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From the Pacific Business News:

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/news/2021/01/21/dhhl-accepts-public-comment-on-casino.html>

Public comment period opened for Kapolei casino, gambling proposal

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The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, or DHHL, has opened a public comment period as part of the beneficiary consultation process on the draft legislative proposal to authorize the establishment of a casino on DHHL lands in Kapolei.

The proposed legislation — which was created as a possible solution to DHHL's current near-\$200 million annual budget shortfall — was brought to the HHC in December, and, if approved, ensures that the department is the primary beneficiary of the gaming operation through a land lease agreement with the licensee, as well as direct collection of 80% of the proposed state tax on gross gaming revenue, according to previous reporting by [Pacific Business News](https://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/news/2021/01/21/dhhl-accepts-public-comment-on-casino.html).

DHHL conducted two virtual beneficiary consultation meetings this week, and beneficiary consultation materials, including the draft legislative proposal, and other related information can be found by [clicking here](#).

DHHL's proposal would also establish a Hawaii Gaming Commission, along with a structure for the gaming license application, fees, and criteria for awarding a license. A wagering



DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOMELANDS

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tax on gross gaming revenue and a state gaming fund, along with other appropriate funds, would also be established.

“The beneficiary consultations this week were an opportunity for us to share mana‘o,” said Deputy to the Chair Tyler Iokepa Gomes, in a statement. “We have received constructive feedback so far in this process and I encourage all waiting list applicants, as well as homesteaders, to submit their comments to the department.”

To submit commentary as part of the Beneficiary Consultation process, e-mail [dhhl.planning@hawaii.gov](mailto:dhdl.planning@hawaii.gov).

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