consider the Aloha State. Mahalo Nui Loa
In a time of great hardship and stress upon the Hawaiian community and beneficiaries, efforts to support and sustain its members should be first and foremost.

Is there a feasible, viable and REALISTIC plan to anticipate, resolve and budget for every aspect of managing a casino, including distributing part of the profits to its beneficiaries similar to Native American casinos OR are all the profits allocated to Administrative costs...which is downright selfish and wrong.

DHHL is the trustee of Hawaiian lands and must protect the lands and the beneficiaries it is hekd for. Building AND managing a casino and all the activity surrounding it will be a challenge and the stereotypical corruption that is perceived must be dealt with. Safeguards and plans must be considered to prevent fallout of this situation as well.

Also, there must be guarantees in place for employment of Qualified BENEFICIARIES FIRST and a set criteria such as qualifying as an applicant for a homestead award.

As for the location, Kapolei or Punalu'u that's a tough choice. Kapolei is a mini metropolis where growth is in continued progress. Punalu'u is a laid back community and has had a history of wildfires in the past and Kawa'a Flats flood during heavy rains may restrict access and contingency plans must definitely be put in place.

Bottom line is NOT ALWAYS ABOUT THE MONEY...the safety, health and welfare of its beneficiaries MUST always come first. Think outside the box and learn from what has happened before us. Research and consult with the Native Americans who have gone this route and gather facts on the good, the bad and the ugly. Tap into their knowledge and experiences on the management and execution of preventive measures for corruption and outside influences, muscle and legal issues. Don't just leap in feet first for a quick money fix that has lasting repercussions we ALL have to live through.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2020 5:04 AM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

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<td>Submit Written Testimony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>I am against using Hawaiian Home lands in Kapolei or anywhere else for gambling casinos. The Hawaiian population will be the ones gambling losing their butts off trying to hit the big one to get ahead only to lose it all! Is this what you want? To help the Hawaiian people provide more health programs providing quality supplements, self help housing, &amp; farming sustainability for them!!! Quick fixes don't work! Use your brains! It's not all about the money! Raise up the Hawaiians! Not drag them down with these stupid enticements which will drag them down! No gambling casinos anywhere on our islands! God help you to make good decisions!</td>
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To help protect your privacy, Microsoft Office prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

Message

Aila is a war criminal. No casinos!

I attended a first nationa conference in MN a few years ago held at a casino. It was horrible. They didn't hire natives. They catered to the old veterans on their last dollar. This is not what our people need. This is not Hawaiian.

Once 'Aila was an activist for Makua. Now he is a sell out. 'Aila should be thrown in jail for rackateering patented Hawaiian lands. They're held in alodial and not yours to sell or manipulate. If they were you would be able to show us a treaty of annexation. A joint resolution has no effect beyond the U.S. boundaries.

You have no jurisdiction. Get off kanaka lands. Aila is a crook. Fire him.

Anna Subiono

96704
Hawaiian Kingdom National.

If I was in your position i would have 'Aila immediately twrmintaed. Fir pillaging another countrys resourxes amd land.
I don't believe that this is a good choice for the people. I am born and raised in Nanakuli and I personally feel the closer the city cam the more crime followed. I have ohana thay works with law and their stories are so scary I had to leave my home. My safety and my children safety became an issue. We just had a shooting three houses from our farm on Hakimo Rd. Why because game room gambling activities? Then I move to Las Vegas. 9th island still looking. The casinos here tho will drain you. The locals suffer because family go sit at a machine or table all day. Ohanas will break more than unite. I felt that no casinos should exits in Hawai'i, on Oahu or even next door to my home town Waianae. Aloha.
Aloha,

I am a resident living in Nānākuli Hawaiian Homestead.

I try to keep up with what is happening with DHHL and if I am understanding it correctly there is talk about a few things that DHHL is doing that my family & I do not agree with and would like a say to it please.

One of the most recent issue is the possibility of allowing businesses per se in the form of gambling. I am highly against that. It is so sad to me that many of the things deemed illegal (such as drugs in the form of marijuana and gambling along with many others) are being legalized as if there is and never was a problem with it in the past as to why it is that way it is.

When I look at our people and oppression it is hard to watch the things that is happening. I do not see how this will help them. What many people need is more affordable housing. Instead of offering land where they will have to pay to build a home or a property where the mortgage is too far for their reach... maybe a housing or apartments as you are doing here in Nānākuli or the one you are currently building in Ma’ili based on their income. Let's focus on getting our families in a safe home and be able to afford that home instead of starting this gambling place where all I have ever seen at any gambling establishment is shady stuff happening. When people do not know their limits, as many do not, they lose and they are majorly set back and in turn they do other illegal activities such as rob, steal from others to either make back or to continue on the path they are on... I have not heard of good things and for this I stand on saying NO to any gambling establishments especially as it being illegal in the state of Hawai‘i ... how can this even be an issue.
Regarding the Agenda Item "Kapolei Casino":
No.
I am opposed to this Agenda Item because;
1. It has not gone through the required Public Review Process
2. Gambling in Hawaii is Illegal.
So how can this Board even consider this. Many hours have been wasted at public expense.
This is unconscionable and I request that this must be investigated by the Hawaii Ethics Committee.
3. Beneficiaries have been on The List for decades. This land and all land under the overview of this Board must take
precedence now that we know there is availability.
4. I ask the Board to apologize to the Beneficiaries for this this Agenda Item being considered.
Sincerely,
Beth Leeds
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<td>Subject</td>
<td>To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners</td>
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**Message**

How long more do we have go wait for hawaiian home to be in progress...?
Waiting since 1987 & yet being going to dhhl office at least 5 to 10 a year for nothing is getting done & i pre-qualified for a loan 2 years ago...!!!
**First Name**
 Patrick L.

**Last Name**
 Kahawaiolaa

**Phone**

**Email**

**Subject**
Submit Written Testimony

**Message**

Aloha Commission members, I’m Patrick L. Kahawaiolaa, a native Hawaiian as defined pursuant to the HHCA, 1920 as amended Chap. 42, 42 stat. 108, 67th Cong. and I here to OBJECT to the draft proposal which the news expresses will be submitted to the Hawaiian Homes Commission on Dec. 21, 2020 for action. My objection is based as usual the lands having the status of Hawaiian Home Lands are TRUST LANDS and as such I am a beneficiary of that Trust where I believe a process should be used to infirm and receive the feedback from the Trust corpus as to how those trust lands are to be USED. it is the actions of the DHHL’s Failure first to inform the beneficiaries through a Beneficiary Consultation (BC) process is my primary reasoning for my objection. In Nelson v. State Hon. Judge Cassengetti in her Finding of Facts and Conclusions of Laws (FOFCOL) expressed that the DHHL cannot serve two masters. Their only job is to work in the best interest of the beneficiaries. So if that is an undisputed fact of law that why bypass the trust corpus in this draft proposal to the State legislation. I can be reached at 937-8217. ‘Owau Patrick L. Kahawaiolaa
Aloha commissioners,
Please do not support gambling. Below are my comments made to Hawai'i County Council in 2106.

When high-stakes bingo was proposed here in 2013, Councilmember Brenda Ford said, “For every $1 in revenues, you spend $3 on social issues caused by the gambling” (1)

A study in the Journal of Gambling Studies found that “gamblers appeared to ‘export’ about half of the harms they experienced to those around them.” (2)

A Canadian report found problem gambling “has a profound impact on gamblers’ friends and families… contractors not being paid for work done, students showing up to school in distress and neighbours witnessing violence and crime…” (3)

The report also found “…a significantly higher proportion of problem gamblers reported having thoughts of committing suicide in their lifetime compared to non-problem gamblers…coroner reports do not always capture suicides as gambling-related, but the suicide data in areas with a longer history of gambling are illustrative: Las Vegas has had one of North America’s highest per capita suicide rates for the past 50 years…A study of gambling in Alberta estimated that 10% of all suicides in Alberta are gambling-related.” (4)

A survey in the Journal of Gambling Studies found “Respondents who reported that it was most convenient for them to gamble had the highest average problem gambling symptoms, compared to those for whom gambling was less convenient.” (5)

A study in the Hawai'i Journal of Medicine and Public Health found “…the only potential support for problem gamblers in Hawai'i is GA [Gamblers Anonymous] and there are only a few groups on two of the islands…”, and none in East Hawai'i. (6)

Several Hawai'i legislators oppose legalized gambling, including U.S. Representative Tulsi Gabbard, State Senator Laura Thielen, and State Representative Nicole Lowen. (7)

In 2010 Hawai'i County Council passed Resolution 309-10 urging state legislators to oppose any proposed legislation legalizing gambling in the state. In 2009 the Hawai'i State Association of Counties took a position against legalized gambling in the state, and the City and County of Honolulu voted against legalized gambling.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:51 PM
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W
Subject: HCC Contact:

First Name
Cory

Last Name
Harden

Email

Submit Written Testimony

Message
Sorry! Footnotes for my testimony sent earlier......................


Aloha on behalf of E Na HAWAI'I, 
This idea of having a casino on DHHL whose idea was that? are you people have no common sense where it's due. Make homes for our kupunas pur people and affordable ones. Don't you understand the commissioner act of DHHL. Very disappointed on your act of leadership. Think why you all in this position is to be able to help with what needs to be done.
I am extremely opposed to any sort of gambling in Hawaii. Stick to your mandate Hawaiian HOME Lands.
I am against the idea of a casino on dhhl lands! GET US OFF THE WAITING LIST AND ON TO OUR LANDS BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE IS BUILT ON OUR LANDS! Just give us the land and LET US build hale and work the lands already!
Gabbard went on to explain that gambling, specifically casinos, leads to increases in gambling addiction, which can lead to an increase in poverty, substance abuse and an overall negative impact on families. Everyone from Hawaii goes to the mainland and Las Vegas to gamble. That's where their money goes rather than staying at home in the islands. Having gambling or without will not change what Gabbard stated above. Hawaii needs to keep all their money within the state rather than benefiting another state. Also the tourism from other countries and the mainland will infuse much needed revenue and tax dollars to the state. She should stop lobbying for Las Vegas and concentrate on improving what she states about here at home.
**From:** dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2020 9:24 AM  
**To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
**Subject:** HCC Contact:

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**Subject**  
Submit Written Testimony

**Message**  
My thought on this casino being built is that this is the most ignorant move because there are still Hawaiians on the waitlist waiting for housing but yet some casino can just come down and claim land! That's corruption to me! A casino will only bring more craziness to the community / islands. Drug use and dealing will rise in numbers!!
I am totally opposed to this ridiculous plan to open casinos on Homelands. While some revenue may come in from this type of operation, it is completely at odds with the intent and purpose of the HHCA, the 1921 Act. Specifically, refer to the PURPOSE of the Act: [101] (2) Placing native Hawaiians on the lands set aside under this Act in a prompt and efficient manner and assuring long-term tenancy to beneficiaries of this Act and their successors; and (3) Preventing alienation of the fee title to the lands set aside under this Act so that these lands will always be held in trust for continued use by native Hawaiians in perpetuity; We all know how DHHL has utterly failed to place Hawaiians on their lands in a "prompt and efficient manner", being 100 years past, and counting now. LOL. The critical and overriding problem remains of the 30,000 on the wait list, and yet the majority of the Homelands remain vacant and unassigned for pastoral or agricultural self-sufficiency. Yet, DHHL continues to spin its wheels on unrelated and irrelevant projects. Going on for a century now. We know there's only about 200,000 acres left in the inventory of the 400,000 original acreage. Where did they all go DHHL? You are responsible for giving them away, aren't you. Under The Act, [§201.6.] "Community based governance on Hawaiian home lands." It states that the community based organizations may undertake the full authority of the DHHL in administering the Homelands. Clearly, this is what needs to be done. Allow the Beneficiaries to take over the function of DHHL on most of the vacant Homelands. This is a century overdue now, and needs to be implemented immediately, to allow these lands to get into the hands of the tens of thousands on the wait list, without further delay. Hawaiians just want their lands back, not stupid casinos! Thank you.
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<td>We do not need more buildings on Oahu or any island. We are full and we have to focus on locals and their businesses. If we keep bringing in outside attractions the unique feel and talents of our Hawai'i will be forever lost. Keep Hawai'i, Hawai'i. We need to educate our keiki to love and protect the aina we have left.</td>
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NO TO THE CASINO! If you cannot build homes then give us the land and we can build it ourselves.
**From:** dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2020 10:41 AM  
**To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
**Subject:** HCC Contact:

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**Message**

I am against using Hawaii Homeland for a casino. That was never the intent of Kūhiō & you know it! You leave hawaiian homel and for pennies on the dollar & wonder why you have no $ for infrastructure. Resign if you can’t do your duty. No to casinos! No to gambling! No! Āhole!
Aloha, I am writing in regards to the idea of having a casino on Hawaiian homelands. I am against any idea of a casino due to the negative impact that it may have on our people and community. We need to put our people on the lands and have them be able to be self sustainable. We already suffer from homelessness and unhealthy living. The casino will only make things worst by affecting the families financially and it could also impact the families home life. Please take into the consideration of the lives this decision could impact. We the Kanaka Maoli of these islands are the ones being affected. If money is all you are looking at then greed consumes your spirit. Find solutions that will help us the homesteaders to rebuild our old homes or repair them. We NEED RESOURCES NOT CASINO'S . Thank you for allowing me to have a say.
**Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W**

**From:** dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2020 10:55 AM  
**To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
**Subject:** HCC Contact:

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<td>Subject</td>
<td>To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners</td>
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</table>
| Message    | Aloha Commissioners,  
We do not need or want any casinos built on Hawaiian Lands. What we need is Homes built for Hawaiian families. Enough excuses already! |
Aloha,

I am writing as a Kanaka Maoli to provide my testimony about the HHC’s intent to allow a casino to be built on Hawaiian land. I am very incredulous about this idea.

I have personally seen cases in Arizona where tribe members were able to benefit greatly from the profits of casinos. A friend of mine was even able to receive $1,000 a month from his tribe to attend school from casino profits. If this economic impact could happen for Hawaiians, that would be amazing.

However, unlike those examples - there aren’t federally recognized Hawaiian Tribes. There’s not a structure in place currently that would ensure that casino profits would end up in the hands of Kanaka Maoli. Instead, it seems highly likely that the money will just cycle back into a state government department that doesn’t do enough to serve one of its primary functions which is to give land back to Kanaka Maoli. More than 28,000 applicants are still on the waitlist for land, most of which, is not able to be developed on. Not to mention that the waitlist is only open to persons who can demonstrate over 50% Hawaiian ancestry, meanwhile less and less Hawaiians are able to meet that benchmark because our ethnicity is being bred out.

I strongly believe that if the HHC is to follow through with these casino persists, that it MUST be able to clearly demonstrate a plan that will ensure profits are used towards the benefit of the Kanaka Maoli - not the state government, nor corporate interests, nor haole colonists. The profits from a possible casino MUST go towards expanding the Hawaiian Homelands program to persons with 25% or more Hawaiian ancestry, expediting the applications of the 28,000 already on the waitlist, and developing affordable rental housing for Kanaka Maoli. If there’s left over after that, then maybe the money can be used to help Hawaiian Homelands recipients cover construction costs, education, health care or other benefits.

Mahalo,

Bailey Auli’i Spears
The DHHL have committed a breach of trust and as the beneficiary, I object to the proposed casino project in Kapolei for the lack of information related to the benefits of the beneficiaries.
I am submitting testimony not in favor of a planned casino in the Kapolei area. Native Hawaiians are still waiting to be housed on lands that have yet to be fulfilled by the Department since its beginning. I believe this is a total disrespect towards the betterment of Native Hawaiians as well as the trust and vision of why DHHL was created. I am against development of a casino on Hawaiian Homelands. Mahalo
Aloha commissioners,

I’m a resident of Waimanalo homestead and I vehemently oppose casinos or other forms of gambling. This is not the answer to raise funds. We have agricultural and energy potential that could be scaled, build capacity, and improve health and wellness. Please do not bring casinos to DHHL.

Mahalo,
Forest Frizzell
Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W

From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2020 11:58 AM
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W
Subject: HCC Contact:

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Subject
To a Hawaiian Homes Commissioner

Message
No to casinos. We Hawaiian need homes not a casino. The Hawaiian people will not benefit from it. NO TO CASINOS!
Aloha mai kākou,

Mahalo to all Commissioners for all your hard work and diligence during these trying times. I am writing respectfully to you as a Master's Candidate in Hawaiian Studies at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. I am writing today in response to the proposed agenda for the next Hawaiian Homes Commission Meeting/Workshop in which it was made public that the Commission will be voting on the "Approval of Legislative Proposal to Authorize Limited Casino Gaming in the Form of a Single Integrated Resort Property in Kapolei, Island of O‘ahu, on Hawaiian Home Lands Designated for Commercial Use." News of this item on the agenda is troubling, to say the least, as gambling is illegal in the state of Hawai‘i. We are one of two states who have not legalized gambling. This means that Hawai‘i's citizens cannot legally participate in any lotteries of any kind in Hawai‘i. Yet a new resort in Kapolei might be allowed to have a casino where wealthy resort guests can gamble? It is interesting to me that we kānaka are not allowed to participate in lotteries in our own home so that we can win huge lump sums, yet these future resort guests (who will most likely be wealthy) will be welcomed to this casino to gamble their money away? Furthermore, this proposed "Limited Casino" is going to be on Hawaiian Home Lands. Last I checked, we are not Native Americans. Hawaiian Home Lands are not the same as "Indian Reservations." The Native Americans had treaties with the United States. Under the "Nation within a Nation" model of sovereignty which was agreed upon, this is why they are allowed to have casinos. To emphasize: no treaty = no annexation = no "nation within a nation" system of governance = NO CASINOS. The Kingdom of Hawai‘i exists and it is because of our continued illegal military occupation by the United States' military.

This is absolutely ridiculous. How is this casino going to benefit your beneficiaries, a.k.a. the Hawaiian people? My father has been on the waitlist for Hawaiian Home Lands for well over 40 years and he has not seen any award. How is this casino going to affect the local people who will definitely not be able to afford to stay at this resort? If this casino is approved, what is going to happen to all the money? Who gets to keep it? Will it go to the state? To DHHL? To the resort? Will any and all money generated by the casino be distributed via direct deposit to every living Hawaiian? I urge you, Commissioners, please do not approve this use of Hawaiian land. Please do not approve this item on the agenda.

Mahalo nui,
Kellie K. Dinwiddie Kala
Aloha, I oppose having a casino in Hawaii. We have so many more serious issues in Hawaii that are not being addressed and a casino will make Hawaii a worse place. Casinos being on negativity such as crime, drugs, and debt for communities. This will not provide any benefit for our children, it will expose them to gangs, illegal prostitution, more crime, etc because this will be in our home. Any casino in Hawaii will change the culture of Hawaii to something that will impact us in a negative way. I am an heir to Honouliuli and I oppose the casino or any further development on the Ahupua’a o Honouliuli. My grandmother J.U. Sanderson Lee was the last appointed Queen of Hawaii and I am handed down the title through bloodline and genealogy. Contact the State of Hawaii, they have the documents. My file number for the Ahupua’a o Honouliuli is A-69200699 with the SOH BOC and I have an attorney.

May God Bless my land in Hawai’i for the betterment of my Hawaiian ohana and sustain our culture.

Best regards,
Maelani A. Lee/Queen of Hawai’i
First Name
Nawahine

Last Name
Kahoopii

Email

Subject
Submit Written Testimony

Message
Not just a No to a Casino built for the state on DHHL lands it’s a HELL NO! Clean up your act. Windmills, wastewater treatment plants that pump sewage into our oceanfront, rubbish dumps, airports, public schools, Walmart Monsanto, rich ranchers that have turned into land speculators, and developers like Parker and Kahua ranch, all have long term leases to DHHL lands. Why don't we have enough money to get our own people on our lands when some of the wealthiest corporations in the world have leases? 33% of our DHHL lands are leased to non-beneficiaries. Enough already.
My name is Tristin, and my family’s been on the waiting list for decades. THIS CASINO is a slap in my face, my mother’s face, my grandfathers face! AOLE!

It’s a slap In The face for thousands on this list, and the many more thousands that DIED WAITING!!!

Hewa! SHAME ON ALL OF YOU FOR PUTTING THE WHITE MANS MONEY BEFORE HAWAIIAN KOKO, MANA, AND CULTURE!!!!!!!!!!
Who's stupid idea is this? Who brought this up?
Is this diversifying the economy? Will it sustain during another pandemic?
How about the fact that the state arrested kupuna on DHHL lands, and now they are going to promote something illegal. So arresting kupuna on a DHHL is illegal and operating a illegal activity is legal?
Is running a casino what Prince Kuhio wanted for the Hawaiian Home lands? Have you checked what he said when Hawaiian Homes were formed?
Let us not forget, it is truth, there is no treaty of annexation.
Let us not forget, the National Lawyer's Guild has called on the US to obey international law, and obligates the US to operate using Hawaiian Kingdom law.
Let us not forget, the United Nations has already recognized that the Hawaiian Kingdom still exist.
Let us not forget, that the correct history of Hawaii, stating illegally occupied, was stated by the NEA.
To the Hawaiian Homes leaders, stay away from this topic.
Perhaps, the beneficiaries should file suit that says that the Hawaiian Homes Commission should be removed because they are not executing what they are suppose to do, that is, put Hawaiians on the land. Watch out, this idea is being circulated.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2020 2:11 PM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Sophronia</th>
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<tr>
<td>Last Name</td>
<td>Josselin</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners</td>
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**Message**

Aloha DHHL Commissioners, I am writing to you in opposition of H R S 10-2-11, regarding your proposals to create CASINOS on Department of Hawaiian homes Lands. Casinos are the scissors that will cut our beautiful and tightly woven Cultural, Traditions, Moral, Ethical and Spiritual fabric that we as Kanakas are world renown for, known as the ALOHA SPIRIT! Let me remind you that the DHHL waitlist is long and my Kupunas have DIED waiting for their turn to malama a piece of their ancestral lands! DHHL has really been an embarrassment to the legacy intended by Prince Kuhio! It is over due that each of you take your positions seriously and get our Kupunas and Keikis back on the Aina that they belong on! With modern technology we Kanakas are demanding that you as commissioners Choose to do what is RIGHT and start providing LAND for every Hawaiian and their descendants that is on your waitlist! CASINOS is a vessel to further corruption and laundering that has gone on in DHHL offices for too many generations! It’s a SHAME to see our PEOPLE HOMELESS!!! DHHL has been perfect example of a POORLY MANAGED Department!! Its time for CHANGE! If you cant do your jobs We have administrators that are ready and willing to volunteer free of charge to step into your positions should you decide to further this ridiculous proposal of further CORRUPTING our SOCIETY and going AGAINST the WILL OF OUR PEOPLE!! This is a short and to the point! Opposition written on a samsung cell phone as I, like MANY KUPUNAS!! Do NOT have the means to PC, lap tops, chromebooks or access to Wifi to create a formal formatted testimony! Mahalo for taking the time to read and digest the frustrations that thousands of us have with DHHL offices! If you would like to contact me I can be reached at noelanijosselin808@gmail.com and would be happy to share ideas that will benefit our people! Mahalonuihoa, Sophronia Noelanij Josselin
Aloha mai kākou,  

I would like to submit written testimony regarding section IV. Executive Summary, under item 1. Legislative Proposal to Authorize Limited Casino Gaming in the Form of a Single Integrated Resort Property in Kapolei, Island of O’ahu, on Hawaiian Home Lands Designated for Commercial Use. I hereby state that I am deeply opposed to this measure.

The Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL) should not proceed with an initiative to build a resort on DHHL lands in Kapolei. We should not be developing lands that are clearly suitable for housing. I acknowledge that the lands being considered are designated for commercial use, however, DHHL is not new to the concept of requesting land rezones. The precedent being set is the commercialization of lands to be a priority over that of providing kānaka maoli with adequate housing. We have houseless kānaka who are still waiting for housing on these lands, not to mention many individuals who have since passed while remaining on the waitlist, meanwhile, there clearly remains politics at play amongst a commission we should trust.

I would implore that as a collective, we need to consider our roles under our ongoing illegal occupation. OHA is our fiduciary and an initiative like this has no place in the hands of DHHL, regardless of if the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act allows such. There are much better ideal locations for an initiative like this including working in tandem with OHA to possibly consider constructing this Casino in the failed Kaka’ako development initiative. This may help condense urban sprawl and in turn, protect our kānaka on the West Side from dealing with the negative socio-economic impacts that may follow.

Should we as a people consider this initiative we simply cannot just jump the gun. We need to consider the ramifications of opening Pandora’s box. Legalizing gambling can have immense negative impacts upon Kānaka Maoli, who are not identified as beneficiaries of DHHL. In doing this we could be setting the stage for other developers to make Hawai’i the next Monte Carlo, and we all know how much our people do not benefit from the baggage tourism holds as is.

I request that the Department of Hawaiian Homelands not consider going forward with this initiative, and instead work with our community, and OHA to identify either a better location for such commercial activity or consider other initiatives to gain revenue.

Mālāma pono,

Kara Kelai
**Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W**

- **From:** dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov
- **Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2020 2:25 PM
- **To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W
- **Subject:** HCC Contact:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Stephen</th>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Submit Written Testimony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>I oppose the proposal to build a casino on DHHL lands as there has been no beneficiary consent or consultation. Further, past use of Hawaiian Homes Lands for raising funds for development have had underwhelming results for the beneficiaries, and there is no evidence to indicate that this venture would be any different.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
First Name
Noel

Last Name
Shaw

Phone

Email

Subject
Submit Written Testimony

Message
To: The Hawaiian Homes Commission
In Re: Proposal for Gaming Entity on Department of Hawaiian Homes Lands
Date: December 17, 2020

My name is Noel Kaleikalaun’oka’io’ia’io Shaw and I am a beneficiary of Hawaiian Homestead Commission Act and current resident of the Kalawahine Streamside Hawaiian Homestead.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony during your meeting as I know that the majority of you serve in a volunteer capacity and for that I am grateful as this is important work to do.

I am writing to you specifically in regards to the proposal being voted on next week to create a gaming entity in Kapolei ("Gaming Bill). Because of the many questions I have and the very small window made available for me to learn more and provide insight on it, at this time, I do not support the Gaming Bill.

The lack of notice and absence of an opportunity to meaningfully participate is extremely concerning, especially during the times of COVID where economic distress can push to hasty decisions. Like many other Hawai‘i people, the Gaming Bill was something we were only notified about last evening during the local news. The population that automatically should be included in this conversation and at minimum provided notice of such proposal already exists in the current leasees and those on the waitlist.

Contact information for this group of people is accessible to the Commission and in the time of technology, engaging us in these types of conversation is not that difficult. Although we’d hope that Commission Members are able to represent the views of their constituents, because we have no say in who is appointed to serve, we cannot be certain of this.

Trust needs to be built between the Commission and Hawaiian people, which really requires trust being built between Hawaiian people and the "State" of Hawai‘i. And with that I leave you all with a question to consider strongly, is there really trust in our pilina if Hawaiians are struggling and are still having to fight to be heard at home in Hawai‘i?

Mahalo,

Noel
Aloha, I am writing this message in response to the proposed Casinos being built on homestead lands. I strongly oppose use of this land for anything other than housing native Hawaiian populations. As it stands, native Hawaiians make up the largest demographic of our homeless population. Addiction and poverty are already prominent issues our community faces, and a casino undoubtedly will further contribute to these problems. We need DHHL to protect our already vulnerable community and use the lands what they were originally designed for - providing land and homes to our native Hawaiians. Mahalo.
**First Name**  
Makaokalani

**Last Name**  
Minihan

**Email**

**Subject**
Submit Written Testimony

**Message**
Please do not use land that is meant for Kanaka to be used to build a culture if corruption and addiction. I oppose the Casino proposal.
**From:** dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2020 4:30 PM  
**To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
**Subject:** HCC Contact:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>James</th>
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<tr>
<td>Last Name</td>
<td>Nozzolillo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
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<td>Email</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>A casino is not the way to go! How is this possible? Hundreds of thousands of locals are struggling as it is and now you want to propose a dangerous entity that could ruin hundreds of thousands of lives? Have you all lost your mind?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Aloha mai,

As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. It has already been proven that gambling and casinos lead to an increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from our native lands.

DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
**Message**

I would highly discourage and not recommend the proposal of the bill and development of a casino in Kapolei. There are obvious economic returns and costs derived from such a proposal. However, to be frank, this proposal is entirely embarrassing and that a 6 billion dollar deficit would provoke this type of solution. There are countless opportunities to generate revenues through alternative funding mechanisms. DHHL’s claim or Tyler Iokepa Gomes's claim that this proposal is comparable to successes of other indigenous groups is extremely skewed. This proposal is indicative of a lack of creativity and strategic thinking in addressing the Department's funding deficit.

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**First Name**
Kalai

**Last Name**
Hanohano

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**Subject**
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners
Aloha mai,

As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. It has already been proven that gambling and casinos lead to an increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

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All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ‘āina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
This submission is against development of a casino on Hawaiian Homelands property. Gambling is not a vice I want as a tourist attraction to our home. The land should be used for families and the perpetuation of our Hawaiian way of life. Please find a more sustainable option with the extremely limited resources we have to keep our treasures safe and thriving for our future generations. Mahalo and good luck with the tasks at hand.
Why is DHHL proposing to build a casino on Hawaiian Lands, when those lands (and all of Hawai’i) belong to the people of this land, the Kanaka Maoli. How would building a casino, help us, as kanaka? It seems to me that it is just another way to extinguish us, as a race. Addiction would only follow after the building of such a place.

Why is it that kanaka are dying on the list waiting for land that is rightfully theirs when land is being leased to foreigners for personal gain? Why is it that kanaka are the last to benefit, why is it that kanaka are left to pick from the scraps of the land we come from? Will there be anything left for our keiki after you give our lands away to foreigners for your own profit?
First Name
Ava

Last Name
Taesali

Phone

Email

Subject
Submit Written Testimony

Message

As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL. As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. It has already been proven that gambling and casinos lead to an increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from our native lands.

DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.

-Ava Taesali resident in Haleiwa Hi
I support allowing gambling in Hawaii and to give permission to DHHL for overseeing building and maintaining casinos on Hawaiian homelands...because it provides jobs and is a tourist attractions which make Hawaii self-sufficient economically...without the requirements and limitations of hotels.

I’d recommend that isolated areas like South Point (centered around Ka Lae) that are higher lava zone...and have a difficult time with the necessity of supporting their population...make the best targets for casino construction. Draw a formula by which Hawaiian ownership and district populations can benefit mutually.
Aloha mai kākou,  
'O Miki'ala Leslie ko'ou inoa. No Hale'iwa mai au.  
I am submitting a written testimony in regards to the proposed casino to be built on beneficiary land. At this time I strongly disagree with this idea and highly suggest the board of commissioners to vote no to be brought to legislation.  
The biggest reason it should be voted no is for the simple fact that none of the beneficiaries or people on the waitlist have been given adequate time to genuinely have a discussion about what this plan entails. As a Native Hawaiian and also as a daughter who’s father has been waiting on the homestead list since 1993, it is essential that not only the native community is involved but also to be heard. Not only have no details been released on this matter, the trust is heavily broken between the systems/organizations and the Native Hawaiian community. Please reconsider your decisions and use your na'au when voting on this.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2020 8:28 PM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

<table>
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<th>First Name</th>
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<tr>
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Subject:
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

Message:
I do not believe that a casino should be built on trusted land. Why not put Hawaiians that’s been on the waitlist in Hawaiian homes? Why waste 203K acres of land for a stupid casino when it should be used to build homes for the Hawaiian people. Who’s going to benefit from this? Where is all the money going? It’s ridiculous and stupid to even entertain that thought.
loha mai,
As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.
As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. It has already been proven that gambling and casinos lead to an increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.
Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from our native lands.
DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit.
I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.
All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.
Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
Aloha mai,

As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. It has already been proven that gambling and casinos lead to an increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

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Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
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Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians still sit on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify due to the colonist concept of blood quantum, who are relegated to poverty, homelessness and displacement from our native lands.

DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit. Any action that DHHL takes that does not actively and aggressively work to house Hawaiians who live both in and out of state, and to actively promote and establish self-sustaining communities built on Hawaiian values and practices is an act of negligence to the community it is made to serve.

The goal of any Hawaiian organization as a whole should be to promote the betterment of our people who are already here and to offer to repatriate any displaced member of the diaspora who wishes to return home. Its goals should be to build infrastructure for a sovereign and independent Hawaiian citizenry bound by an education in our values, language and culture.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

It is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is unethical, detrimental and not pono. It is not DHHL’s place to assist in the further exploitation and denigration of our precious ʻāina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
Aloha mai,
I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit. As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina. Mahalo for your consideration.
Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
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DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ‘āina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
Though I am not Kanaka Maoli nor a resident of Hawai‘i, I have Polynesian and Micronesian ancestry and I deeply care about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. It has already been proven that gambling and casinos lead to an increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from their native lands.

DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ‘āina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
Dear Honorable DHHL Commissioners,

I humbly and respectfully submit my testimony in OPPOSITION to the proposed Casino and Gaming in Kalaeloa because it's a bad bet.

Gambling A Bad Bet: The ABCs of why
1. Gambling and pornography have a lot in common: both exploit humans for a profit; both exploit human weakness and cause deep-rooted ADDICTIONS; both ruin marriages and families; both destroy children; both are run by people should know better, but instead choose to destroy others' lives to benefit themselves. You cannot predict who will become addicted to gambling – it's an equal opportunity predator.

2. Numerous reports have found gambling to be linked to increased BANKRUPTCY. SMR Research Corporation calls gambling "the single fastest growing driver of bankruptcy."

3. Gambling breeds CRIME and it is not a partisan issue. In states with legalized gambling, the gambling cartel has brought out all political parties, and are assuming positions of power within state and federal offices.

4. Gambling is DESTRUCTIVE. Gambling creates addicts, ruins marriages, destroys families, exploits children and the poor, bankrupts communities, raises crime, creates corruption, makes false promises, distorts reality, deceives the public and lies all the way to the bank. Greed, power, money and corruption are at the root of gambling operations.

5. Gambling is bad for the ECONOMY. Professor Earl Grinols calculates that the costs of gambling outweigh the benefits by a factor of more than 3:1. Gambling fails the cost benefit test, and taxpayers lose.

6. Gambling violates the biblical principle of FINANCIAL stewardship. Matthew 25:14:30 is the parable of the talents, where stewardship of skills and money is discussed. A number of other parables are scattered throughout the Bible that also discuss good stewardship of resources, skills, effort and finances.

*Excerpted from: http://www.focusonthefamily.com/socialissues/gambling/talking points

Thanks for allowing me to submit my written testimony.

Aloha and Mahalo,

Allen Cardines, Jr.
Subject: HCC Contact:

First Name
Debra

Last Name
Javar

Phone

Email

Subject
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

Message
NO CASINO ON HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS! CASINO WILL INCREASE PROBLEMS WITH ALCOHOL AND GAMBLING ADDICTION!
A CASINO IS NOT THE ANSWER. RAISE ALL THE $1/YEAR LEASE TO MILITARY ETC INSTEAD.
YOU GUYS NEED TO TALK TO THE BENEFICIARIES FIRST TOO!
I do not support the building of a casino anywhere on Hawaiian Homelands. This is an irresponsible proposal that does not in any way positively contribute to the rehabilitation of the conditions for native Hawaiians.
Aloha mai,

As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. It has already been proven that gambling and casinos lead to an increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from our native lands.

DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
Aloha,

As a beneficiary on the waitlist, I am writing in opposition of the possibility of a gaming casino on DHHL beneficiary lands. It is the duty of the commission to look for alternative avenues to generate income to help place beneficiaries on lands allocated for kanaka. I understand the process of commercial use to generate funds but feel, in the long interim, a gaming casino will only hurt the population as a whole, but also turn our islands into a gaming state such as Las Vegas and Atlanta. By allowing DHHL to proceed with these plans, could be interpreted as kanaka giving the green light to gambling in the islands. This is NOT what most kanaka want. Other development would and could follow suit. This is NOT okay. Our islands resources are already pinched, this will only make matters worse.

If this alternative was to be approved, how can the department ensure that monies would be allocated for the betterment of beneficiaries ALONE? It can’t! If it opens the doors for other investment properties outside of the departments arm, how would the department ensure monies would be allocated for beneficiaries? It can’t. Therefore it should not be allowed. The department is tasked with finding alternatives and illegal gambling SHOULD NOT be considered.

Find other alternatives! This is a disgrace to the HHCA and is NOT a vision of our Prince. Gambling will put our kanaka more in debt with gambling addictions. These will lead to lease cancellation and foreclosures. All of which takes time and money on the departments behalf to mitigate. This is NOT what the department wants and will end up being a 3 step forward, 10 step back fiasco.
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As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ‘āina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
Aloha mai,

As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

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DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ‘āina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2020 9:45 PM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

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**Subject**

To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

**Message**

I ask that you vote “NO” to building a casino on Hawaiian Homelands. As a Hawaiian and recently awarded Kaʻuluokahaʻi resident this is appalling to see how arrogant the state is to ask to put a casino on our land when they know there are 30K Hawaiians on the waitlist waiting for a home. Take care of our people first..
"Limited Casino Gaming in the form of Single a Integrated Resort Property on Hawaiian Homelands" is against the interest of Hawaiians and we do not consent to it. As a Native Hawaiian and daughter of a Native Hawaiian man waiting 40+ years for land managed by DHHL, I do not support the previously mentioned proposal. I am confident that the HCC can think of a better, creative option that will provide fiscal support, cultural support, and public support from Hawaiians, and aim to improve the health and wellbeing of Hawaiians and DHHL beneficiaries.
First Name  
Daviann

Last Name  
Arroyo

Phone

Email

Subject
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

Message

While I agree that this would generate much needed monies for Native Hawaiians. There's a ton of questions and concerns I have.

I've seen the effects of what gaming has brought to native tribes in Washington State. Education being the biggest. Here's some literature on what gaming does https://www.americangaming.org/resources/the-economic-impact-of-tribal-gaming-a-state-by-state-analysis-2/?fbclid=IwAR0yHMf5Wh9Okb1aXXqUOunj3rV87z_0vMkclt1HshTP8DDUQxuFVaFWuABw#:~:text=The%20tribal%20gaming%20sector%2C.

The largest drawback is gambling addiction of the native population. In Singapore, citizens aren't allowed to set foot into ANY gaming or gambling establishment if they have a foreign passport.

**Is this something that is being considered in order to keep addiction at bay for our community?**

Marina Bay Sands has still managed to become one of the richest casinos in the world. "At Marina Bay Sands in Singapore, casino revenues showed an impressive resurgence. Rolling chip volume grew 16.0% to US$7.92 billion, with an improved win rate pushing win to around US$311 million" https://www.asgam.com/.../marina-bay-sands-leads-the.../....

I've briefly chatted with extended family members(DHHL recipients) here are their concerns:

"I'm against gambling in Kapolei. Take it somewhere else. Not in my back yard!! The islands of Lana'i or Moloka'i could benefit from this. DHHL on the outer islands who are struggling to make ends meet. Not a steadfast growing family-based community of Kapolei."

"I say go to Vegas!!! Keep our home clear of gambling! Game rooms on the West get action already but seriously, imagine how much MORE home, not the people running it"

"Hawaii's government system is corrupted. This wouldn't be the first time casinos were highlighted as an option to bring in more revenue to the Western colonization making a profit for themselves off of indigenous people. Hawaiian Homes Commission is struggling with managing their own casinos? It's an act of propaganda. What is DHHL hiding?"

My questions are these:
1. If this is passed. Why is DHHL only receiving a percentage of this new wagering tax? Why not a percentage of ALL revenues from all monies going to have a monopoly on the gaming industry in one of the top travel destinations in the world! We're getting a drop in the bucket for the native community?
2. Is there a written guarantee that a percentage of all "integrated resort" jobs will be given priority to Native Hawaiians? This includes suppliers as well countries like Cambodia where Chinese gaming investors come in and import everything from builders, laborers, and casino employees. This is a concern.
3. Where specifically will ALL revenues go within DHHL? I see that it's going to be deposited into the administrative account but doesn't get into specific balances measures are in place?
4. What commitments has this company made to our community? Apart from the education, training piece for their potential employees. Are there other commitments for Native Hawaiian community? I know in with the Muckleshoot tribes students have some of the best schools along with a laundry list of resources
software, and STEM.

5. In case you didn’t see my question above. What laws or considerations will be enacted in order to keep addiction at bay for our community?

6. Has a poll or survey been sent out to DHHL recipients? If so what was the general consensus? What are the concerns of the community you?

I thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your response. I truly hope that every consideration is taken before approving this

Sincerely,

Daviann Kalohi Arroyo
Dear Honorable DHHL Commissioners, 

I humbly and respectfully submit my testimony in OPPOSITION to the proposed Casino and Gaming in Kalaeloa because it's a bad bet.

Gambling A Bad Bet: The ABCs of why

1. Gambling and pornography have a lot in common: both exploit humans for a profit; both exploit human weakness and cause deep-rooted ADDICTIONS; both ruin marriages and families; both destroy children; both are run by people should know better, but instead choose to destroy others’ lives to benefit themselves. You cannot predict who will become addicted to gambling – it’s an equal opportunity predator.

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*Excerpted from: http://www.focusonthefamily.com/socialissues/gambling/talking points

Thanks for allowing me to submit my written testimony.

Aloha and Mahalo,

Allen Cardines, Jr.
In regards to considering a casino in Kapolei, it might not be a good idea. The islands are extremely dependent on tourism and have not found another economy to rely on and have suffered during the pandemic because of the reliance on tourism. As much as I would love to have a casino on the island because gambling is entertainment I enjoy I do understand the dark side of it and it will only drive more tourism that may have further negative effects vs positive on the islands. More money will be poured into the area thus pushing the residents out because tourists will always out price the locals. Oahu has a finite amount of land and needs to take care of the locals and not push the locals further out from where they work. Traffic is terrible to/from Honolulu daily and examining the SF Bay area in California when the wealthy transplant techies forced locals to deal with hellish commutes to serve them Oahu looks very similar. 2nd homes owned in Hawaii by wealthy mainlanders is an issue along with vacation homes taking away inventory from local residents. Casinos in California tend to quite far, in rural areas, away from major cities so to keep many away and only the determined will be the ones going. We need to protect the interests of the locals and keep them from falling into yet another addiction that will only widen wealth gap even further on the island. Corruption always go hand in hand with casinos as well. If you must have a casino please consider something that may deter most from going like making it a card room only, have high antes, and please DO NOT have it owned/operated by an outsider, have it Hawaiian govt owned and use the funds made to help the declining Hawaiians flourish with education, subsidizing costs of goods, addiction programs, health care, etc.
Aloha mai,
As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai'i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. It has already been proven that gambling and casinos lead to an increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai'i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

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<td>NO CASINOS ON HAWAIIAN HOMELANDS! Not during a pandemic. NOT EVER! THERE ARE PEOPLE ON WAITING LISTS TO GET HOUSES, AND YOU WANT TO USE UP SPACE FOR CASINOS? SHAME ON ALL OF THE PEOPLE WHO THINK THIS IS A GOOD IDEA! SHAME ON THIS DEPARTMENT FOR NOT FULFILLING YOUR JOB REQUIREMENTS OF GIVING KANAKA MAOLI HOMES, WHICH IS WHAT THE DEEDS ARE MEANT FOR. PEOPLE DIE BEFORE THEY CAN EVEN GET THEIR HOME. GET RID OF ALL OF THESE GREEDY, CORRUPT, AND SELF-SERVING PEOPLE ON THESE BOARDS.</td>
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All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.

- Emma
I OPPOSE the building of any type of casino on any DHHL lands and the proposed site in Kapolei. The Department of Hawaiian Homelands, an agency that is supposed to aid Hawaiian Homes for Hawaiian people (who have been on the list for years and years), yet Bill Aila can propose a casino on Hawaiian homelands? Aila who was appointed by Gov Ige. So what this boils down to is Gov Ige wanting to use kanaka lands to build a casino? Does any of this make sense? As a kanaka this is not only hewa but a slap in the face of towards the stewards of this ʻāina.

Please stop this project. Covid or no covid our lāhui will stand for what we believe in and a casino is NOT in our interest whatsoever. Mahalo for your time on this matter..
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2020 11:19 PM
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W
Subject: HCC Contact:

First Name
Lorie

Last Name
DuBois

Email

Subject
Submit Written Testimony

Message

'A'ole to building a casino on Hawaiian home lands. We do not need yet another thing for our people to be hooked on. I would like to see more homes going up on those lands. Whether they be town houses, apartments, or even condos. In this day and age not everyone can afford a mortgage. If money is the problem then why don’t we look to different solutions. Let our people work together to create viable solutions to our problems. Why do we always have to look to building commercial real estate to solve all our money problems. Teach our children how to be problem solvers instead of being the ones to make problems. Let our people work together.
I dream of owning my own residence; as did my mom. My mom is no longer alive. She died waiting for her opportunity of home ownership.
I believe that I can own my own home if realistic opportunities are made available to me. Do not bring that casino to Hawaii. Provide a platform instead for our people to share and come up with ideas...
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| Message        | I'm against the use of DHHL lands being used to build a casino to assist the States economic road to recovery. DHHL and the State has failed, for decades, in its duties and obligations to place thousands of beneficiaries on lands designated for homesteading for Na Kanaka Maoli.  

But the DHHL and the State covertly plan to build a casino faster then they ever did in helping the Wards of the State and DHHL own beneficiaries.  

Besides, didn't they State object to the rights of Na Kanaka Maoli of ever building casinos if Na Nanaka Maoli achieved indigenous recognition and rights similar to the indigenous rights of the First Nations of the Americas.  

As a Kanaka Maoli and a Nationalist I would reconsider the proposal with reservations and only if certain Na Kanaka Maoli conditions are met for the benefit and welfare for all beneficiaries. |
Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit. As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina.

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All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ‘āina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
I oppose DHHL ‘Casino’ construction in the State of Hawaii. And especially in the area of Kapolei that is being proposed, I oppose!
Aloha mai,
I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit. As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina.
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Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
Dear Sirs,

I object to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to "bring" gambling to our islands. Why create a spending platform for people who can't afford it. Your household budget needs to be manageable. Finances in = Finances out. Why create an industry that will "suck" the life out of others. Some of who are willing to get the gain from someone else, pass the buck. We need to learn how to build, foster, maintain the honorable and worthy values, where we can grow and help each other. Right now people who can are helping others even out of their own pockets. You are trying to take something from others with out building or helping the next person.

My thoughts may not make sense. Please read between the lines. Auwe. Please re-examine your ideas. We are already burdened with the rail.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2020 7:11 AM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:  

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<th>First Name</th>
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Submit Written Testimony  

Message  

Aloha mai,  

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit.  

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ‘āina.  

Mahalo for your consideration.
This is ridiculous and will only bandaid the situation and once again with frowing population overcrowding and limited lands hawaiian homes will continue to be land rich and money poor...and what happens when another world pandemic hits? or God forbid barges stop? Or anything else that limits population from having excess money to spend at a casino/theme park/sports? How will you keep monies flowing!?!? Look at the Native Indians are they healthy as a society? Do they look like a thriving culture with thier thousands of casinos!? No! They have the higest rates of suicide/ obesity/ diabetes/ lowest graduation rate/highest rate unemploymet! You are committing the hawaiian people to this type future if you continue on this path. Do not build and utilize hawaiian home lands for casinos/hotels and theme parks. Invest in money stimulation that is sustainable to outside variables where hawaii can continue to make money without depending on visitors or outside resources!
Aloha mai,

As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. It has already been proven that gambling and casinos lead to an increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from our native lands.

DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ‘āina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
Aloha mai,

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Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
Aloha mai,
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Mahalo for your consideration.
How does this benefit the beneficiaries??
**First Name**
Melva

**Last Name**
Aila

**Message**
I am a homesteader on Oahu and very much concerned with family on the waitlist obtaining a lease. I support the gaming bill because there it is unlikely that the legislature will provide any additional fund for DHHL. Mahalo!
| First Name | Ryan |
| Last Name  | Posiulai |
| Phone      | |
| Email      | |

**Subject**  
Submit Written Testimony

**Message**  
I do not support the building of a casino on Hawaiian Home Lands. My worry is that it will negatively affect our Hawaiian community who have been struggling to survive since 1893. We need more homes, water, farmland for Hawaiians.. not more places to lose money and take us lower.

Aloha
Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ‘āina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
Aloha mai,

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As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina.

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Aloha kākou,

I’m writing in opposition of the proposed Casino in Kapolei. Given the short notice of the proposal and limited amount of time for Native Hawaiians to gather and educate themselves on impacts of a casino within their community is absolutely shameful. There is so much more that needs to be addressed with the beneficiaries to resolve the "historic funding shortfalls" than adding another resort property.

We need more beneficiaries in homes, on land, thriving & growing. This casino culture mentality has potential to further impact Native Hawaiians negatively especially those who have already been displaced on their homeland. Furthermore, not being a Federally recognized people or the genocidal blood quantum imposed by DHHL qualifications continue to set us back.

Think about it.

Mahalo
I oppose building any casinos in Hawaii. Housing first. Stop the games.
**Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W**

**From:** dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2020 9:09 AM  
**To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
**Subject:** HCC Contact:

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**Subject**  
Submit Written Testimony

**Message**

Aloha mai,

As a Successor to a lease on Hawaiian Homelands, Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from our native lands.

DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ‘āina.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Erica Evans
Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
Aloha mai,

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As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
Aloha Kakou

Mahalo for allowing me to voice my opinion here today. We are here today to speak on the proposal for a casino on Hawaiian Homestead Trust Lands in Kapolei. I ask that this proposal be thrown out and no further steps be taken to promote it. This land has undergone many changes. In my lifetime I have seen the changes in environment and behavior. Is this what Hawaii really needs to boost our economy. Cuba during the American Embargo was able to switch it's economy to organic agriculture. Which boosted Cubas economy in unprecedented times allowing growth in their economy. Today Cuba is self sufficient and is the number one in supplying the world with doctor's and medical aid. We must be very careful and think what world do we want to leave for our children. I believe this is a monumental decision. That will impact the hearts and minds of generations to come. What will homelessness look like. Or how will we deal with the surge of alcoholism and rampant drug use. These things no doubt will affect our communities. Let's not forget the thousands of Hawaiian Families still on the waiting list. We all know only one percent has been awarded to recipient's. I know because I too am affected by this. My Great Grandmother was on the list. She was a chieftain stripped of her inheritance and died in the Honolulu Projects waiting on this list. There is so much at stake here and we are not paying attention to what is important. Please I urge you to listen to your constituents. Vote no on the proposal to build casinos and other facilities in the Kapolei region. Again what does your heart tell you. I feel for you and your fiduciary duties. I Francisco Perez as a Kanaka Maoli Hawaiian do not want this Casino and other facilities to be built. Please think about the repercussions and do not allow this to take place. Kapolei is a place of astronomy and science. A place of great history and I do not believe this casino is suitable for Hawaii or Kapolei. Mahalo Piha
Aloha mai,

As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

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DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
Back in 1975 this was the same talk to help the people with creating a Casino on hawaiian home land and the Hawaiians said no! Why! Because it would not be used for us. Now DHHL wants to do this again NO! Unless it’s a different government with only Hawaiians and no state of hawaii. DHHL AND THE Legislative body is the trustee for us and as a beneficiary you need to do what we want not what you want. Every land in hawaii is hawaiian home and that should be considered. Not Corporation interest.
Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

What benefit would a casino on Hawaiian homelands bring to Hawaiians? In my opinion it would be more beneficial to others than Hawaiians. It would also bring a negative impact on Hawaiians such as but not limited to drugs alcohol prostitution and illegal activity. I just turned 26 years old so I’m of this new generation so trust me when I say these things will come if a casino is built. We cannot expose our keiki to this type of lifestyle. We need to expose them to Hawaiian lifestyle and Hawaiian values for the betterment of the Hawaiian people on Hawaiian homelands. I just feel like there’s many more beneficial things we can build on Hawaiian homelands than just a casino. If the government wants a casino they can build it on their “own land” and not Hawaiian homelands where Hawaiian homes need to be built on. It’s a disgrace to our Kupuna who have died waiting on the Hawaiian homes list. I am quarter Hawaiian and my dad to my belief is half Hawaiian who is homeless on the street by choice or consequences I’m not sure but don’t you think if he had a house to go to would it bring more positives to his life than living in a shelter?! Now you tell me how in anyway will a casino be a benefit to my dad or any half blooded Hawaiian in the fake state of Hawaii. Where will the profits of the casino go to? Who will benefit the most from this casino? I guarantee Hawaiians will not see half of the profits from this casino which is HEWA. PLEASE DO NOT LET THIS CASINO GO THROUGH! HAWAIIANS ARE DYING EVERYDAY AND A CASINO WILL NOT BRING JUSTICE OR PEACE TO THE HAWAIIAN RACE.
Aloha mai, 
I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit. As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina. Mahalo for your consideration.
Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ‘āina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit. As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ‘āina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
Shana Renzi
Aloha nui,
I am submitting my written testimony in opposition for the case in which the Department of Hawaiian Homelands is dealing with a proposal to construct a "Gaming Casino", in Kapolei on the homestead lands. The original Hawaiian Homesteads Act was signed on July 9th, 1921 by Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole setting aside 200,000 acres of Hawaiian land for Homesteading Native Hawaiians to ensure the Hawaiian populous had residency to sustain themselves and their families under a rehabilitation process of the Hawaiian race in continuity. Those who have received land awards are considered beneficiaries of this Act. Since 1921, only 9,700 Hawaiian received land while 27,000+ are still on the waitlist, all qualifying for the qualifications. 73% of the total 200,000 acres have actually been developed for homesteads since 1921. Bringing a Gaming Center such as a Casino to a community oriented collective in Kapolei, is not the wisest decision at the time, only being a temporary fix exactly like the rail, adding to the unfulfilled promises already written in governing acts, laws, and letters. Comparative studies to the health and wellness of Native-American reservations in North America with Casinos constructed on them are shown to introduce negative cultures of Pimping, Theft, Crime & Violence, which is the LAST thing Hawai'i needs. With humble respects to your folks desires to come up with more funding, I as a Native-Hawaiian myself, believe there are better and more sustainable solutions rather than introducing a Casino to Hawai'i. Mahalo nui for engaging and understanding my standpoint and for the ability to submit my stance on this matter, with best regards

- Pono Kaua-kane-kaua-kaulia-hekili-o-ka-lani Bailey
Hawaiian Chiefly Heir of Ni'ihau-Kaua'i, O'ahu, Maui, & Hawai'i Bloodlines
Kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands
Aloha, my name is Desiree Pia and I DO NOT approve of a casino of any kind in the state of Hawaii. I think it is a terrible idea considering we are not even federally recognized or have benefits the Native Americans and Alaska Natives have. If we had a casino, where would that money go? How would it benefit Native Hawaiians? In my opinion gambling is a form of addiction, and we do not need anymore substance abuse, poverty, and homelessness of Hawaiians. Hawaiians are literally dying on the Hawaiian homes waitlist as we speak! Hawaiian homes is outdated! There are barely any of our people who are even half Hawaiian nowadays. My dad is 75%, but I’m not half Hawaiian.. we don’t have a homeland for him to pass down.. and what’s the point anyway? I couldn’t pass it down to my kids eventually. I think the percentage needs to be lowered, which is what Prince Kuhio had in mind when he created it, but settled with 50% in order for it to get approved. They did that knowing that eventually the blood would run out and they could take it back. Hawaiians have been displaced off their land for generations and so I think Hawaiian homes should focus on lowering the blood quantum and getting people back onto the land which is rightfully ours! Another point I want to bring up is the unfairness with OHA. OHA was created to deal with Hawaiian affairs.. so why is it that we are not getting 20% of revenue coming from businesses and corporations that are sitting on our crown lands?! Why are we not getting revenue off of telescopes or airports that are leasing the land for $1 a year?! If we had that revenue along with Benefits we could house everyone with Hawaiian blood, give them free medical, and free college! No one really wants to see our people rise up! And why is it that if OHA is for Hawaiians that we are letting anyone.. any resident in the state of Hawaii vote for OHA officials?! It makes no sense! None of the people I voted for made it into office, and it’s probably because all of them were against TMT, want more benefits for Hawaiians and even some have a hope of independence and Hawaiian sovereignty.

I’m sick of politicians and people with deep pockets continuing to buy their way into power and making money off of our land. So once again, it’s a big NO for me for your ridiculous idea to bring a casino here. Leave that for Las Vegas.. we don’t need that corruption here! Especially if we’re not gonna benefit from it as Hawaiians! Don’t give into greed of foreigners and work on getting Hawaiians back on their land!
Aloha mai,
As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL. There should be NO casinos anywhere on any island.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from our native lands. DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit. I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina. Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
Aloha mai,
I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit. As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina. Mahalo for your consideration.
As a native Hawaiian, with my father being of FULL Hawaiian blood and descent, I would like to say how hewa it is that you are all even proposing a casino on Hawaiian homelands. My fathers entire side of the family has died on that list & never once received any land. I have 50% native Hawaiian blood pumping through my veins and I know I too will die on that list and my children after me (if this rate of land ownership continues). It disgusts me to the root of my soul that the department of Hawaiian homelands continues to align themselves with foreign settlers, seeming to forget that the land is our connection to our ancestors, who were almost ANNIHILATED because of these same foreign tendencies. Please, DO NOT DO THIS. Please, switch your focus away from money & contracts and try to remember the reason you were established, to help and support the Hawaiian people. Money comes and goes, but living with the knowledge that you did nothing for to help the Hawaiian people while holding this prestigious position will haunt you for eternity. Reconsider your values. You all on this board know that this is WRONG. Please, keep native lands in native hands.
**Aloha kakou,**

I have been very fortunate to be a homeowner in Hawaii. As a beneficiary who has chosen not to apply for the Hawaiian Home Lands waitlist, I know there are others in our lāhui who are in great need.

As a follower of Indian American and Alaska Native empowerment initiatives, the positive benefits of supporting gaming and resort development goes far beyond what is currently occurring to fulfill Prince Kuhio’s vision.

I would like to add that statistically, (National and International data) gambling has not increased behavioral addiction issues above a 1-2 percent rate. Hawaii has a current unregulated (online gambling) and illegal problem. A Regulated gaming opportunity coupled with a resort industry nexus could enable DHHL to attain greater housing and services goals.

We’ve heard since 1978 how funding has been a primary challenge for DHHL, and any opportunity to increase revenue to benefit those in the waitlist is a good idea.

I strongly support this initiative.

Mahalo for accepting my testimony.

O wau iho no me ke aloha,

Edward J Gomes Jr.
First Name
Kelson

Last Name
Colin

Phone

Email

Subject
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

Message
I think they should legalize it then you can take out 10-20 thousand of dollars to pay for the rail. Hart company is going bankrupt.
Aloha mai,
I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit. As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina. Mahalo for your consideration.
Aloha mai,

As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

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DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ‘āina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
Aloha mai,
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December 18, 2020

William J. Ailā, Jr.
Chairperson
Hawaiian Homes Commission
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

Dear Chairperson Ailā:

On behalf of Global Market Advisors, I want to thank you for the opportunity to submit comments regarding the potential development of an integrated resort in Kapolei. Gaming has long been contemplated and discussed in Hawaii, and any authorization of a limited casino needs thoughtful consideration as you proceed forward.

Any movement toward a potential integrated resort would involve enacting long-term gaming policy in the State of Hawaii. As you consider this item on your agenda on Monday, December 21st, it is essential to evaluate the potential impact of current and future gaming offerings in the state in terms of economic output, social implications, and regulatory structure.

Integrated resorts have proven to be economic engines using gaming as the driver for these types of development. The key to the success of an IR is in sound gaming policy to set the standard for the long term. It should not be viewed as a quick fix to solve a budget crisis or to fill a niche. Crafting sound policy and regulation is essential to the long-term success of a market and to allow the proper level of competition that prevents one form of legal gaming from cannibalizing another. Global Market Advisors has worked in jurisdictions throughout the United States and around the world. There are countless examples of both good and less-than-desired markets that attempted to allow gaming. We have also studied the impact that gaming can have as a tourism generator. We have confidence that Hawaii will take a prudent approach to crafting any expansion.

As you evaluate the long-term policy goals, it is important to understand the positive impacts that gaming can have on a community, as well as mitigating any potential negative effects. The committee’s actions are the first step in what may be a lengthy process for legislative action. It is important to take a thorough evaluation of the opportunity to guide the process moving forward, relying on experts that specialize in the sector. We invite you to review the following brief considerations that can provide further understanding of the opportunity:
Economics, Feasibility, and Legislation

Any new gaming jurisdiction should take a realistic approach in studying the market so that any projections used for budgetary planning purposes will take into account the full legal gaming market while understanding the opportunity. This should include a comprehensive study to look at the prospects of casino, lottery, sports betting, the illegal market, and other forms of gaming in various scenarios to see the economic and social impacts on businesses, communities, and the state. While today’s proposal only considers a stand-alone integrated resort, there may be other items to consider that would generate additional revenue to local communities and the state, or could potentially impact the proposed development. Having a clear understanding of these impacts will position the market for growth and attract quality development into the market.

Regulations and Standards

Integrity, first and foremost, exists in the laws and regulations that are paramount to any gaming market. Stakeholders need to know that gaming regulations and standards do not need to be reinvented. Multiple states and jurisdictions have already gone through this process and offer a solid foundation to draft regulations based on the legislative language and intent. Consumers need to be assured that, in a strict regulatory environment, the games are being held to the highest standards and integrity, whereas illegal and offshore markets do not have to follow these rules or standards. By adopting regulations and standards that allow for a level playing field, jurisdictions can be assured that they are offering a quality product while relying on best practices that have been demonstrated in other jurisdictions.

As your committee considers legalizing an integrated resort, it can glean best practices from other markets to create the ideal model for Hawaii and attract the best operators to the market. This is best accomplished through sound policy. Legal operators that have licenses in other jurisdictions invest millions of dollars in infrastructure, operations, employment, and marketing into a market. These organizations have already passed suitability and are licensed to conduct gaming today. Whether it is an operator, a supplier, or anyone else assisting with the operations of a market, they need to be held to the same high standard that is expect in other major markets. They should also exhibit a solid track record, in order to avoid errors that have occurred in other jurisdictions.

Consumer Protections

Finally, consumer protections are the cornerstone of any strict regulatory environment. This includes ensuring that operators maintain key aspects of the Know Your Customer standard, as well as safeguards to ensure that customers are old enough to gamble, that they are able to fund their accounts, that they have not violated any anti-money laundering or other banking regulations, and that they are not on any watch lists. Technology greatly aids this process, allowing the operator to compare new customer data against existing databases in real time to ensure compliance.

Responsible gaming measures are another cornerstone of any consumer protection offering. At a minimum, this should include the ability for individuals to seek help for themselves or others who may develop a problem with gaming. In many jurisdictions, this also includes self-exclusion policies, which enable individuals to exclude themselves from gaming and opt out of receiving gaming promotions. Technology greatly aids this effort as well for self-exclusion and educational tools. Responsible operators will enlist robust programs to assist those that may develop a problem. Research is also a key component that should be considered. This includes establishing best practices, making sure that measures are effective, and delivering resources that are appropriate to the unique characteristics of the market. Groups like the National Council on Problem Gambling, private entities that specialize in the area, and academic institutions can serve as solid resources.

The opportunity for Hawaii to introduce an integrated resort can enhance and expand the tourism and entertainment offering within the state, using gaming as an economic catalyst. It is our hope that with a positive vote today, the Legislature will study the opportunity for integrated resorts and other potential forms of gaming that are currently prevalent in United States. Any new gaming jurisdiction, first and foremost, should understand the economics and the actual revenue potential of the market, as well as the social impacts. In turn, this will lead to the crafting of strict regulations that build upon your existing standards, protect consumers, and create an environment to enhance tourism. If done correctly, the State of Hawaii, its residents, and its visitors will benefit from the experience and environment that is created. Global Market Advisors stands ready to assist in that effort.

Sincerely,

Brendan Bussmann
Partner, Director of Government Affairs
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| **Message**   | Please do not move forward with legalized gambling on Hawai’ian Homelands. I am a psychiatric and addictions nurse practitioner who has served the Big Island for 21 years and have extensive knowledge of what harm this will invite into our communities, particularly our Pacific Islanders and Native Hawaiians. There are many ways to raise income that do not include bringing more vice and human trafficking to Hawai’i. I remain in your Service.  

O au me ka ha’a ha’a (I am humbly yours),  

Elizabeth Bush, MSN, APRN, CARN-AP, CSAC, CCDP-D  
Board Certified Psychiatric Advanced Practice Nurse (NP and CNS)  
Certified Addiction Registered Nurse, Advanced Practice  
Certified Substance Abuse Counselor  
Certified Co-Occurring Disorder Professional-Diplomate (retired)  

http://addictionsprofessional.com
This illegal casino that is being planned by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is HEWA! How long have we as native Hawaiians been waiting to receive land from this department? Way too long! Generations of Hawaiians have been waiting to get approved from this list and now all of a sudden DHHL can propose to build a casino, just to benefit their own pockets?! How do you all of a sudden have land available, and not gonna use it to help our people? This department is and has always been corrupted. A change needs to be made! Mahalo!
Aloha mai,

As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL. As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from our native lands.

DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit. I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻaina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
I think the proposed Casino on DHHLs could result in an increase in both money to the community and jobs as well. The money gained from the casinos could be put towards more homes and improvements to the community.
To the Hawaiian Homes Commissioners;

I am against DHHL's proposal to put a gambling casino on its properties.

The social cost would be appalling. This would not be a cure to anyone's problems but an absolute poison.

This activity is outside the scope of DHHL'S mission to help Hawaiians. Furthermore, Prince Kuhio was not in favor of the 50% blood quantum. His mission was for all Hawaiian families to live well and on the aina.

It would sadden him to see families being torn apart because of gambling habits and the problems that this vice would bring about.

Scrap this idea for a better plan!

Mahalo,

H. Holt-Hansen
**From:** dhhl.icr1@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2020 1:56 PM  
**To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
**Subject:** HCC Contact:

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**Message**

_Aloha mai,_

As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

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All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.

Nohelani Milbourne
12/18/2020
Testimony to “NOT” allow a Casino to be built and operated on Hawaiian Homes Land to acquire funding for building homes for people on the Hawaiian Homes list.
Real problem is the State of Hawaii has not held itself accountable for failing to meet and provide for the housing demand and quality of life of the Hawaiians on the DHHL.
Let the record show as Response and Testimony to a proposal to use Hawaiian Homes land for a that as a Hawaiian I/we DO NOT approve or support any idea, proposal, planning, or claim of or for building a Casino of any type on Hawaiian Homes Land. Ideas of grandeur of having a casino generating funds for building and maintaining homes for Hawaiians on the Department of Hawaiian Homes Land (DHHL) list is narrow sighted and foolish given that DHHL is under the State of Hawaii as a Department and cannot affect what the State will do with any monies or compensation generated by the casino operation in any form for the beneficiaries of Hawaiian homes land.
Until the project is completely prepared, planned, executed, and maintained by beneficiaries (including those who are on the list but do not have a home) and institutions overseen by beneficiaries any proposal of this kind is a violation of trust and is not set for the actual purpose to completely support Hawaiians on the Hawaiian homes list.

With respect,
Sonny W. Del Toro
Aloha mai,

As a Kanaka Maoli that deeply cares about the longevity, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from our native lands.

DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.

Sarina Haug
Testimony to “NOT” allow a Casino to be built and operated on Hawaiian Homes Land to acquire funding for building homes for people on the Hawaiian Homes list. Real problem is the State of Hawaii has not held itself accountable for failing to meet and provide for the housing demand and quality of life of the Hawaiians on the DHHL. Let the record show as Response and Testimony to a proposal to use Hawaiian Homes land for a that as a Hawaiian I/we DO NOT approve or support any idea, proposal, planning, or claim of or for building a Casino of any type on Hawaiian Homes Land. I think it is a far-fetched idea to think that the beneficiaries will have to go through the same process of waiting on the list until the Idea of a Casino’s profit will pay for homes being built on hawaiian homes land (for them) to generate the cash to pay for, how many homes? It does not solve the problem of those who are on the list waiting to get an award. This process does not improve or move it any faster, except for the State to use the land again to make profit using the Hawaiian’s again. In essence the Hawaiians will be paying for their own house when they gamble. The false idea is that it will be “free”, and they will not have to pay for it. A better proposal would have been to build a Hawaiian Immersion school on that land for the community or a library or a culture center, even a hospital or clinic. I mean if we are going to give the land away, lets give it to ourselves. Until we have beneficiary input and can ask questions to a physical body of people, this plan should not even be proposed. Beneficiaries should not be shouldering the burden of the States poor management of funds and their failed housing demands or failure to improve the quality of life for the Hawaiian. 200,000 acres of land is what is at stake here, and that land belongs to the beneficiaries, not the State. 

Sincerely,

Rachel Del Toro
Friday, December 18, 2020

To: Hawaiian Homes Commission  
From: Kali Watson, President & CEO  
Re: Revenue Production through Gambling and Other Business Enterprises

Dear Chairman Aila and Members of the Hawaiian Homes Commission,

I submit this testimony in support of DHHL’s new initiative to generate critically needed funding for it’s many programs. The proposal suggests a Kapolei mixed-use resort development on DHHL lands that may include casino gambling, golf course, aquariums, theme parks, sporting events and convention facilities.

While DHHL Chairman, I had the opportunities to visit many Indian and Maori gaming facilities throughout the mainland and in New Zealand. I can say with certainty that these revenue producing enterprises were and continue to be instrumental in helping these indigenous groups move forward in many respects both economically, socially, culturally and in health. This is not a new concept. While previously considered by the Hawaii legislature and rejected, the concept has actually been tried and been very successful all over the world in helping many indigenous groups prosper. With only two states in the United States without gambling, it’s time for Hawaii to join the majority. But to do it in a way that truly helps its indigenous people, by allowing DHHL to use it’s vacant land in Kapolei in a more productive manner. It’s time to think outside the box and look to creative approaches. Past approached have not worked.

The proposed legislation is well-written, well thought out and provides many safeguards including a Hawaii gaming commission and legislative oversight. But more importantly, it provides $50,000,000 in private funding and solicits needed private expertise working with the Department to make the project a reality, which are all necessary. It will clearly provide significant mixed business development, along with many business opportunities and jobs for native Hawaiians. But most important, it will provide critical funding for DHHL programs. With over 28,000 people on the waiting lists, and a third of our homeless being Hawaiians, it’s time to get serious about real, and viable funding sources. The State, which has a fiduciary duty to native Hawaiians and the DHHL program under our State constitution, has failed miserably to move the program forward, especially as to it’s biggest need – affordable housing for its beneficiaries. In the past, and more so in these pandemic times, the State has not and will not be able to provide sufficient funding to truly make a difference in significantly reducing DHHL’s waiting lists. Even with Act 14 and it’s $600 million settlement, it made only a small dent in the waiting lists that continue to grow even more so. And Act 14 has come to an end and future funding looks bleak. So, rather than relying and hoping for legislative funding, let DHHL generate it’s own private funding through this tested and successful approach. Support this DHHL initiative. Only then can it effectively develop more of its over 200,000 acres throughout the State for needed housing, farming and pastoral uses by DHHL beneficiaries.

Kali Watson  
President & CEO  
Hawaiian Homes Community Development
Hawaii is strategically located within the middle of the Pacific, which is both good and bad. While tourism has been one of the primary economic engines for the state, it’s continued viability and attractiveness to tourists are uncertain. With newer jets that can now easily fly past Hawaii, and more attractive and less costly tourist destinations being developed, the beauty and uniqueness of Hawaii can only go so far. Gambling is a definite draw for many mainlanders, Japanese and Chinese tourists. Let’s take advantage of this, especially when it may generate substantial funding for DHHL and the State.

At a minimum, please continue the discussion by authorizing the submission of this proposed legislation to the Governor to include in his administrative legislative package for further consideration by DHHL beneficiaries, the legislature and the public. And as a Commissioner, you may each arguably owe it to the beneficiaries to facilitate the serious consideration and debate of any and all approaches that may help the program. This approach if successful will definitely fund various programs. Even if you disagree with gambling, to stop the discussion at this early stage may not be appropriate. If done right, the Kapolei mixed-use resort development on DHHL lands will definitely be a good thing for the program.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kali Watson
President/CEO
Aloha mai,  
I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit. As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina. Mahalo for your consideration.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2020 2:24 PM
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W
Subject: HCC Contact:

First Name
Molly

Last Name
Yoon

Email

Subject
Submit Written Testimony

Message
I OPPOSE any casino built on DHHL lands or any land for that matter. Please stop the project at Hawaiian Homelands Kapolei. The casino is an excuse to commission more money and to bring in more tourism. This is not to benefit the Hawaiian communities.

This project needs to be stopped. This is not how money should be commissioned or spent to better the community. Please reconsider and think about the true consequences for the local and Indigenous communities that building this casino would cause.
Kia Ora,

As an Indigenous Māori of Aotearoa New Zealand resonating with the trials of Native land issues dealt with by Kānaka ʻōiwi, and wishing to offer support to the kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from their native lands.

DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing them and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.

Ngā mihi nui for your time and consideration.
Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
Aloha mai,

As an ally of the Kanaka Maoli and residents of Hawai'i that deeply care about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai'i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

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Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
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December 22, 2020

State of Hawaii  
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands  
Hawaiian Homes Commission Meeting  
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway  
Kapolei, Hawaii

Dear Commission Chair,

As a Hawaiian, I simply and emphatically oppose all legislation related to the construction of a gambling facility on Hawaiian Home Lands to generate revenue for the State of Hawaii.

How dare, the Hawaiian Home Lands Commission and the State of Hawaii hold Hawaiians hostage to generate revenue for the State when the very purpose of the Commission has been negligent in carrying out its mission to the Hawaiian people?

The Commission and its leadership should be ashamed of proposing a solution to the State’s expected revenue shortfall that will be detrimental to the culture and lifestyle of Hawaii’s people?

Again, I join my fellow Hawaiians in opposing the casino gambling legislation under consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Stivers-Apiki  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Concerning a gaming casino being built on Hawaiian Homelands. I oppose to lands being used for a casino. Land should be used for homes to house families.
I am strongly in favor of a casino on DHHL lands. More discussion of where, how and use of funds appropriation. I am willing and able to be a part of this conversation.
If you would just give the Kingdom back, you needn't worry about the economy. Do not put a casino on homestead lands, put Kanaka Maoli and homes for them on their own lands, do your job with integrity, not hewa, break that cycle. Having experienced casinos in my tribe, they are hewa. Past behavior shows that American government cannot keep their word. Kanaka Maoli could be flourishing off of their own land. The invite to a casino is predatory and encourages theft, drugs and death. Breathe life and put our economy in farming, you are killing so many people with your insane ideas and greed.
Aloha mai kākou,

I am submitting testimony on the subject of the legislative proposal to authorize limited casino gaming in the form of a single integrated property in Kapolei, Island of O‘ahu on Hawaiian Home Lands designated for commercial use. I am a Hawaiian Historian, and current Chair of Indigenous Studies at McGill University.

I am not in favor of the proposal because it has not been shaped by the "beneficiaries" of Hawaiian Home Lands. To my knowledge, there was no notice given to current beneficiaries, nor those currently on waiting lists about what would be the best use of Hawaiian lands, or if a casino would be something that Hawaiian people want on the ‘āina.

In my studies of early nineteenth century Hawai‘i and the constitutional period, I document how the introduction of written and published laws transformed social relations in Hawaiian society. While in the short-term people today are searching for solutions to an economic crisis exacerbated by the COVID-19 epidemic, it seems that some are not considering the long-term effects of how "solutions" like a casino will further transform the lives of Hawaiian people for generations, their relationships to one another in community, the actual constitution of what community is, power dynamics and authority, education, economics, and finally our still enduring fraught relations to ʻāina.

1. Granting the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (“DHHL”) the power to introduce such a bill and the oversight of a casino casts this state agency as a potentially sovereign entity, capable of "representing" all Hawaiian people, which is not the case, since it’s primary objective is to ensure that “Native Hawaiians,” those with 25-50% *verifiable* blood quantum are the population who fall under their federal mandate. If you look at social media buzz, news outlets, the misconception that Hawaiians will be like Indians on reservation with their casinos is already in full force. DHHL is not a the “reservation” or “reserve” for all Hawaiians, it is not a sovereign entity, it does not represent the lāhui.

2. DHHL is not a sovereign entity that represents all Hawaiian people----it in fact only benefits those who are on waiting lists, and those currently on DHHL lands. Granting this casino further divides our community into those who “have” proof of blood quantum and those who “have-not.” The model by which those Hawaiians who benefit from DHHL is not self-determinative, rather, it has been imposed from without. It grants the guise of political power to an agency whose American imposed ideas of “belonging” to community will in effect leave a majority of Hawaiians by moʻokuʻauhau out of consideration. The effect of this will be to set up greater future contests between Hawaiians over dwindling resources.

3. The fact that tourism shut down during the pandemic seems to have been lost on the writers of this proposal. Many of the negative effects of selling Hawai‘i as “paradise” have fallen unevenly upon the shoulders of Hawaiian people for generations. Tourism has made itself on the appropriation of Hawaiian language and culture, and created a shadowy figment that stands in place of the ’ike of our kūpuna and Hawaiian people today. These appropriations are not victimless; the trauma of constantly selling “aloha” as Hawai‘i’s brand has been detrimental to the self concept of generations of Hawaiian people. Most people feel powerless in the face of these appropriations and internalize feelings of impotency to change the status quo. Why should DHHL, seeking to build homes in Hawai‘i for a subset of Hawaiian people, contribute further to the poisonous appropriation of our culture and language? Why should they imagine that Hawaiian school-aged people should be recruited in an industry that will
force them to “play Hawaiian” as a vocation? Surely the pandemic illustrated that what Hawai‘i’s people need is an alternative to tourism and militarism. That what we need to do with land is house people and feed them—not build a casino, which will be shutdown during the next pandemic, and further bleed people of much needed income during hard economic times.

4. Going “all in” on a casino illustrates a marked failure on the part of DHHL regarding the long term effects of a casino as part of the much lauded tourism industry. Tourism has an already too large environmental footprint, when considered with five star luxury condos for the wealthy global transient population, time shares, and golf courses, in aggregate when added to the massive military footprint— these all contribute to driving up the cost of housing. In seeking to house a subset of Hawaiian people, DHHL’s casino plan, will in the long term, exacerbate the houseless problem in more ways than one.

5. The proposal seeks to circumvent attitudinal barriers to gaming in the State of Hawai‘i by asking for the creation of a Hawai‘i Gaming Commission under the guise of DHHL, and “Hawaiian” control. The introduction of gaming to the Islands will now be accomplished by people representing this “Hawaiian” agency, yet it need only have ONE native Hawaiian member. So, while having the outward appearance of being under Hawaiian management, it is in fact only marginally run by Hawaiian leaders. As a historian, I am often asked by people, “Why did Hawaiians have a Māhele? Why did Hawaiians adopt all the foreign advisers into the government in the 1840s? Clearly, these administrators want to be the punchline to the question. “Why did Hawaiians support building a casino in the 2020s? I have more to this point that I am not able to elaborate upon at this time, since this testimony is due, and I had only very little notice to compose a response.

6. Finally I write to say that I believe that Hawaiian youth should be offered more to do with their lives than work in the proposed resort. The idea that part of the “benefit” and your benevolence is that the holders of the gaming license will agree to “train native Hawaiians as defined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act for jobs that are available at the integrated resort,” illustrates an profound lack of vision and care for the Hawaiian community. Further to this point the foreign applicant to this plan will “create partnerships with the University of Hawai‘i and existing educational institutions for training native Hawaiians as defined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act for jobs, including management positions, etc.,” is truly disheartening. As an Associate Professor of Hawaiian History at the University of Hawai‘i, and now as Chair of Indigenous Studies at McGill, where it is my job to ensure that the students are trained to their highest capacity, I see that your plan for the indigenous future is more of the same. On an ironic note, the myth of quantum which bequeaths “authentic” native kūlana to people in community—through the casino will be its undoing.

In seeking after mana through the building of a casino this proposal illustrates a lack of vision for the future of Kanaka Maoli people and our lāhui. I ola ka ‘āina, ola ke kānaka, When the land thrives, the people live. In what way does this use of ‘āina ensure the life of the people?

‘O au me ka ‘o ia ‘i‘o,
Noelani Arista
Associate Professor, History and Classics,
Chair of Indigenous Studies
McGill University.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2020 4:28 PM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Kapua</th>
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<tr>
<td>Last Name</td>
<td>Keliikoa-Kamai</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Submit Written Testimony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>Aloha HHC’s, I support the financial intent of item II. C-1 Approval of Legislative Proposal to Authorize Limited Casino Gaming.... to further the discussion of this item ONLY. This item needs to be thoroughly vetted by the HHCA beneficiaries before proceeding thru the 2021 Legislative Session. I support this item to engage in Beneficiary Consultation throughout the various communities and islands. Mahalo. Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai Wai’anae Valley Homestead Lessee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Aloha kakou,
I'm Meleana and this is my first time submitting DHHL testimony. My testimony is on the Gaming Casino in Kapolei. I'm not sure if I support or oppose it because this is the first time I've heard of it. I'm on the waitlist and I didn't get any information. So please, provide more info so I can tell you yes or no.

Me ke aloha,
Meleana Kamai
Wai‘anae Valley Homestead Resident, Future Successor or Lessee
DHHL should be putting Kānaka on Their Lands instead of continuing to Waste Precious Beneficiary Owned Lands and Resources on any more of these type of Illegal and Corrupt Money Making Projects and Ventures. NO to any Casino or Gambling run by DHHL. That would be seriously more detrimental to Beneficiaries than helpful. Do The Pono Thing ...Start Fulfilling Your Real Kuleana...Put Hawaiians on Hawaiian Lands.
**First Name**
April

**Last Name**
Lopes

**Phone**

**Email**

**Subject**
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

**Message**
The property should be for homes to be built on, NOT for a casino. The home should be built so the people that have been waiting forever have something they have been waiting for a long time. With the thought of having casino does it make it legal to gamble in the state of Hawai’i.
First Name  
Lauren  

Last Name  
Goodley  

Phone  

Email  

Submit Written Testimony  

Message  

Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
First Name
Kaleo

Last Name
Keliikoa

Phone

Email

Subject
Submit Written Testimony

Message
I Kaleo Keliikoa an aboriginal Hawaiian with 100,000,000,000,000% Hawaiian blood oppose & is 100% against this proposal to build a casino on DHHL lands. If your fake state Hawaiʻi government is that desperate to build a casino in Hawaiʻi to make money, I recomend they build it on the old Aloha Stadium property or inside the Trump Hotel in Waikīkī. Because if this goes through, I going make one casino & chicken fight rink on my DHHL lot too & I know others who will also do the same as me.
As a Kanaka Maoli, Native Hawaiian female on the WAITLIST and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

I stand in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL! Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, will not be immune to the imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

I stand in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL! Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from our native lands.

I stand in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL! DHHL is overstepping from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I stand in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL! I implore the commission to address the inability to manage financials and funding shortfalls. Do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL was meant to malama.

I stand in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL! Building a casino on Hawaiian land is HEWA, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.

With the strength of my Ancestors behind me, I stand in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL!

Mahalo ~kalei
**Message**

Aloha. It is abhorrent that DHHL would think to build a casino on DHHL land. It betrays the stated purpose of the program. The federal government and territory committed to placing kanaka maoli back on ancestral lands from which they were displaced. The fact that housing and its needed infrastructure would cost money should have been an obvious foregone conclusion. When both the federal and state governments act like they struggle to house kanaka maoli through this program due to financial issues, yet they can lease lands for $1 a year and work with developers to repurpose lands for non-kanaka maoli, then they show that they have no intention to honor the desire of Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaole to help his people. It is nothing more than disingenuous excuse making. This casino would only serve to enrich the political insiders and the construction industry at the expense of the kanaka maoli these same insiders claim it will help. The waiting list is still thousands long. People are still dying on that list with no land award. No other pet project has helped alleviate the backlog. This is all just shibai.
**Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From:</th>
<th><a href="mailto:dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov">dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>Sent:</td>
<td>Friday, December 18, 2020 8:19 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>To:</td>
<td>Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject:</td>
<td>HCC Contact:</td>
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<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Karen</th>
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<td>Last Name</td>
<td>Martin</td>
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<td>Phone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Message**

Aloha, I am Karen Martin and I am a kanaka ma’oli. Refer to the letter sent to Ige dated November 10, 2020 from National Lawyers Guild. Violated the 1920 commissions act which is one of the conditions of statehood. Our people need homesteads not a casino to bring in revenues for kanaka? Every entity operating in Hawaii should be giving a percentage of their earnings to us instead of it going into pockets. UHM HNL and military bases on crown lands should be paying fair market value for their leases.

STOP EXPLOITING KANAKA TO MAKE MONEY!!! WE KNOW THE REVENUES FROM THIS CASINO IS NOT GOING TO THE PEOPLE. ITS BEEN 128 YEARS OF KANAKA GETTING THE SHORT END OF THE STICK. WE ARE AWAKE TO YOUR CORRUPTION AND FAKE ANNEXATION (YET TO SEE THAT TREATY).

You guys are being monitored internationally and nationally but keep playing dumb. It's coming down to the wire and when that day happens I’m going to be watching it unfold over the television with a bowl of popcorn. All you war criminals will be exposed number one up first is Aila.

MAHALO AND MAY KE AKUA BE LENIENT ON YOU ALL FOR JUDGEMENT IS NEARING. I AM OPPOSED TO THIS CASINO.
Aloha mai,

As a lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from native lands.

DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
No casinos in Hawaii! More affordable housing prioritizing native Hawaiian ancestry.
DHHL should be putting Kānaka on Their Lands instead of continuing to Waste Precious Beneficiary Owned Lands and Resources on any more of these type of Illegal and Corrupt Money Making Projects and Ventures. NO to any Casino or Gambling run by DHHL. That would be seriously more detrimental to Beneficiaries than helpful Do The Pono Thing ...Start Fulfilling Your Real Kuleana...Put Hawaiians on Hawaiian Lands

It is appalling to continuously watch as DHHL lands continue to be used for business tan for and by non Hawaiians when Hawaiians are subjected to a 50% Hawaiian blood quantum to qualify to be on out own lands. Make it make sense for those of us wondering how a 100% haole can lease lands but our own kanaka can’t?
Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
**Message**

Aloha mai,

As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL. As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families. Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from our native lands.

DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.

***************************************************************************
**Aloha,**

Our lands are sacred and needed for more important issues like affordable housing.
Aloha... As a beneficiary on the DHHL waitlist as of 1985 to this present day 2020 we deserve to be put on the land's that DHHL control. These land's are for us Kanaka to live on not to build a commercial game rooms for the public. If you think this will help the economy think again it will not benefit us Kanaka it will benefit the State.
Aloha. my name is Guy Kaleomalanaikalani Holt. ive been waiting since 1976 to get my hale for me and my Ohana. its a shame my Tutu died waiting and now i hear you would rather gamble instead of doing what is right. its a sad day in Hawaii when things like this keeps happening. help out dis Ali'i Nui and Kahuna nui Get his hale please
Aloha,

In reference to the latest news ‘DHHL Casino’ by the Fiduciaries of our lands.

Have you forgotten the back rents on AIRPORTS, HARBORS, low-rent for UH (who charges high-end rates to its tenants). Many families are facing eviction in their home land.

There’s La‘iopua Rent to Option to Purchase. A set-up for Kanaka to help pay for this project and after 15-years purchase without the financial credit of rents paid into their home land. Who’s going to gain from this set-up? Who’s going to qualify for this set-up?

STOP BY THE BULLYING, A’OLE CASINO, A’OLE TMT, A’OLE RAIL and EVICT THOSE TENANTS WHO HASN’T PAID FOR OCCUPYING THE A‘INA UNDER AIRPORTS, HARBORS AND ON THE MAUNA.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Saturday, December 19, 2020 6:55 AM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

| First Name | Kiniom Wahinealiʻi |
| Last Name | Carroll |
| Phone | Email |
| Subject | To a Hawaiian Homes Commissioner |

**Message**

Aloha,

NOV 10, 2020: The National Lawyers Guild (NLG), the oldest and largest progressive bar association in the United States, with 70 chapters and more than 6,000 members, calls upon the State of Hawai‘i and “gov” Ige to comply and implement international law in the U.S.-occupied Hawaiian Kingdom.

“November 10, 2020 letter to Governor David Ige of the Fake State of Hawai‘i the National Lawyers Guild calls “upon the State of Hawai‘i and its County governments, as United States’ proxy, which is in effective control of Hawaiian territory, to immediately comply with international humanitarian law while the United States continues its prolonged and illegal occupation of the Hawaiian Kingdom since 1893.”

We the Kānaka Maoli and Kānaka ‘Oiwi do not give consent and do not approve of casinos. This is a way for the U.S. occupied government to rob us of our lands and money. Gambling only makes people more poor. I demand as a Hawaiian with rights in my ʻāina that you do not build casinos in Hawai‘i. I have First Nations cousins in North America who have casinos on there reservation. The U.S. governments most funded department is the department of defense the military. The least funded department is Native American Affairs. The First Peoples, the lawful Nations of the Native American people are underfunded and neglected on their homeland. When they want to build businesses, hospitals, schools and housing they cant without congress approval. Congress usually doesnt provide the funding for these basic human rights needs but they spend money to build casinos in the reservations. Tell me how this is humane and pono? We will stand in solidarity with our First Nations ʻohana and will not allow casinos on our ʻāina.

A hui hou,

Wahinealiʻi
Gambling on Hawaiian home lands is a terrible idea. Protect the wellbeing of beneficiaries and our state by avoiding this social scourge that will only increase rampant, disrespectful tourism that has already exceeded carrying capacity. Please find other ways to support Native Hawaiians.
I am in 100% OPPOSITION of DHHL building or even considering a Casino on Hawaiian Lands. My mother and many others have been waiting on that list for over 50 years, and the land should go to Hawaiians for homes and no for anything like a casino. Furthermore, our community is already struggling with addictions to drugs and alcohol, we definitely dont need to add gambling addictions into it. Our Hawaiian Families need to be given opportunities to foster safe homes and love to our Keiki, not leave them home while going to gamble. You think it will bring in money, but only by taking it away from our community. I have been to casinos on Native American Reservations, I have met people who live in the reservations and I have heard their voice on how though it brings it money, it also brings hardships, addiction and violence because of it. Please, Build Homes, Not Casinos!
Please do not build a casino. We need more housing and to honor those who have been waiting for housing. It will also create addictions and be detrimental to many families.
I oppose the Department of Hawaiian Homes Lands (DHHL) developing a casino in Kapolei. DHHL is already underfunded and under performed in fulfilling its mission. The beneficiaries of DHHL need to be foremost to DHHL. Not some side project that will detract from DHHL's ability to perform. I urge the commission to reject this ill-conceived casino project in Kapolei.
Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious āina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Teri</th>
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<tr>
<td>Last Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>We need more homestead homes not a casino. We should no further deepen our dependency on tourism. Too many native Hawaiian people have passed before even getting a home. In addition, make the home more affordable for native Hawaiian.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
First Name  
Audrey

Last Name  
Brito

Phone

Email

Subject
To Commission Chair Aila

Message
Aila, HEWA HEWA. HOW DO YOU LIVE WITH YOURSELF.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Saturday, December 19, 2020 6:51 PM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Karl</th>
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**Subject**  
Submit Written Testimony

**Message**  
This message is for the DHHL and the casino. We dont need a casino here on the island. Keep your crap off our aina. You greedy asses need to stop being greedy and think about the people. We font need that shit here. We already dealing with the rail and with idiots committing crimes here. Fix the problems we already have here instead of creating more just out of greed. We kanakas dont need that crap casinos here and that's a fact.
Please do not build a casino. Locals will suffer with more debt, addiction, and other issues that will hurt our communities. Casinos across the country on native lands have not brought prosperity or liberation to those communities. Build decent homes for Hawaiians first. Casinos will cause more social issues in the long run. If you need money, tax all the rich millionaires and billionaires that live here.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, December 19, 2020 7:42 PM
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W
Subject: HCC Contact:

First Name
Paula

Last Name
Alcain

Phone

Email

Subject
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

Message
No Casino in Hawaii Nei
First Name | David
---|---
Last Name | Baca
Phone
Email
Subject | Submit Written Testimony
Message | I SAY NO TO CASINO'S. PLEASE FOCUS ON HOUSING OUR PEOPLE AND PROTECTING US AND ALL THAT WE STAND FOR AS TRUE KANAKA OF THIS LAND.
Building a casino on DHHL land is a bad idea. Don’t let this happen.

Mahalo
First Name
Henry

Last Name
Lacson

Phone

Email

Subject
To a Hawaiian Homes Commissioner

Message
Need HOMES NOW , NOT CASINO..!
NO , NO CASINO HERE IN HAWAII NEI..!!
We object to casinos in Hawaii for obvious reasons. Hemp is a better industry than gambling. Gambling will bring more crimes and addiction and undesirable attributes that gambling brings. There are better ways to make money than destroying the moral compass of Hawaii’s people. Potential paradise will not survive this industry. Money is not a good exchange for gambling. Just Lottery is better than casino and legalized gambling. Quite a Horrid idea.
DHHL commissioners,
I am outraged and I am strongly opposed to your plans to build a casino in the state of Hawai‘i. This is irresponsible to your duties!
You all are responsible to help Native Hawaiians. Not building casinos for tourists! There are 40,000 Native Hawaiians who have been waiting for numerous decades since they first applied with DHHL to award them land awards! To date, over 40,000 have died waiting on the list for their land awards.
There's no excuse for these atrocities!
And to add insult to injury DHHL plans to build a casino! This is so wrong on so many levels!
NO TO CASINOS IN HAWAI'I!!!!!
Dana Keawe
No! Hawai‘i has so much corruption already. You cannot seriously want to invite more. No!
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<td>Submit Written Testimony</td>
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</table>
| Message       | Location issue: West Oahu, Kapolei doesn't have the infrastructure to accommodate the amount of added vehicles to our daily jammed packed traffic. Waianae is already heavily affected with local traffic to add to it would be insane as we're already held hostage on a daily basis night and day.  
If DHHL has no money who's fronting this Casino build?  
How much profit/percentage will DHHL be receiving and in turn how will that affect the turn around to the waitlisters?  
Doesn't DHHL lease land to solar farms, yet we haven't seen a change to the wait list?! |
From: dhhl.cro1@hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, December 20, 2020 3:01 AM
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W
Subject: HCC Contact:

First Name
Loretta

Last Name
Allen

Phone

Email

Subject
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

Message
No to casinos on HHL~ If this is allowed, it is a sliding slope to more gambling in Hawaii. This will also bring added crime with it. Don't we have MORE than enough of that now?
The Board will meet Dec 22 to attempt an illegal action.
1. Gambling is illegal in Hawaii.
2. No public notice until the Agenda item CASINO was recommended to vote yes.
3. Hours of work by Board and Staff without ANY public review.
4. Violation of Sunshine Law.
5. Not finding and placing Hawaiians in homes, but looking to do illegal casino.
I CALL FOR A COMPLETE URGENT INVESTIGATION OF THE BOARD AND STAFF AND THOSE INVOLVED WITH CASINO.
NO ALOHA!
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<th>First Name</th>
<th>Russlyn</th>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Submit Written Testimony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>I am against casinos in Hawai'i.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Name</td>
<td>Jasmine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Name</td>
<td>Jordan</td>
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<td>Subject</td>
<td>Submit Written Testimony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>We do not want the casinos! Please save our land.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
First Name
Lynette

Last Name
Kaopuiki

Email

Subject
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

Message
Absolutely NO gambling casino's!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>First Name</strong></th>
<th>Tanya</th>
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<td><strong>Last Name</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Phone</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Email</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subject</strong></td>
<td>To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Message</strong></td>
<td>No casinos in Hawaii on Hawaiian land. Casinos have destroyed the Native Indigenous people on the mainland in the continental US.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I oppose the building of a casino. This is a misuse of monies and will not benefit the community at large. There are other productive means to invest land or funds in support of the future generations. My confidence in the DHHL waivers when projects like this is suggested, the focus is not of the betterment of the people but of financial gain for a few. Disappointed!
I am writing in STRONG OPPOSITION of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands idea of building a casino on 203,000-acre land trust for Native Hawaiians will be development of a casino in a resort in the growing West Oahu community. Currently about 28,000 are on a wait-list seeking homesteads which some have been on there for decades. The trust was established a century ago for the benefit and purpose to return Hawaiians to their native lands through residential, farming and ranching homesteads, NOT for Casino's.
**First Name**
Mary

**Last Name**
Parker

**Phone**

**Email**

**Subject**
Submit Written Testimony

**Message**
YES to a casino in Hawaii.
The profit money should go directly to social programs for the Hawaiian community suffering in addiction and Homelessness. Please help!
Aloha mai,
As a Kanaka Maoli and lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL. As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families. Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from our native lands.
DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing us and using it for commercial purposes and profit. I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.
All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.
Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
December 20, 2020

Hawaiian Homes Commission
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Re: Testimony on Agenda Item C-1: Legislative Proposal to Authorize Limited Casino Gaming in the Form of a Single Integrated Resort Property in Kapolei, Island of O‘ahu, on Hawaiian Home Lands Designated for Commercial Use.

The presidents from Kapolei Community Development Corporation (KCDC) and the Kapolei homestead associations of Malu‘ōhai, Kaupe‘a, Kānehili and Ka‘uluokaha‘i are not in favor of Agenda Item C-1 to authorize limited casino gaming in the form of a single integrated resort property in Kapolei on Hawaiian Home Lands designated for commercial use as drafted. We humbly ask the Hawaiian Homes Commission to defer this agenda item and perform beneficiary consultation statewide to solicit input from its beneficiaries before acting.

The presidents of KCDC, Malu‘ōhai Residents Association, Kaupe‘a Homestead Association, Kānehili Community Association and the interim ‘Ahahui o Ka‘uluokaha‘i convened on December 17, 2020 to discuss Agenda Item C-1 and arrived at our testimony above. Together we serve over 1,000 homesteads and approximately 4,500 homesteaders in the Kapolei region. An additional 1,000 more homesteads are being built in Ka‘uluokaha‘i, bringing the total at full build-out to approximately 2,000 homesteads and 9,000 homesteaders in Kapolei alone. This agenda item proposes limited casino gaming on a resort property in Kapolei, the region we call home. We humbly ask the Hawaiian Homes Commission for the opportunity to engage our beneficiaries on this agenda item before taking any action to have conversations on the impacts of this use on our homestead community.

DHHL is currently updating the 2010 Kapolei Regional Plan and did not brief the Kapolei homestead leadership and community about limited casino gaming on a resort property in Kapolei, during the preliminary regional plan meetings. The regional plan is the perfect venue to solicit input from the beneficiaries in Kapolei on this agenda item. We recommend that DHHL considers a more robust Kapolei Regional Planning effort that discusses casino gaming on a resort property in Kapolei. If the beneficiaries in Kapolei feel this agenda item has merit, then it would be incorporated in the regional plan update as a priority project. DHHL should also consider having similar beneficiary consultations on this agenda item with our sister homestead communities statewide.

In summary, Agenda Item C-1 to authorize limited casino gaming in the form of a single integrated resort property in Kapolei on Hawaiian Home Lands designated for commercial use has a direct impact on
Kapolei and the Kapolei homestead community. The presidents from KCDC and the Kapolei homestead associations of Maluʻōhai, Kaupeʻa, Kānehili and Kaʻuluokahaʻi are not in favor of Agenda Item C-1 as drafted and humbly ask the Hawaiian Homes Commission to defer this agenda item and perform beneficiary consultation statewide to solicit input from its beneficiaries before acting. Mahalo for your consideration of our testimony.

Me ka mahalo,

Scott A. Abrigo
President,
Kapolei Community Development Corporation
Aloha mai,
I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit. As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina. Mahalo for your consideration.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, December 20, 2020 7:25 PM
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W
Subject: HCC Contact:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Michelle</th>
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<tr>
<td>Last Name</td>
<td>Ramos</td>
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</table>

Subject

To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

Message

No! To a casino! DHHL needs to focus on providing homes not casinos. If any one wants a casino, they can go to Las Vegas. Mahalo!
Yes, we should support casino on the islands, why not Kouchi has his own agenda! The state should continue paying rent to Hawaiians, for all the parcels being used, and stop asking for free rent!

Second, the state should learn how to budget, and stop cheating the local residents (taxpayers).
Regarding the proposed casino in Kapolei, I hereby share my opposition of said project with you because the idea acts as a divisor among the people of Hawai‘i, where we as a people are already divided through measurements of race, belief systems, disenfranchisement of the Hawaiian people and furthermore through the federal blood quantum requirement. Let it hereby be known that we the people do not want to be divided. Furthermore, let it hereby be known that while the state is more concerned with raking in billions of dollars of revenues, the people are looking for a healthier and viably sustainable way of life.

Therefore let it hereby be resolved that the state will look into the full legalization and taxation of marijuana as a viable solution toward the diversification and recovery of our economy, instead of pimping Hawaiian Homesteads out to debauchery, thus acting against the general benefit and welfare of our constituency.
I, Kanani Higbee, am an applicant of Hawaiian Homelands Act, I am NOT in favor of Agenda Item II, C-1 Legislative Proposal for Limited Casino Gaming on Hawaiian Homelands in Kapolei. I do not support gambling as it is considered an addictive behavior according to DSM-5, ie. Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. Native Hawaiians have the highest rates of substance use disorder as it is. They are susceptible because the U.S. caused trauma to us Hawaiians by displacing us off our lands and our identity. And the Hawaiian Homeland Act was supposed to help rehabilitate Native Hawaiians, but the state of Hawaii marginalizes their duty to fulfilling that Act. The state should pay to fulfill their responsibility of that Act out of the State’s budget. Instead the State of Hawaii likes to spend money on the prison for profits where they Force Hawaiians to go. It’s a form of genocide to fail to fulfill the Hawaiian Home Commission Act, yet put Hawaiians in prison for profit.

I do not agree with these casinos. The state already plans to use a portion of the revenues for the State general fund. That is so exploitive. And it’s dumb to exchange one problem for another by thinking casino can generate funds, when it will cause so much gambling addictions.

It’s really sad that we have a governor such as Ige who shortchanged Hawaiians. He must have the world’s smallest boto the way he has it out for Hawaiians.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony.

With Aloha,
Kanani Higbee
I am responding to Agenda item II C-1 Legislative proposal for limited casino gaming on Hawaiian Home Lands in Kapolei. Instead of investing time and resources in a venture which has demonstrated itself to attract a criminal element and creates family and community destructive, addictive behavior, let's provide healthy ways of making a good living for Hawaiian families. Propagation and sales of industrial hemp and cannabis are obvious choices.
Agenda Item II C-1 Legislative Proposal for Limited Casino Gaming on Hawaiian Home Lands in Kapolei:

‘A’OLE CASINOS
1. A casino on Hawaiian Homes is not a proposal that came from the community nor was it properly vetted.
2. This project will be coopted by the State of Hawaii and once again homesteaders will end up with pennies on the dollar.
3. Casinos are an extremely exploitive industry that would attract unwanted illegal activities (e.g. sex trade and prostitution) to an indigenous community.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Sunday, December 20, 2020 11:19 PM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

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<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Lori</th>
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<tr>
<td>Last Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>A Request to be on the &quot;J&quot; Agenda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>I humbly request to provide verbal testimony on the December 22, 2020 agenda Item #3 item G-1 Status Report on Kalaupapa, Molokai. I would also humbly request to present (ppt) to the commission on the current section 106 and GMP for Kalaupapa, Molokai at the commission's meeting in January 2021. Mahalo, Lori Buchanan Hoolehua, Hawaii 96729</td>
</tr>
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From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2020 12:16 AM
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W
Subject: HCC Contact:

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<td>Subject</td>
<td>To Commission Chair Aila</td>
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**Message**

Aloha mai e Commissioner Aila,

Due to the irrevocable level of influence and impact your decisions can affect, we are convinced that anyone in your position would dedicate copious amounts of time researching the topic first. But with Hawaiʻi’s track record in moronic decision making and our community’s susceptibility to fall prey to the adverse effect of predatory gambling, we are providing literature from the D.C. lobbying group, Stop Predatory Gambling. Opinions vary, but numbers don’t lie. Mahalo for your time.

LINK: https://www.stoppredatorygambling.org/frequently-asked-questions/

Ke aloha ōʻina,
Tiare Kaʻōlelopono
**From:** dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, December 21, 2020 12:26 AM  
**To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
**Subject:** HCC Contact:

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<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>vanessa</th>
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</table>

**Subject**

To a Hawaiian Homes Commissioner

**Message**

NO CASINOS IN HAWAII ! PLEASE
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2020 12:58 AM
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W
Subject: HCC Contact:

First Name
Phillip

Last Name
Nishimura

Phone

Email

Subject
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

Message
I oppose the development of the Casino because residential houses are more important to support Hawaii's growing population while decreasing homelessness.
First Name  
Steven

Last Name  
Thomas

Email  

Subject  
Submit Written Testimony

Message  
‘O wau ‘o Steven Thomas. No Ka Hale O Keawe mai au.

‘A'ole kāko'o au i ke casino ma ka ‘Āina o DHHL a i 'ole ka Pae‘āina O Hawai‘i Nui.

Mahalo
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

Gambling as a solution has been discussed and dumped decades ago. Why consider it now when our infrastructure is still not in place for the population we have now.

NO CASINOS !!!!!
Mailani Maka'ina'i
We don’t need gambling to further impoverish and corrupt our already struggling community. What the community needs is more affordable housing, solutions to assist the homeless (such as mini huts), and solutions to help feed the community with healthy local food (community gardens). Casinos make their money by encouraging addictive and toxic behaviors. To help the people we should strive to resist such behaviors.
Aloha kākou,

I am Thomas-Ryan Lawakua Cleek. I was born and raised in Kapolei. I myself do not meet the blood quantum requirement arbitrated by the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL), but I have many friends and family members who have both received land and have been waitlisted for decades.

In recent news, the DHHL commission has suggested a plan to construct a casino in Kapolei on DHHL property. This comes to a shock to many homesteaders, including former Honolulu Fire Department spokesman Richard Soo, who said in the Honolulu Star Advertiser, "I would rather have been consulted as a beneficiary." The DHHL has failed to consult its own beneficiaries on this matter. This alone should be reason enough for the project to be deferred.

It is mandated in the Hawaii Administrative Rules Title 10, §10-2-19, that the commissioners as trustees must hold and protect the trust property for beneficiaries, and exercise such care and skill as a person of ordinary prudence would exercise in dealing with one’s own property in the management of Hawaiian home lands. Opening a casino seems far beyond the skill of a person of ordinary prudence. The commission has a duty to treat the properties of DHHL in such a way that the beneficiaries themselves see fit.

I hope that the Hawaiian Homes Commission does not approve this bill and they see the error in this concept and abandon any notions of constructing casinos on land that was meant to house the Hawaiian people.

Mahalo nui loa,
Thomas-Ryan Lawakua Cleek
**First Name**

CHERYL

**Last Name**

BURGHARDT

**Phone**

**Email**

Submit Written Testimony

**Message**

NO NO and more NO to building casinos on Hawaiian lands. For all the reasons we know historically, including the fact that there are so many folks for whom you still have not provided homes on waiting lists. You did not consult or vett this issue. From my own experience seeing casinos in various states and countries, they benefit only a few and not the folks who should receive the $$. Based on precedent here in the islands, why would we think it would be different here. NO NO to Casinos, Lottery and any other similar ideas. JUST do what's right, pono. The lands in these islands belong to the Hawaiian people.
I oppose the construction of casinos in Kapolei, it is unfair to the Hawaiians that have been waiting for years to get homes and many have died waiting. Building a casino here would only bring more problems and violence to the island. Use the money for the natives and build homes instead!
To ALL Hawaiian Homes Commissioners!
Please remove the Agenda Item CASINO with no discussion and place it on the following Board meeting Agenda. There was too little time to review the Staff Report and Vote YES recommendation.
Thank you,
Beth Leeds
**First Name**

E Leimamo

**Last Name**

Azevedo

**Phone**

**Email**

**Subject**

To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

**Message**

Aloha mai kākou, ua palapala au no ʻōlelo mai koʻu manaʻo no ka hoʻolale Casino ma nā ʻāina Hawaiian Home Lands. It is deeply concerning that yet more lands that should be used for the benefit of Kānaka Maoli people--primarily to provide them with safe and stable housing in land that belongs to them not only by right of koko and kuleana, but by law—are being considered for "leasing out" (for an as yet unpublished term) to build what by all accounts is an extensive resort-casino-golf course complex. Yet another sprawling resort will not provide shelter and food for Nā Poʻe Kānaka, in fact, it stands to do the exact opposite: drain what little capital nā ʻohana Kānaka hold to fill the coffers of undisclosed, non-Kānaka investors/beneficiaries, the State, and the Federal governments. Arguments that such an operation will benefit poʻe Kānaka are vague and specious at best, as no good statistics have been provided to show how Kānaka will benefit more than outside beneficiaries/stakeholders. Furthermore, even Kānaka employed by the resort/casino are likely to occupy the lowest-paid positions, be exploited for their "exoticness" as well as labor, be at increased risk for trafficking on the premises, and potentially lose some of said earnings in the very casino games run on land that is supposed to be used for their benefit. There are literally thousands of Kānaka Maoli on the waitlist for HHL allotments, please do what is PONO and prioritize THEIR needs and rights to this land above the greed of the tourism industry, land developers, and the State. Do NOT approve this proposal.

Aloha me ka haʻahaʻa,

na Leimamo Azevedo, Kānaka Maoli me Kumu Hula
First Name
Kiane

Last Name
Kanaha

Phone

Email

Subject
Submit Written Testimony

Message
This is in response to the proposal on the plans to build a casino on Hawaiian Home Lands in Kapolei. Long before the pandemic there were thousands of Hawaiians listed to be given land by Hawaiian homes. Now that there are even more Hawaiians without land, a home, or any financial support. Instead of creating a resolution to these issues affecting not only Native Hawaiians but all communities across the State of Hawaii. It was the inarticulate plan generated by DHHL to instead legalize gambling to create a casino on land that could have been set aside for Native Hawaiians to live on or even to build a foundation for support (i.e., food shelter, health clinic, Native Hawaiian housing, financial support center for Hawaiians, etc.) There is a long list of resources that could be designed to support Native Hawaiians but many others in the community. With Native Hawaiians long addiction with gambling it would only dig Hawaiians into a deeper financial hole. Crime rates would increase and so would drugs and other addictions. Is that the type of Hawaii that we aspire to create for our next generation? The answer should be no. As a teacher I would not want to have to hear about how my students parents or family members are victims of gambling so they have to go another night without eating or seeing their parents.
From: dhhl.cro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2020 10:45 AM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
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<tr>
<td>First Name</td>
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<td>Subject</td>
<td>Submit Written Testimony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>I am deeply disappointed in the decision to open a casino on Hawaiian lands. Right now during covid kanaka have been going covid left and right and land allocated to us should not be used for a gambling resort. What Hawaii needs now is not more for tourists but to support kanaka maoli and help us prosper.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I do not agree with a casino being built on land that was meant to house Native Hawaiians. I am against a casino being built on land meant to house Native Hawaiians. Department of Hawaiian Homelands needs to stop putting other people on lands that are meant to house Native Hawaiians. There are so many Native Hawaiians that are homeless or poor. The Department of Hawaiian Homelands is supposed to be figuring out ways to support our Native Hawaiian ʻāhui with land. This is Native Hawaiian land and Native Hawaiians, it seems, are not benefiting from the Department of Hawaiian Homelands.
First Name
Sasha
Last Name
Kahanu
Phone
Email
Subject
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners
Message
I do not agree with a casino being built on land that was meant to house Native Hawaiians. I am against a casino being built on land meant to house Native Hawaiians. Department of Hawaiian Homelands needs to stop putting other people on lands that are meant to house Native Hawaiians. There are so many Native Hawaiians that are homeless or poor. The Department of Hawaiian Homelands is supposed to be figuring out ways to support our Native Hawaiian lāhui with land. This is Native Hawaiian land and Native Hawaiians, it seems, are not benefiting from the Department of Hawaiian Homelands.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2020 11:01 AM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

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<td>Subject</td>
<td>A Request to be on the &quot;J&quot; Agenda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>Waiting to be confirmed on December 22/2020 “J” agenda for the casino purposal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**First Name**  
Kekalokalani

**Last Name**  
Naone

**Phone**

**Email**

**Subject**  
Submit Written Testimony

**Message**

I am against a casino being built on land meant to house Native Hawaiians. Department of Hawaiian Homelands needs to stop putting other people on lands that are meant to house Native Hawaiians. DHHL needs to do better and be better. Period. This is NOT the vision of our Kūpuna.
**From:** dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, December 21, 2020 11:56 AM  
**To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
**Subject:** HCC Contact:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Cindy</th>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Submit Written Testimony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>I do NOT support casinos in Hawai‘i.</td>
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</table>
**From:** dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, December 21, 2020 2:48 PM  
**To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
**Subject:** HCC Contact:

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<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Last Name</td>
<td>Reis-Moniz</td>
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**Subject**  
Submit Written Testimony

**Message**

I along with the rest of my ʻohana STRONGLY OPPOSE the proposed casino on Hawaiian Homes Land in Kapolei. I’m sure you’re all well aware of the statistics of our Hawaiian people based on the intentional influence colonizers brought upon our people... This will only add to the statistics of drug use, alcoholism, mental health illness, and more... Instead of filling up your deep pockets and using land that you folks should not even be “managing”, Build homes for Hawaiians. The money has your minds so clouded that you can’t even see the bad in what you’re doing anymore. Money has you chained up in your mind but WE the people know that change is coming and we will not sit back and watch you folks do any more damage to what was left to our people. We have risen and we will continue to rise. This project is HEWA and we do not support it.
As a lifelong resident of Hawai‘i that deeply cares about the longevity and prosperity of the local and kanaka community, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition to the proposed Casino project by DHHL.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Furthermore, Native Hawaiians are a higher risk demographic for all the negative impacts gambling poses. Studies in Native American reservations have shown that gambling and casinos lead to a disproportionate increase in gambling and drug addiction, and poverty amongst the indigenous community. Therefore introducing such an industry in Hawai‘i, especially on Hawaiian Homelands, makes me fearful for the seemingly imminent negative impacts this will have on Native Hawaiian families.

Not only this, but it appears incongruous for developments such as this to be proposed while thousands of qualifying Native Hawaiians are still sitting on the waiting list to receive land allotments. And thousands more that do not qualify affected by homelessness and displacement from their native lands.

DHHL is overstepping and veering away from its original mission to house Native Hawaiians by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing them and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

I implore the commission to look into other avenues to address funding shortfalls that do not entail such detrimental risks to the very community DHHL is supposed to kōkua.

All in all, it is my belief that building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and detrimental. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of our precious ʻāina.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.
Aloha mai,

I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by DHHL. DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated for housing Native Hawaiians and using it for commercial purposes and profit.

As it stands, Native Hawaiians are already facing issues of homelessness, addiction, and extreme poverty rates. Building a casino on homestead land is hewa, unethical, and immoral. It is not DHHL’s place to alter the intent of this precious ʻāina.

Mahalo for your consideration.
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<th><strong>First Name</strong></th>
<th>Nicole</th>
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<td><strong>Last Name</strong></td>
<td>Mijares</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subject</strong></td>
<td>Submit Written Testimony</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Message</strong></td>
<td>I support the gaming project.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Kristen Kameleanaikekaimalia DelaCalzada

December 22, 2020

I am testifying against Agenda Item II C-1 Legislative Proposal For Limited Casino Gaming On Hawaiian Home Lands In Kapolei.

A casino anywhere in the Hawaiian Kingdom, especially on Hawaiian Home Lands would be another mass genocide of the Native Hawaiians. Casinos are a extremely exploitative industry that come with a myriad of problems, i.e. alcohol and drug abuse, gambling addiction, and prostitution, all of which lead to even more issues.

A casino may bring money and funding for Native Hawaiians and create jobs. Although it doesn’t outweigh the cons of gambling/alcohol/drug addiction, wasting land for casinos, golf courses, theme parks, etc. That land needs to be used in a way that bridges the gap of Hawaiians living in a modern society to their ancestors, in a way that will keep the land thriving for future generations.

Building a casino on Hawaiian home lands is just a way to liquidate the Hawaiians and push them further away from their culture. As seen on countless Indian reservations, it has torn tribes apart, like the Pine Ridge Reservation. Hawaiians should not be forced to choose the colonists’ capitalist way of living to make ends meets just to survive in their homeland.

I urge the committee to not pass Agenda Item II C-1 Legislative Proposal For Limited Casino Gaming On Hawaiian Home Lands In Kapolei. Thank you for your time.
It is unfair to keep Kānaka impoverished and homeless because of a supposed lack of land, money, and support. A casino being built would be not only a desecration of our ‘Āina, but it would be a direct action of disrespect and disregard to kānaka maoli. It starts off as one casino then over time will become one more until our land is full of tourist attractions and Kānaka are completely displaced from our lands. As a young, formerly house less, Kānaka woman, I oppose the construction of this casino and find it to be irresponsible and disrespectful to even propose the building of such a thing. Keep Kānaka on Kānaka lands. Use this land for building homes for the thousands of homeless and displaced Hawaiians whose land was illegally taken from them.
Aloha William, Tyler and Commissioners,

As I sat thru the casino presentation and the commissioner comments, I was struck by the commissioners comments to accurately express concerns regarding data presented in the presentation and their reluctance to move forward. In perusing social media platforms in the last week, there were many nonfactual postings and comments denigrating DHHL and the commission. What was a concern for me is that these baseless comments were mirrored in what was expressed by several of the commissioners. Several comments were justified but there was a genuine effort to stall the proposal. I understand the importance of fiduciary responsibility and beneficiary accountability. What is apparent in the discussion is a lack of willingness to be decisive and to move forward. I think the need to approve the measure is time critical as there is already a negative influence to undermine the proposal by outside interests. Several commissioners commented that they had received outside communications expressing concerns prior to the presentation from the deputy. Their concerns were expressed on predetermined information, bias or influence.

A few of the comments centered around criminal and behavioral issues. As a retired law enforcement officer and first responder, I am fully aware of the organized crime impact on the Hawaiian community. As the former Pacific Regional Director of the National Meth Center, the Center and OHA co authored the study on Hawaiians in the criminal justice system. Native Hawaiian are subject to the greatest percentages of disparate treatment and effect by Hawaii’s Justice system. Primarily, gambling related crimesrepresents an almost unmeasurable percentage of related crime statistics in Hawaii. Organized crime has traditionally run gambling interests in Hawaii. Well regulated gambling oversight is a well documented deterrent to crime.

The casino project(Kapolei) stipulates more than just a casino in the form of a resort end destination based on commercial property, not residential. In researching how similar properties are managed, derived benefits go far beyond revenues in the form of employment, management and community empowerment. In my research on gaming, I was surprised to learn that The Mormon Church provides management functions to several of the larger resorts in Las Vegas especially after I received several calls from family (LDS church members) concerned about gambling in Hawaii.

Social determinants of health are conditions in the environments of which people are born, live,learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning and quality of life. Native Hawaiians suffer from the most dire economic, health and educational disparities in this state.

As an observer of the presentation and following discussions the takeaways are that the proposal to the commission is a real and viable opportunity to address the most dire projections to fulfill the needs of the beneficiaries.

Secondly to the commissioners, if you needed additional information and answers, ask the staff for clarification and resources.
Your responsibility is a doubled edge sword, failing to understand or be decisive could also mean additional losses.

The approval from the board only means that a bill gets introduced to the leg. There are no guarantees. Time is of the essence as outside sources are already working to negatively impact the project.

In the past year, we have seen many Hawaiians stand up to assert the claims of self determination yet the commission does not look like they support an opportunity to give us financial independence to address our most dire needs.
Waha Chairman William Silva,

I am Madameji Jones and respectfully request Samuel S. Jones of Honolulu, Oahu via a power of attorney.

This is to notify you that I was instructed by Mrs. Jones to object to the apportionment and structure of a land that HHPC is planning to approve.

Honolulu is not "Crown" lands, but "Kuleana" lands. It has a Royal Patent #2111 a land Commission Order #1266 and a boundary certificate. Only "lineal descendant" or biological heirs may claim Kuleana lands to the original awardee.

Mr. Jones has proven heir genealogy via documentation filed in Kapolei Circuit and a Court decision in his favor. See Honolulu City & County Ordinance 8-10-72 Kuleana Lands - Exemption to H.R. 3, 77-11.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 808-386-2956.

Respectfully yours,

December 21, 2020

Submitted at Kapolei
DEPT. OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

2020 DEC 21  A 4 19

[Handwritten text in fragmented sentences]

[Further handwritten text in fragmented sentences]
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2020 5:48 PM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

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<td>Submit Written Testimony</td>
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**Message**

'A'OLE CASINOS
1. A casino on Hawaiian Homes is not a proposal that came from the community nor was it properly vetted.
2. This project will be coopted by the State of Hawaii and once again homesteaders will end up with pennies on the dollar.
3. Casinos are an extremely exploitive industry that would attract unwanted illegal activities (e.g. sex trade and prostitution) to an indigenous community.
If you put a casino on Hawaiian homelands and not Hawaiians literally dying to get a home on these lands, you need to be defunded and decommissioned asap!
First Name
Donna

Last Name
Kealohanui

Phone

Email

Subject
Submit Written Testimony

Message

Hawaiian Homes Commission Meeting

I am writing a testimony for Agenda Item II C-1. I am in opposition to Legislative Proposal for Limited Casino Gaming on Hawaiian Home Lands in Kapolei

‘A’OLE CASINOS

2. This project will be coopted by the State of Hawaii and once again homesteaders will end up with pennies on the dollar. The state will once again step on the backs of native Hawaiians take lands from Hawaiians that should be helping Hawaiians. The state takes and takes and makes excuses of why they cannot help Hawaiians.

3. Casinos are an extremely exploitive industry that would attract unwanted illegal activities to an indigenous community. North Americans brought disease North America took the sovereignty of Hawaii. The state continues to allow foreigners to buy land and make it unaffordable for native Hawaiians to stay on their native land. Native Hawaiians have to constantly make sacrifices for those whom are not native to Hawaii. Hawaiians are the highest at risk for health, for education, for homelessness, for addicts and yet they are the last on the list for the department of Hawaiian homelands.

Commission chair aila should not be in charge of Hawaiian homelands he will never put the lives of native Hawaiians as the priority which they commands

I applaud the state of Hawaii and the department of Hawaiian homelands for taking from Hawaiians to provide for their personal needs and making sure Hawaiians are at the bottom of the list of those in need in their native land.

Depressing catastrophic and disgusting

I pray for native Hawaiians to survive this state and country
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2020 10:25 PM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

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<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Carol</th>
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<tr>
<td>Last Name</td>
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<td>Phone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners</td>
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</table>
| Message      | The idea of putting a casino on trust lands is disgusting and many will fight to keep casinos out of Hawaii. We do not need gambling here. Leave it with Las Vegas. You should be concentrating on supporting the Hawaiians who are in need of affordable housing. Figure out how you can make that happen and use the trust lands appropriately. Stay away from casino ideas and gambling here in Hawaii. The pandemic has taught everyone we can no longer rely on tourism. There needs to be diversification such as agriculture and bringing back the dairies. Thank you  
Carol |

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1
**Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W**

**From:** dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, December 21, 2020 10:42 PM  
**To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
**Subject:** HCC Contact:

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<th><strong>First Name</strong></th>
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<td><strong>Email</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subject</strong></td>
<td>To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Message</strong></td>
<td>No to any casinos in Hawai‘i, especially on DHHL land. Get Kanaka on land and in homes.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Aloha nui e Chair Ailā and Members of the Hawaiian Homes Commission:

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of the proposal to authorize limited casino gaming through a single integrated resort property in Kapolei.

As a possible successor, I commend the Commission for exploring additional opportunities for our community to expand its economic sovereignty and identify resources that can support the housing our lāhui needs. I can appreciate that there are reasonable concerns to talk through as a community, and admit that I have long had the fear of the social ecosystem that we have been taught surrounds gambling and what it would mean to introduce that to our community. However, I am learning that decades of programs in other First Nations have demonstrated that these problems don't come to bear through data. There are lessons learned available for us to help shape what a successful program might look like within our own community.

Ultimately, economic sovereignty is a critical component of our collective future, and the opportunity to dramatically increase our housing opportunities is something we have to at least consider. The housing needs of HHCA beneficiaries, even the entire community that calls Hawai‘i home, demands that every option be on the table to discuss. If this measure is successful, I understand there will be a long road to discuss the specifics of the proposal and ensure it is reflective of what our community would want.

Mahalo for hearing this important measure. I sincerely hope you will vote for us as a community to be able to advance this possibility.

Mahalo nui, Rebecca
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subject</strong></td>
<td>To a Hawaiian Homes Commissioner</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Message</strong></td>
<td>I support the gaming commission and believe that it will help stimulate our economy and in the long run help Hawaiians.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
As a native Hawaiian, I support the gaming project in Kapolei- we need to find a way to support ourselves independent of the State. The way things have been going is not working - we need change, and we need something different to get different results.
**Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From:</th>
<th><a href="mailto:dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov">dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>Sent:</td>
<td>Tuesday, December 22, 2020 4:15 AM</td>
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<td>To:</td>
<td>Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W</td>
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**Subject**

Submit Written Testimony

**Message**

We need affordable home not casinos. Tourists don't come to see casinos they come to hawaii to see hawaii if they wanted a casino they would go to Vegas. It's clear that many locals don't want this casino! Why is that not enough? Do the indeginous communities voices not matter?
Aloha,
I apologize for the delay. I strongly SUPPORT the Hawai`ian Homes Commission building casinos for the perpetuation of its Hawai`ian culture, owned independently by the Hawai`ian community, and betters the Hawai`ian people. I've completed some research here:


If administered correctly, its a healthy community source of income and can reduce the footprint of tourism's impact on Hawai`ian people. I'm currently researching some aspects of this among the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians (http://www.aguacaliente.org/), Coachella, and it also demonstrated here https://www.visionaguacaliente.com/culturalplaza.

Thanks,

Dr. Harold T. Ames
Industrial Psychologist (PSYI-6)
**From:** dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 22, 2020 5:18 AM  
**To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
**Subject:** HCC Contact:

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<th>First Name</th>
<th>Keoni</th>
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<td>Last Name</td>
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<td>Email</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>I am very against the casino proposed in Hawaiian Homelands. This will be a detriment to our community.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This is not an idea that came from, is wanted by, or was vetted by the community. This will just be coopted by the State and again Homesteaders will end up with pennies on the dollar despite your lofty promises. Casinos are incredibly exploitative industries that will attract unwanted illegal activities (sex trade) to an Indigenous Community.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2020 6:30 AM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

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<th>First Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners</td>
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**Message**

Aloha Commissioners,

The Ko`olau Foundation wishes to add its voice to support further consideration of the proposal - presented to you during yesterday’s commission meeting - to develop a gambling casino on your lands in Kapolei. We have been concerned over the lack of adequate funding for DHHL to fulfill its commitment to Hawaiians on the waiting list to receive homestead awards, and believe this proposal offers a meaningful opportunity to acquire funding to address that concern.

For decades, people from Hawaii have spent millions traveling to and gambling in Las Vegas, and this has resulted in heavy lobbying by special interests AGAINST establishing a similar venue here in the islands. We think this is wrong and can be mitigated by a carefully planned venue on vacant lands owned by DHHL in Kapolei.

We urge that you allow this discussion and deliberation to proceed so that any concerns raised by others can be adequately mitigated by improvements to the plan.

This is an opportunity for you commissioners to finally open the door to realizing the dreams of our kanaka maoli to have a home of their own.

We apologize for the tardiness of our testimony, but were delayed due to a conflict in our schedule yesterday.
Aloha mai Kakou,

I am a Lessee in Nanakuli Homestead, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL). The DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated to house Native Hawaiian people and using our lands for commercial purposes and profits.

History tells us, the cinema tells us, that Casinos bring dangerous and seedy people to our community. These resources also tells us that Casinos will bring more negative impacts of poverty, prostitution, drugs, gangs, and other negative association. I feel it is unethical and immoral for the DHHL commissioners to alter its purpose to protect our Native Hawaiian population.

Me Kealoha Pumehana,
Aloha mai Kakou,

I am a beneficiary in Nanakuli Homestead, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL). The DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated to house Native Hawaiian people and using our lands for commercial purposes and profits.

History tells us, the cinema tells us, that Casinos bring dangerous and seedy people to our community. These resources also tells us that Casinos will bring more negative impacts of poverty, prostitution, drugs, gangs, and other negative association. I feel it is unethical and immoral for the DHHL commissioners to alter its purpose to protect our Native Hawaiian population.

Me Kealoha Pumehana,
First Name
  Shaizen

Last Name
  Rabacal

Phone

Email
  ____________________________

Subject
  Submit Written Testimony

Message
  Dhhl casino
  
  Aloha mai Kakou,

  I am a Beneficiary in Nanakuli Homestead, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by
the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL). The DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically
designated to house Native Hawaiian people and using our lands for commercial purposes and profits.

  History tells us, the cinema tells us, that Casinos bring dangerous and seedy people to our community. These resources also
tells us that Casinos will bring more negative impacts of poverty, prostitution, drugs, gangs, and other negative association. I
feel it is unethical and immoral for the DHHL commissioners to alter its purpose to protect our Native Hawaiian population.

  Me Kealoha Pumehana,
Aloha,

thank you for your time, I am writing to submit my support for the upcoming proposal of a casino and resort in Kapolei for the purpose of funding DHHL and providing much needed funds to support Hawaiians. While I understand that the community may have mixed feelings, most of these concerns arise out of fear. At a time when Hawai‘i and Hawaiians need the most help during the pandemic, this solution will not only provide jobs but also provide hope and continued legacy for Hawaiians to have access to land for future generations to come. Thank you for your consideration.
1. A casino on Hawaiian Homes is not a proposal that the community proposed nor was it properly vetted.
2. This project will not be coopted by the State of Hawaii and homesteaders will be left with pennies on the dollar.
3. Casinos are an extremely exploitative industry that would attract unwanted illegal activities (e.g. sex trade and prostitution) to an indigenous community.
First Name
Trixie

Last Name
Kaliko

Phone

Email

Subject
Submit Written Testimony

Message
Dhhl casino

Aloha mai Kakou,
I am a Lessee in Nanakuli Homestead, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL). The DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated to house Native Hawaiian people and using our lands for commercial purposes and profits. History tells us, the cinema tells us, that Casinos bring dangerous and seedy people to our community. These resources also tells us that Casinos will bring more negative impacts of poverty, prostitution, drugs, gangs, and other negative association. I feel it is unethical and immoral for the DHHL commissioners to alter its purpose to protect our Native Hawaiian population.
Me Kealoha Pumehana,
Dhhl casino
Aloha mai Kakou,
I am a Lessee in Nanakuli Homestead, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL). The DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated to house Native Hawaiian people and using our lands for commercial purposes and profits.
History tells us, the cinema tells us, that Casinos bring dangerous and seedy people to our community. These resources also tells us that Casinos will bring more negative impacts of poverty, prostitution, drugs, gangs, and other negative association. I feel it is unethical and immoral for the DHHL commissioners to alter its purpose to protect our Native Hawaiian population.
Me Kealoha Pumehana,
I support the Approval of Legislative Proposal to Authorize Limited Casino Gaming in the Form of a Single Integrated Resort Property in Kapolei, Island of O'ahu, on Hawaiian Home Lands Designated for Commercial Use. I believe the matter warrants further discussion by our legislative bodies and community stakeholders and should continue.
Dhhl casino
Aloha mai Kakou,
I am a Lessee in Nanakuli Homestead, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL). The DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated to house Native Hawaiian people and using our lands for commercial purposes and profits.
History tells us, the cinema tells us, that Casinos bring dangerous and seedy people to our community. These resources also tells us that Casinos will bring more negative impacts of poverty, prostitution, drugs, gangs, and other negative association. I feel it is unethical and immoral for the DHHL commissioners to alter its purpose to protect our Native Hawaiian population.
Me Kealoha Pumehana,
Aloha mai Kakou,

I am a Lessee in Nanakuli Homestead, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL). The DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated to house Native Hawaiian people and using our lands for commercial purposes and profits.

History tells us, the cinema tells us, that Casinos bring dangerous and seedy people to our community. These resources also tells us that Casinos will bring more negative impacts of poverty, prostitution, drugs, gangs, and other negative association. I feel it is unethical and immoral for the DHHL commissioners to alter its purpose to protect our Native Hawaiian population.

Me Kealoha Pumehana,
When I first moved to Hawai‘i in 2013, I was under the impression that Hawaiian culture was well supported due to Hawaiian being an official state language. I have come to realize that they are victims of cultural genocide. Elders pass on ashamed to speak their own ‘ōlelo. Hawaiians are houseless on their own land. Protectors suffer police brutality including brain damage from a knee to the neck. It is unconscionable to enable gambling when the space could be used to instead provide the desperately needed shelter for the people of this land. Derivatives of Hawaiian culture by tourism industry and New Age nitwits poison the land with pollution, water waste, and vanity. I implore you to do the bare minimum - to house Native Hawaiians.
**Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W**

**From:** dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 22, 2020 8:03 AM  
**To:** Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
**Subject:** HCC Contact:

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<th>Juanita</th>
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<tr>
<td>Last Name</td>
<td>Kawamoto</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>A Request to be on the &quot;J&quot; Agenda</td>
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</table>
| Message    | Aloha e Hawaiian Homes Commission Chair William Aila,  
I am submitting testimony as a point of inquiry as a descendant of wait listers who died without DHHL responding to their request: Mr. Frank Palani Foster Jr. (12/19/1921 - 5/30/94) and his wife Rebecca Mahienaena (Smith) Foster (3/6/1924 - 4/24/1993). My father would be 99 years old, this year and my mother would have been 95 years old had they lived.  
As a native Hawaiian, (64% blood Quantum), I am disappointed in how the Federal and State government has still not fully funded the DHHL’s requests for funds improve DHHL lands to allow wait listers and current homesteaders the right to take ownership of lands that were promised to Native Hawaiian recipients. We are now at the most historically challenging times in our nation and the State of Hawaii, where more waitlist seniors are again passing away before they can be told they and their ohana are dutifully awarded their right to Hawaiian homestead land. No one who qualifies should have to suffer these conditions when we constantly find money to improve infrastructure on all the islands when foreign and corporate investors wish to build massive housing developments for the rich non affordable housing projects. Again, the first nation people of Hawaii, have to beg the State of Hawaii for support to keep their promises that were made to our ancestors, kupuna and future generations. I believe in our future generations who are fighting to live in Hawaii nei and I am glad to see our next-generation DHHL Deputy Director - Tyler Gomes, who was chosen to assist in solutions for this monumental problem. I support DHHL in it’s efforts to ask the hard questions and make out of the box suggestions to try resolve this issue on housing for Hawaiians on Hawaiian lands. I personally, still need more information before I can support or oppose this solution by DHHL but very soon it will be out of my hands and passed on to my children, who may no longer even qualify based on the blood quantum requirements if I and my brother and sister are not allowed to receive awards for our request of Homestead property.  
My ohana and I are watching this situation very closely.  
Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.  
Juanita Mahienaena Brown Kawamoto |
My name is Lillie Makaila. I am not a beneficiary of the HHL Trust. I chose not to submit written testimony because I felt that as a non-beneficiary, I needed to allow the beneficiary voice to be heard first, and to respect and know my role in this sense. That being said, I watched the livestream of the HHC meeting yesterday, and I feel like I have a kuleana as a kanaka to share my mana on a topic that has great reach and potential impacts for the āhui.

I have read the proposed bill in its entirety. I have listened to the presentation shared by Deputy Tyler Gomes yesterday. I listened to the kūkūkūkā of the Commissioners. I did some research on my own for more recent data on the effects of casino gaming on native peoples, communities, and places. It has been a very busy several days for me! What I keep coming back to is that fact that as a āhui we are in crisis. Our people are suffering. And the tool that our late Prince Kuhō envisioned as the mechanism to uplift our people, the DHHL, has not been afforded the resources it needs to fulfill its mission. We cannot allow 2,000 more beneficiaries to die awaiting the ʻāina that they were promised. We cannot rely on anyone outside of our āhui to help us. What we have been doing is not working. We must make major shifts in our society, and dare I say we must take a risk, take a chance, and step onto a path that is new and very different.

Please consider supporting the proposal for an Integrated Gaming Facility located in Kapolei on lands designated for Commercial Use. This is a pathway that is new to kānaka, but our cousins on the continent have found ways to use this tool to bring desperately needed resources into their communities to uplift their people. Require that DHHL complete Statewide outreach to inform, educate and converse with beneficiaries regarding this proposal over the first quarter of the new year. Make necessary revisions to the Proposal immediately regarding the details you discussed yesterday. Scold the staff & Deputy that they need to allow for more time and consultation in the future for major decisions such as this one. And then vote to give this proposal a chance. I believe this proposal deserves a chance.

Ola ke kino,
Lillie
Aloha Chair and Members of the Commission,

I write in support of the gaming proposal. I think it represents a meaningful attempt by the administration to address the waitlist backlog, the most significant of a myriad of challenges at the DHHL.

There are many issues that deserve sincere consideration and deliberation regarding gaming on DHHL lands. You all articulated many of them in the hearing yesterday. But the one that deserves the most attention in my opinion is this: if we do not move forward with this proposal, what is our alternative? If $4 billion is needed to solve the waitlist backlog, how will we get there otherwise?

Perhaps there are other alternatives or amendments that are more reasonable or necessary. Perhaps the resources needed to achieve waitlist clearance are not as immense. If those alternatives do exist, this proposal provides space for that discussion.

With that said, it is my intention to introduce legislation like this proposal when the legislature opens. In addition to allowing further dialogue on these issues given the tight timeline of your agenda, I truly believe that these conversations--albeit difficult--need to be had. The support of the commission in pursuing this dialogue would make it all the more impactful.

I do respect your concerns. This is first time I have ever testified as an elected official before another decision-making body, because I respect the difference in the nature our respective duties as decisionmakers. I also appreciate the more immediate nature of your vote as it relates to your own fiduciary responsibilities. But this issue is important to me as a Hawaiian, as the son of a DHHL waitlist applicant, and as a Kanaka legislator with direct kuleana to thousands of Hawaiian 'ohana in Kailua and Kaneohe, many of which are beneficiaries but none of whom are leasees because we have no homesteads in my district.

Although this information has been readily available to legislators and the public, it takes courage to acknowledge the scope of the challenge expected to be addressed in as clear terms as were presented yesterday. I have not heard it in six years as a legislator. It also allows policymakers like you and I to consider the enormity of that challenge in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and the historic budget crisis that has beset the State of Hawaii.

Given the nature of our impending budget shortfalls at the state level, there are likely to be other gaming and revenue generation proposals introduced when the legislature convenes in January. I believe forgoing consideration of this project in that context would be a lost opportunity to highlight the needs of DHHL beneficiaries, and the obligations of the state toward native Hawaiians.

For those reasons I respectfully ask that you support the proposal.

Mahalo for allowing me to testify, Malama Pono, and Happy Holidays,

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole
Hawaii State Senate
Aloha mai e members of the Hawaiian Homes Commission,

My name is ‘Olu Campbell and I’m an affordable housing advocate. I’m testifying to urge your SUPPORT of item C-1 on your December agenda, relating to approval of a legislative proposal to authorize limited casino gaming. We are in a housing crisis that has no end in sight. The Department of Hawaiian Homelands is the single most well positioned entity to deliver affordable housing directly to our native Hawaiian families, if it can obtain the resources to do so. Unfortunately, as you are well aware, external support to the Department is entirely insufficient to achieve it’s mission in a timely manner. Already too many native Hawaiians have died waiting for a home of their own. We anticipate the economic impacts of COVID to be long-lasting and it is doubtful DHHL will receive substantial funding from the State in the near future. Within this context, I urge the commission to be bold in exploring innovative ways to raise capital to advance the Commission’s mission. This legislative proposal is but one idea that I believe should be explored more thoroughly. It is clear from examples across Indian Country that this model can be done in a way that is beneficial for native peoples. Allowing this proposal to move forward will provide the opportunity for the Department to more closely examine the details of a potential casino operation to determine whether such an arrangement can in fact be beneficial to the department, its beneficiaries, and Hawai‘i. Please move this proposal forward to afford our people the opportunity to explore it more.

Mahalo,
‘Olu Campbell
Aloha,
This is a written testimony opposing the proposal for Limited Casino Gaming on Hawaiian Home Lands in Kapolei. I believe this does not benefit the beneficiaries of Hawaiian Home Lands.
Mahalo,
Lahela Spencer
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2020 9:21 AM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

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<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
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**Subject**  
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

**Message**

Attention DHHL COMMISSION;
DHHL NEEDS TO REMOVE ITS MEMBERS OF ITS DEPT! JOBI MASAGATAMI IS THE RACIST PERSON WHO MADE A MEMO TO TELL DHHL NOT TO GIVE LOANS TO THE HAWAIIANS. I HAVE THE COPY OF THE MEMO.

AND NOW THEY WANT TO STEAL OUR LANDS FOR HOUSING TO BUILD A CASINO / CORPORATION BY MAFIA TO GET CONTROL OF OUR MONEY AND LANDS! "no fucking way assholes!"

SET UP AN EDUCATION LOTTERY! HOW FRICKEN SIMPLE IS THAT?
If you really want to GAMBLE SO BADLY GO TO VEGAS!
If you really want to correct and make the economy work
USE YOUR F*UCKING BRAIN! NOT YOUR MOUTH!
STATE EDUCATION LOTTERY - NO CASINO! NO LOSS OF LANDS, NO CRIME, NO PROSTITUTION, NO DRUGS, AND A NO BRAINER PLAN TO SET UP A LOTTERY!
GET THE JOB RIGHT OR GET THE HELL OUT! WILDMAN
Aloha Hawaiian Homes Commissioners! I want first thank you all for allowing my voice to be heard. I am writing in regards to the proposed casino in Kapolei. I am appalled that you would even consider a casino on Hawaiian homelands! We need to be putting Kanaka back on these lands NOT a casino that would encourage other outside interests and crime!
Aloha mai Kakou,

I am a Beneficiary in Nanakuli Homestead, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL). The DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated to house Native Hawaiian people and using our lands for commercial purposes and profits. History tells us, the cinema tells us, that Casinos bring dangerous and seedy people to our community. These resources also tells us that Casinos will bring more negative impacts of poverty, prostitution, drugs, gangs, and other negative association. I feel it is unethical and immoral for the DHHL commissioners to alter its purpose to protect our Native Hawaiian population.

Me Kealoha Pumehana,
Mahalo for taking up the gaming proposal. I worked in the Planning Office for 10 years under Georgina Padeken and others, and was directed by Chair Ilima Piianaia to develop the water development program. I subsequently moved to the Water Commission, serving selflessly for 25 years, a position from which I have just retired. My experience is that the only success achieved by the Dept. is through the passion and ingenuity of the staff and the esteemed commissioners over the years, to surmount the built-in recipe for failure that the creation of the program was founded upon. I salute you for undertaking this momentous possibility.

If I may be so bold, please consider a crucial missing step in the conversation I've heard so far. I believe that the first words out of your mouths after announcing the possibility you entertain would be to recognize all the conflicts that have emerged over this issue, and to announce a team of investigators into all the statistics available nationwide, pro and con, so that a factual basis can inform the chaotic discussion sure to follow the present announcement. We can expect to hear all sorts of wild assertions and obfuscating rhetoric, and it needs to be preceded with the promise that an absolutely transparent body of information is being pursued, with all avenues announced beforehand, during, and upon resolution.
Stop! Do not Build Casino! NO. Just No! We Need Homes for FAMILIES!! NOT CASINOS!!
Aloha mai Kakou,
I am a Beneficiary in Nanakuli Homestead, I am formally submitting testimony in opposition of the proposed Casino project by the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL). The DHHL is overstepping its authority by attempting to take lands specifically designated to house Native Hawaiian people and using our lands for commercial purposes and profits.
History tells us, the cinema tells us, that Casinos bring dangerous and seedy people to our community. These resources also tells us that Casinos will bring more negative impacts of poverty, prostitution, drugs, gangs, and other negative association. I feel it is unethical and immoral for the DHHL commissioners to alter its purpose to protect our Native Hawaiian population.
Me Kealoha Pumehana,
First Name
Elizabeth

Last Name
Perreira

Phone

Email

Subject
To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners

Message
Do not use gambling in any form under the guise of bettering lives of Hawaiians! That is some kanaka misguided thoughts! Kanaka will be the most misguided gamblers fueling the casino! I am a joint homeowner with my sister. Do not bring legal gambling to Hawaii!!
First Name
Garrett

Last Name
Wells Jr.

Phone

Email

Subject
Submit Written Testimony

Message
1. A casino on Hawaiian Homes land is not a proposal that the community proposed nor was it properly vetted.
2. This project will not be coopted by the State of Hawai‘i and homesteaders will be left with pennies on the dollar.
3. There are other issues that deserve more immediate attention, such as abolishing the racist blood quantum requirements and getting Hawaiians onto the land that we are entitled to.
4. Hawaiians are still dying as they are on the waiting list.
5. Whether our ali‘i took part in gambling or not has no bearing on how this will be a detriment to our already suffering people, as we already have Hawaiians and locals in generally who are/were addicted to gambling in some form or another.
Thousands of Hawaiians die on the waitlist for homestead lands. Hawaiian homes is supposed to be about providing homes for Hawaiians, it’s in the name. A casino is another capitalist enterprise aimed to serve/bring money to those holding the power and making executive decisions while taking away land that could be given out immediately to kanaka instead and used for homesteading, stability, family, and community. The casino should not be built and it’s a slap in the face to kanaka to have even been put on the table.
From: dhhl.icro1@hawaii.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2020 1:11 PM  
To: Burrows-Nuuanu, Leatrice W  
Subject: HCC Contact:

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<tr>
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<td>To all Hawaiian Homes Commissioners</td>
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**Message**

Please vote yes to the Casino. We here have nothing for us. Our islands are mostly used for the tourist but why about us Kanaka! We have lives to and should be free to have fun and not have to spend money to go elsewhere to bet. We already betting anyway.
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Submit Written Testimony</td>
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| Message          | To whom it may concern,  
I am writing to you to oppose the proposed building of a casino on Hawaiian Home Lands in Kapolei. This initiative was not something that arose from the community, nor was it properly vetted. A casino will not bring equitable progress. This is another extension of our tourism industry that will further exploit land and people. We need genuine community care not temporary solutions that will further our current houseless crisis. |