


PLANNING OFFICE
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

March 15, 2021

TO: Chairman and Members, Hawaiian Homes Commission
THROUGH: Andrew H. Choy, Acting Planning Program Manager 
FROM: Pearlyn Fukuba, Planner
SUBJECT: Accept Beneficiary Consultation Report for Proposed
Limited Gaming Legislation

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

That the Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC) accept this Beneficiary Consultation Report as the official public record of beneficiary input and feedback relative to the legislative proposal to authorize limited gaming.

DISCUSSION

Background

The purpose of this DHHL beneficiary consultation was to collect feedback and input on a legislative proposal to authorize limited casino gaming. The HHC approved the draft legislation on December 22, 2020, Agenda Item No. C-1 [Exhibit A]. The draft legislation was created to address historic funding shortfalls to the Department, which have been made worse by the economic impact from the COVID-19 pandemic. The draft legislation sought to:

- 1) Set up a Hawaii Gaming Commission, and
- 2) Provide limited gaming for one license for an integrated resort on DHHL land designated for commercial use.

The anticipated revenue from a limited casino gaming resort would help to address the DHHL waitlist, which currently has over 28,000 beneficiaries that have applied for homestead leases. It is estimated that six billion dollars are needed for infrastructure costs to meet the needs of the existing waitlist.

The approved legislative proposal received considerable media and public interest. The Hawaiian Homes Commission and beneficiaries strongly requested that the Department conduct Beneficiary Consultation (BC) meetings in order to provide beneficiaries with opportunities to obtain more information, ask questions, and express their opinions related to the proposed legislation.

The DHHL recognizes that meaningful, timely, and informative beneficiary consultation is necessary for the successful formulation and implementation of its policies, programs, and projects. In 2009, the HHC adopted a Beneficiary Consultation Policy (Policy). The purpose of the Policy is to ensure that appropriate beneficiary consultation processes and activities are incorporated into DHHL's planning and decision-making. The Policy requires BC for four types of proposals: 1) Statewide Policy Issues, 2) Amendments to Land Use Designations, 3) Development Proposals, and 4) Development of DHHL Plans.

Although the Policy does not explicitly identify proposed legislation as one of the four types of proposals that require BC, the Department recognized that the introduction of a legalized gaming casino may have major impacts (both positive and negative) and responded to the Hawaiian Homes Commission's and beneficiaries' requests by conducting three (3) BC in January 2021. As provided by Hawaii Administrative Rules 10-4-60, the DHHL conducted both Place-Based (geographically specific) and Comprehensive BCs (statewide policies and programs) on:

- 1) January 13, 2021, 7:00 pm- 9:00 pm: Place-Based BC for Kapolei because the proposed location of the casino is in Kapolei
- 2) January 18, 2021, 6:00 - 8:00 pm: Comprehensive Statewide BC
- 3) January 19, 2021, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm: Comprehensive Statewide BC

Beneficiary Consultation Process

The proposed draft legislation went through the following steps prior to the BC to ensure that beneficiaries were informed about the opportunity to provide feedback on the legislative proposal.

STEP 1. THE PROPOSED ACTION IS DESCRIBED:

Information dissemination and discussion regarding a legislative proposal that would authorize limited casino gaming in the form of a single integrated resort property in Kapolei, Island of O'ahu, on DHHL property that is designated for commercial use.

STEP 2. BENEFICIARIES WERE NOTIFIED OF OPPORTUNITIES TO CONSULT

Due to health and safety precautions from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department conducted three (3) virtual BC meetings, via the online communications platform Microsoft Teams/Live Event.

1. Approximately 2,000 postcards were mailed to all Kapolei lessees and applicant to announce the January 13, 2021 meeting. [Exhibit B]
2. Approximately 28,000 postcards were mailed to all lessees and applicants to announce the January 18 and 19, 2021 meetings.

STEP 3. PRESENTATION MATERIALS FOR ALL MEETINGS ARE AVAILABLE FOR FEEDBACK:

DHHL created a webpage to disseminate information and provide easy access to multiple communication pieces, including:

1. Media releases [Exhibit C]
2. BC Presentation PowerPoint Deck [Exhibit D]
3. Weblinks to the BC meetings and recordings
4. Gaming studies and reports
5. Weblinks to DHHL beneficiary surveys and comment submittals

STEP 4. COMMENTS ARE COMPILED INTO MEETING REPORTS:

The following table and data below captures the level of participation and engagement at the three (3) BC meetings:

Table 1: Summary of Proposed Limited Gaming Legislation

Beneficiary Consultation Meeting	Estimated Attendance	No. Self-ID as DHHL Beneficiaries	No. of Questions and/or Comments
January 13, 2021 (Kapolei)	83	Unknown	29
January 18, 2021 (Statewide)	85	Unknown	48
January 19, 2021 (Statewide)	65	Unknown	21
Subtotal	233	Unknown	98
Written Comments Submitted during the 30-Day Comment Period	119	20	119
Casino Survey	85	79	85
Additional Feedback	--	--	56
Subtotal	204	99	260
TOTAL	437	99	358

BC attendees did not sign a physical sign-in sheet due to their participation via a virtual online platform. Therefore it is difficult to determine how many participants were DHHL beneficiaries and how many participants were from the general public.

As reflected in Table 1, there was significant interest in the legislative proposal. The three (3) BC meetings attracted 233 participants (beneficiaries and the general public). Another 204 people submitted

written opinions during the 30-day Comment Period and through the online survey. 99 of the 437 participants (23%) self-identified themselves as DHHL beneficiaries or were identified by cross-checking the names in the Department's lessee and applicant database.

DHHL also received 358 questions, comments and/or opinions during the BC process.

The following exhibits reflect BC meeting notes, participant opinions and/or comments:

1. Exhibit E - January 13, 18, and 19, 2021:
BC Meeting Notes, Questions and Answers, and Comments
2. Exhibit F - January 19 - February 19, 2021:
Correspondence submitted during the 30-day Comment Period
3. Exhibit G - January 13 - January 29, 2021:
Casino Survey and additional feedback and thoughts

Summary of Beneficiary Comments:

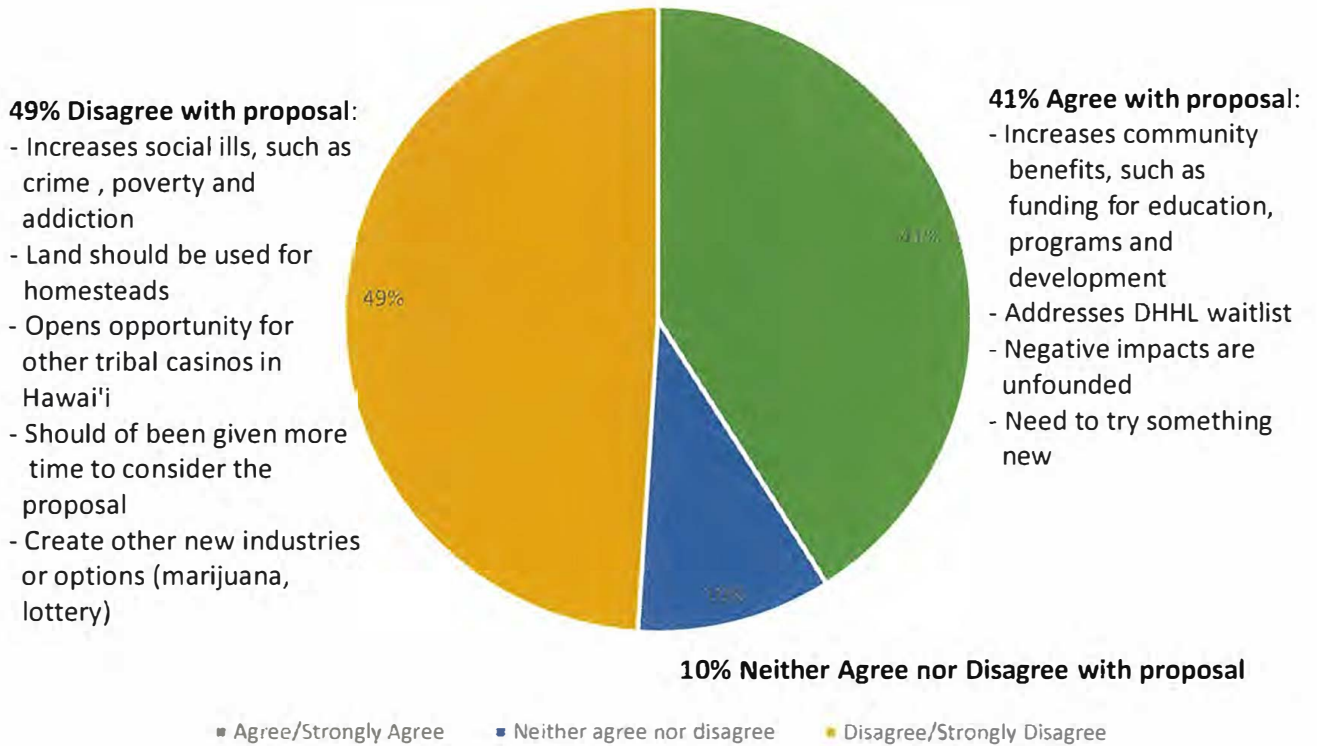
Table 2: Summary of Beneficiary Response

	Agree/ Strongly Agree	Neither agree nor disagree/ Provided comments	Disagree/ Strongly Disagree with Proposal	Total No. of Beneficiary Responses Received
30-Day Comment Period	10	0	10	20
Casino Survey	33	11	41	85
RESPONSE TOTAL	43	11	51	105
PERCENTAGE	41%	10%	49%	100%

As shown in Table 2, 105 self-identified beneficiary responses were submitted to the Department through email correspondence and the online survey. The results do not show a

significant beneficiary consensus either in favor or against the legislative proposal.

Beneficiary Consultation Results



The following is a brief summary of beneficiary comments that were received during the beneficiary consultation process. The comments are organized into main themes related to reasons beneficiaries have stated that they oppose or support the proposed legislation.

Beneficiaries OPPOSE the draft legislation for the following reasons:

- Increases social ills, such as crime, poverty and addition:

“Could you imagine all our Hawaiian people gambling their livelihood away and you DHHL will not be available to support them ... know that our people may not gamble responsibly.”

“A casino would cause a lot of problems. Alcohol & drug addiction & financial debt for people who cannot affordable to [afford to be] gambling.”

- DHHL beneficiaries will not benefit from a casino:

"As a beneficiary, I oppose the idea of having a casino built due to the fact that I as a beneficiary, as well as my ohana, will not benefit from it."

- DHHL should create other opportunities instead of a casino:

"I would rather use our agricultural homestead land to grow Cannabidiol. This agricultural enterprise will make use of our agricultural lands, produce revenue for all homesteaders ad the State (not one developer) and give us homestead beneficiaries an opportunity to own our farm business."

"Why not a lottery? The expense to build, operate & maintain a Casino would cost a lot more than running a lottery."

- Disrespects Hawaiian Homes Commission Act/Prince Kuhio's legacy

"Your efforts for this casino is unacceptable. It does not support Prince Kuhio's legacy. Once you open this casino it will start more casinos to follow."

- Land should be used for homesteads

"It's not about making money, do what's right and put kanaka back on the land. In Hilo, get Walmart, Target and Home Depot out, kanaka can use those prime land."

Beneficiaries SUPPORT the draft legislation for the following reasons:

- Addresses DHHL waitlist:

"I am a DHHL beneficiary on the waiting list ... my application date is August 11, 2009. I am in support of this proposal and believe that it has been well researched and addresses all of the concerns about this type of endeavor in a very thorough and thoughtful way. I think it is timely and provides hope for all of us still waiting on the list for an award."

- Funds will support community benefits

"I happily welcome this idea. However, my hope is that the majority of income will be divided amongst those that are focused on the continuation and implementation of Hawaiian programs and developments."

"Yes, we should have a casino for Hawaii. It will help in many ways, education, repairs. And me."

- Support multiple industries that will improve the quality of life:

“The casino is a great idea, also lottery tickets. Everybody could have a change with lottery tickets, chance to pay off bills, get off Government help, chance to live a better life.”

Recommendation

Staff respectfully requests that the Hawaiian Homes Commission accepts the Beneficiary Consultation Report as the official public record of beneficiary input and feedback relative to the proposed legislation that would authorize limited casino gaming in the form of a single integrated resort property in Kapolei, Island of O’ahu.

Exhibit A

PROPOSED LIMITED GAMING LEGISLATION

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

December 21-22, 2020

To: Chairman and Members, Hawaiian Homes Commission

From: Lehua Kinilau-Cano, HHL Legislative Analyst *Lehua Kinilau-Cano*

Subject: 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

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Hawaiian Homes Commission approve the 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.

DISCUSSION

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands has prepared a draft legislative proposal to be recommended for inclusion in the next Administration's legislative package. The draft legislative proposal, upon submission, will be under review by the Department of the Attorney General, the Department of Budget & Finance, and the Governor. The proposal is pending final approval and no proposal is considered part of the package until final approval is granted. In this phase of the review process, the department may amend or withdraw the measure.

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Proposal HHL-16(21)
RELATING TO GAMING.

This proposal authorizes limited casino gaming in the form of a single integrated resort property in Kapolei on Hawaiian Home Lands designated for commercial use in order to address historic funding shortfalls to the Department made worse by the economic shutdown from the global pandemic. The limited authorization of casino gaming would address the dire financial state of the Department by ensuring that the Department is the primary beneficiary of the gaming operation through a lease

agreement with the licensee and through direct collection of state tax payments on gross gaming revenue.

The proposal establishes the Hawaii Gaming Commission and details the gaming license application, fee, and criteria for award of the gaming license and additional requirements. The proposal also imposes a wagering tax on gross gaming revenue, creates the State gaming fund, and appropriates funds.

RECOMMENDED ACTION/MOTION:

Staff respectfully requests approval of the motion as recommended.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GAMING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that article XII, section
2 2 of the state constitution states in part that "The State and
3 its people do further agree and declare that the spirit of the
4 Hawaiian Homes Commission Act looking to the continuance of the
5 Hawaiian homes projects for the further rehabilitation of the
6 Hawaiian race shall be faithfully carried out."

7 Over twenty-eight thousand native Hawaiians are awaiting
8 homestead leases while the department of Hawaiian home lands
9 struggles to develop land and lots. Current costs for
10 infrastructure development, borne by the department, are in
11 excess of \$150,000 per lot. In order to fulfill the needs of
12 the current waitlist, the department requires over six billion
13 dollars for infrastructure costs alone to serve its
14 beneficiaries. This significant sum is separate and apart from
15 costs for maintenance of existing lessee communities housing
16 nearly ten thousand beneficiaries, upkeep of several utility
17 systems, and other costs. Over the last decade, the legislature
18 has funded the department at levels higher than in years past,

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1 which has provided increased opportunity for the department of
2 Hawaiian home lands to increase its reach. However, by
3 conservative estimates, it will take the department at least
4 another hundred years to meet the needs of its beneficiaries at
5 current funding levels.

6 In the face of an unprecedented and historic budget
7 shortfall as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the
8 department of Hawaiian home lands must seek alternative means of
9 revenue. One alternative is the development of an integrated
10 resort that includes limited casino gaming in Kapolei on
11 Hawaiian home lands designated for commercial use in order to
12 address the staggering budget shortfall sometime this century
13 through increased revenue for both beneficiaries and the
14 department of Hawaiian home lands.

15 The downstream economic and social benefits of integrated
16 resort development have been demonstrated globally in diverse
17 locations such as Macau, Singapore, the Bahamas as well as
18 across many states in the United States. In addition to
19 enhancing existing tourism and infrastructure, the integrated
20 resort that includes limited casino gaming increases state
21 revenue from a new wagering tax along with traditional sources
22 like the general excise tax and the transient accommodation tax.

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1 Evidence from over two hundred individual gaming facilities on
2 federal trust lands in twenty-nine states demonstrates
3 significant economic activity through expenditures by casinos
4 and their suppliers; job creation at the integrated resort and
5 new businesses stimulated by increases in tourism, in State
6 government, in education, and at suppliers to the integrated
7 resort; wages paid to employees of the integrated resort and all
8 impacted businesses; taxes on all taxable economic activity; and
9 direct gaming-related payments to the State and local
10 governments.

11 As a global tourism destination, Hawaii would realize
12 similar economic and social benefits through operation and
13 licensing of a single integrated resort that includes limited
14 casino gaming in Kapolei on Hawaiian home lands designated for
15 commercial use. For example, 2015 estimates for travel spending
16 for the state of Hawaii were \$21.7 billion dollars. By
17 comparison, 2015 estimates for travel spending for the state of
18 North Carolina were \$22.8 billion dollars. In 2014, North
19 Carolina, a state with only two tribally-operated gaming
20 facilities realized: \$1.33 billion dollars in sales tied to
21 gaming; 11,730 jobs directly related to gaming; \$530 million in
22 salaries, wages, bonuses, tips and benefits from those jobs; and

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1 \$205 million in tax revenue and direct payments from tribal
2 governments to federal, state, and local government. Impacts
3 from integrated resort development, particularly on tribal
4 lands, depend on several factors and market conditions.
5 However, the opportunity and potential for increased revenue to
6 the department of Hawaiian home lands and the state will
7 directly address the unprecedented economic shock that threatens
8 to gut legislative funding for the foreseeable future.

9 The purpose of this Act is to authorize limited casino
10 gaming in the form of a single integrated resort property in
11 Kapolei on Hawaiian home lands designated for commercial use in
12 order to address historic funding shortfalls to the department
13 of Hawaiian home lands made worse by the economic shutdown from
14 the global pandemic. The limited authorization of casino gaming
15 would address the dire financial state of the department of
16 Hawaiian home lands by ensuring that the department is the
17 primary beneficiary of the gaming operation through a lease
18 agreement with the licensee and through direct collection of
19 eighty percent of the state tax payments on gross gaming
20 revenue.

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1 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
3 as follows:

4 "CHAPTER

5 CASINO GAMING

6 § -1 Limited casino gaming authorized. Casino gaming
7 and a system of wagering incorporated therein, as defined in
8 this chapter, are authorized only to the extent that casino
9 gaming and wagering are conducted in accordance with this
10 chapter. In case of any conflict between this chapter and any
11 other law regarding casino gaming, this chapter shall prevail.
12 This chapter and the rules adopted by the commission shall apply
13 to all persons who are licensed or otherwise participate in
14 gaming as permitted under this chapter.

15 § -2 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the
16 context clearly requires otherwise:

17 "Agent" means any person who is employed by any agency of
18 the State other than the commission, who is assigned to perform
19 full-time services on behalf of or for the benefit of the
20 commission regardless of the title or position held by that
21 person.

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1 "Applicant" means any person who applies for a license
2 under this chapter.

3 "Casino gaming" or "limited casino gaming", as the context
4 may require, means the operation of games conducted pursuant to
5 this chapter as part of an integrated resort with a gaming
6 license authorized by the commission.

7 "Chairperson" means the chairperson of the Hawaii gaming
8 commission.

9 "Commission" means the Hawaii gaming commission.

10 "Conflict of interest" means a situation in which the
11 private interest of a member, employee, or agent of the
12 commission may influence the judgment of the member, employee,
13 or agent in the performance of the member's, employee's, or
14 agent's public duty under this chapter. A conflict of interest
15 includes but is not limited to the following:

16 (1) Any conduct that would lead a reasonable person,
17 knowing all of the circumstances, to conclude that the
18 member, employee, or agent of the commission is biased
19 against or in favor of an applicant;

20 (2) Acceptance of any form of compensation other than from
21 the commission for any services rendered as part of

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1 the official duties of the member, employee, or agent
2 for the commission; or

3 (3) Participation in any business being transacted with or
4 before the commission in which the member, employee,
5 or agent of the commission or the member's,
6 employee's, or agent's parent, spouse, or child has a
7 financial interest.

8 "Department" means the department of Hawaiian home lands.

9 "Executive director" means the executive director of the
10 commission.

11 "Financial interest" or "financially interested" means any
12 interest in investments, awarding of contracts, grants, loans,
13 purchases, leases, sales, or similar matters under consideration
14 or consummated by the commission or holding a one per cent or
15 more ownership interest in an applicant or a licensee. For
16 purposes of this definition, a member, employee, or agent of the
17 commission shall be considered to have a financial interest in a
18 matter under consideration if any of the following circumstances
19 exist:

20 (1) The individual owns one per cent or more of any class
21 of outstanding securities that are issued by a party

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1 to the matter under consideration or consummated by
2 the commission; or

3 (2) The individual is employed by or is an independent
4 contractor for a party to the matter under
5 consideration by the commission.

6 "Gambling" means the playing of a game by a patron of a
7 gaming establishment.

8 "Game" means a banking or percentage game played with
9 cards, dice, tiles, dominoes or an electronic, electrical or
10 mechanical device or machine played for money, property, checks
11 or any other representative of value which has been approved by
12 the commission.

13 "Gaming" means dealing, operating, carrying on, conducting,
14 maintaining or exposing any game for pay.

15 "Gaming device" or "gaming equipment" means an electronic,
16 electrical or mechanical machine used in connection with gaming
17 or a game.

18 "Gaming license" means a license issued by the commission
19 that permits the licensee to operate casino gaming.

20 "Gaming licensee" means a person or entity who holds a
21 gaming license from the Hawaii gaming commission.

22 "Gross gaming revenue" means the total of:

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1 (1) Cash received or retained as winnings by a licensee;
2 and

3 (2) Compensation received for conducting any game in which
4 a licensee is not party to a wager.

5 "Individual" means a natural person.

6 "Integrated resort" means a destination resort property
7 that offers a wide variety of leisure and entertainment products
8 besides casino gaming, ranging from restaurants, convention
9 services, golf or other outdoor activities, pools and spas,
10 retail, aquariums, theme parks, movie and live theaters, museums
11 and sporting events.

12 "Managerial employee" means a person who holds a policy
13 making position with the commission or any licensee under this
14 chapter.

15 "Occupational license" means a license issued by the
16 commission to a person or entity to perform an occupation
17 relating to casino gaming in the State that the commission has
18 identified as an occupation that requires a license.

19 "Person" means an individual, association, partnership,
20 estate, trust, corporation, limited liability company, or other
21 legal entity.

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1 "Supplier" means a person that the commission has
2 identified under rules adopted by the commission as requiring a
3 license to provide goods or services regarding the realty,
4 construction, maintenance, or business of a proposed or existing
5 integrated resort on a regular or continuing basis, including
6 security businesses, manufacturers, distributors, persons who
7 service gaming devices or equipment, garbage haulers,
8 maintenance companies, food purveyors, and construction
9 companies.

10 "Supplier's license" means a license that authorizes a
11 supplier to furnish any equipment, devices, supplies, or
12 services to a licensed integrated resort permitted under this
13 chapter.

14 "Wagerer" means a person who plays a gambling game
15 authorized under this chapter.

16 § -3 Hawaii gaming commission. (a) There is established
17 the Hawaii gaming commission, which shall be a body corporate
18 and a public instrumentality of the State for the purpose of
19 implementing this chapter. The commission shall be placed
20 within the department of Hawaiian home lands for administrative
21 purposes only. The department shall not direct or exert
22 authority over the day-to-day operations or functions of the

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1 commission. The commission shall consist of five members to be
2 appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the
3 senate under section 26-34. At least one of the members shall
4 be native Hawaiian as defined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission
5 Act; one member shall have experience in corporate finance and
6 securities; one member shall have experience in criminal
7 investigations and law enforcement; one member shall have
8 experience in legal and policy issues related to gaming; and one
9 member may have professional experience in gaming regulatory
10 administration or gaming industry management. The governor
11 shall designate a member to be chairperson of the commission.
12 The chairperson shall serve in that capacity throughout the term
13 of appointment and until a successor shall be appointed.
14 Appointments of initial commission members and assignment of the
15 chairperson shall be made within one year of the effective date
16 of this Act.

17 (b) No person shall be appointed as a member of the
18 commission or continue to be a member of the commission if the
19 person:

- 20 (1) Is an elected state official;
- 21 (2) Is licensed by the commission pursuant to this
22 chapter, or is an official of, has a financial

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1 interest in, or has a financial relationship with, any
2 gaming operation subject to the jurisdiction of this
3 commission pursuant to this chapter;

4 (3) Is related to any person within the second degree of
5 consanguinity or affinity who is licensed by the
6 commission pursuant to this chapter; or

7 (4) Has been under indictment, convicted, plead guilty or
8 nolo contendere, or forfeited bail for a felony or a
9 misdemeanor involving gambling or fraud under the laws
10 of this State, any other state, or the United States
11 within the ten years prior to appointment, or a local
12 ordinance in a state involving gambling or fraud that
13 substantially corresponds to a misdemeanor in that
14 state within the ten years prior to appointment.

15 (c) The term of office of a commission member shall be
16 four years or until a successor is appointed and shall be
17 eligible for reappointment; provided, however, that no
18 commission member shall serve more than eight years. Vacancies
19 in the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term in like
20 manner as the original appointments; provided that the governor
21 shall have ninety days following the occurrence of a vacancy to
22 appoint a successor member to the commission. A person

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1 appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of a commission member
2 shall serve for only the unexpired term of such commission
3 member. The governor may remove a commission member if the
4 commission member:

5 (1) Is guilty of malfeasance in office;

6 (2) Substantially neglects the duties of a commission
7 member;

8 (3) Is unable to discharge the powers and duties of the
9 commission member's office;

10 (4) Commits gross misconduct; or

11 (5) Is convicted of a felony.

12 (d) Members of the commission shall be a resident of the
13 state of Hawaii and, while serving on the commission, shall not:

14 (1) Hold, or be a candidate for, federal, state or local
15 elected office;

16 (2) Hold an appointed office in a federal, state, or local
17 government; or

18 (3) Serve as an official in a political party.

19 (e) The commission, subject to chapter 92, shall hold at
20 least one meeting in each quarter of the State's fiscal year.

21 The commission shall hold its initial meeting within one year of
22 the effective date of this Act. Special meetings may be called

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1 by the chairperson or any three members upon seventy-two hours
2 written notice to each member. Three members shall constitute a
3 quorum, and a majority vote of the five members present shall be
4 required for any final determination by the commission. The
5 commission shall keep a complete and accurate record of all its
6 meetings.

7 (f) The chairperson of the commission shall serve on a
8 full-time basis. The other four members shall serve on a part-
9 time basis. The chairperson of the commission shall be paid a
10 salary set at eighty-seven per cent of the salary of the
11 chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission. The compensation of
12 the part-time members shall be eighty per cent of the hourly
13 wage paid the chairperson. For each hour engaged in the
14 official duties of the commission, each part-time member of the
15 commission shall be paid an hourly wage at the percentage rate
16 specified in this section based on the hourly wage paid the
17 chairperson; provided that compensation shall not exceed eighty
18 per cent of the total regular working hours in a month; provided
19 further that part-time members shall not be entitled to any
20 vacation, sick leave, or other benefits except as provided in
21 this section. All commissioners shall receive their necessary

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1 expenses for travel and incidentals that shall be paid from
2 appropriations provided the commission for such purposes.

3 (g) Before assuming the duties of office, each member of
4 the commission shall take an oath that the member shall
5 faithfully execute the duties of office according to the laws of
6 the State.

7 (h) The commission shall appoint a person to serve as the
8 executive director of the commission and who shall be subject to
9 the commission's supervision. The commission shall appoint an
10 interim executive director within ten days of the commission's
11 initial meeting who shall be exempt from paragraphs (3) and (4)
12 such that the interim executive director may be a current public
13 employee or regulator official from a similar body in another
14 state who temporarily undertakes the role of interim executive
15 director. The executive director shall:

- 16 (1) Hold office at the will of the commission;
17 (2) Be exempt from chapters 76 and 89;
18 (3) Devote full time to the duties of the office;
19 (4) Not hold any other office or employment;
20 (5) Perform any and all duties that the commission
21 assigns; and

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1 (6) Receive an annual salary at an amount set by the
2 commission, and shall be reimbursed for expenses
3 actually and necessarily incurred in the performance
4 of the executive director's duties.

5 (i) Except as otherwise provided by law, the executive
6 director may:

7 (1) Hire assistants, other officers, and employees, who
8 shall be exempt from chapters 76 and 89 and who shall
9 serve at the will of the executive director; and

10 (2) Appoint committees and consultants necessary for the
11 efficient operation of casino gaming; provided that no
12 person shall be hired or appointed under this
13 subsection who:

14 (A) Is an elected state official;

15 (B) Is licensed by the commission pursuant to this
16 chapter or is an official of, has a financial
17 interest in, or has a financial relationship
18 with, any gaming operation subject to the
19 jurisdiction of this commission pursuant to this
20 chapter;

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1 (C) Is related to any person within the second degree
2 of consanguinity or affinity who is licensed by
3 the commission pursuant to this chapter; or

4 (D) Has been under indictment, convicted, pled guilty
5 or nolo contendere, or forfeited bail for a
6 felony or misdemeanor concerning gambling or
7 fraud under the laws of this State, any other
8 state, or the United States within the last ten
9 years, or a local ordinance in any state
10 involving gambling or fraud that substantially
11 corresponds to a misdemeanor in that state within
12 the ten years prior to employment.

13 (j) The salaries of employees hired pursuant to subsection
14 (i) shall be set by the executive director.

15 (k) The commission shall adopt rules in accordance with
16 chapter 91 establishing a code of ethics for its employees that
17 shall include restrictions on which employees are prohibited
18 from participating in or wagering on any casino game or casino
19 gaming operation subject to the jurisdiction of the commission.
20 The code of ethics shall be separate from and in addition to any
21 standards of conduct set forth pursuant to chapter 84.

____.B. NO.____

1 § -4 Staff. (a) The executive director shall keep
2 records of all proceedings of the commission and shall preserve
3 all records, books, documents, and other papers belonging to the
4 commission or entrusted to its care relating to casino gaming.

5 (b) In addition to persons hired under section -3(i),
6 the commission may employ any personnel that may be necessary to
7 carry out its duties related to casino gaming.

8 § -5 Powers of the commission. (a) The commission
9 shall have all powers necessary to fully and effectively
10 supervise all casino gaming operations, including the power to:

11 (1) Administer, regulate, and enforce the system of casino
12 gaming established by this chapter. The commission's
13 jurisdiction shall extend to every person,
14 association, corporation, partnership, trust, and any
15 other entity with a financial interest in or holding a
16 license under this chapter, or required under this
17 chapter to hold a license in casino gaming operations
18 in the city and county of Honolulu;

19 (2) Issue a twenty-year gaming license to operate an
20 integrated resort pursuant to this chapter;

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- 1 (3) Determine the types and numbers of occupational and
2 supplier's licenses to be permitted under this
3 chapter;
- 4 (4) Adopt standards for the licensing of all persons under
5 this chapter subject to the qualification and
6 standards set forth herein, to issue licenses, and to
7 establish and collect fees for these licenses;
- 8 (5) Provide for the collection of all taxes imposed
9 pursuant to this chapter, and to collect, receive,
10 expend, and account for all revenues, including lease
11 payments, derived from casino gaming;
- 12 (6) Enter at any time without a warrant and without notice
13 to a gaming licensee, the premises, offices,
14 integrated resort, or other places of business of a
15 gaming licensee, or supplier licensee, where evidence
16 of the compliance or noncompliance with this chapter
17 or rules is likely to be found. Entry is authorized
18 to:
- 19 (A) Inspect and examine all premises wherein casino
20 gaming or the business of gaming or the business
21 of a supplier is conducted, or where any records
22 of the activities are prepared;

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- 1 (8) Be present, through its inspectors and agents, any
2 time gaming operations are conducted in an integrated
3 resort for the purpose of certifying the gaming
4 licensee's revenue, receiving complaints from the
5 public, and conducting other investigations into the
6 conduct of the casino gaming and the maintenance of
7 the equipment as from time to time the commission may
8 deem necessary and proper;
- 9 (9) Adopt appropriate standards for an integrated resort
10 as well as for electronic or mechanical gaming
11 devices;
- 12 (10) Require that records including financial or other
13 statements of a gaming licensee under this chapter be
14 kept in the manner prescribed by the commission and
15 that a licensee involved in the ownership or
16 management of casino gaming operations submit to the
17 commission an annual balance sheet and profit and loss
18 statement, a list of the stockholders or other persons
19 having a five per cent or greater beneficial interest
20 in the gaming activities of the licensee, and any
21 other information the commission deems necessary to
22 effectively administer this chapter;

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1 (11) Conduct hearings, issue subpoenas for the attendance
2 of witnesses and subpoenas duces tecum for the
3 production of books, records, and other pertinent
4 documents, and to administer oaths and affirmations to
5 the witnesses, when, in the judgment of the
6 commission, it is necessary to administer or enforce
7 this chapter. The executive director or the executive
8 director's designee may issue subpoenas and administer
9 oaths and affirmations to witnesses;

10 (12) Eject or exclude, or authorize the ejection or
11 exclusion of, any person from an integrated resort
12 where the person is in violation of this chapter or
13 where the person's conduct or reputation is such that
14 the person's presence within the integrated resort, in
15 the opinion of the commission, may call into question
16 the honesty and integrity of the gaming operation or
17 interfere with the orderly conduct thereof or any
18 other action that, in the opinion of the commission,
19 is a detriment or impediment to the gaming operations;
20 provided that the property of that ejection or
21 exclusion shall be subject to subsequent hearing and
22 determination by the commission;

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- 1 (13) Permit a gaming licensee of casino gaming operations
- 2 to use a wagering system whereby wagerers' money may
- 3 be converted to tokens, electronic cards, or chips,
- 4 which shall be used only for wagering within the
- 5 integrated resort;
- 6 (14) Suspend, revoke, or restrict licenses, to require the
- 7 removal of a licensee or an employee of a licensee for
- 8 a violation of this chapter or a commission rule, or
- 9 for engaging in a fraudulent practice;
- 10 (15) Impose and collect fines against a licensee for each
- 11 violation of this chapter, any rules adopted by the
- 12 commission, or for any other action which, in the
- 13 commission's discretion, is a detriment or impediment
- 14 to casino gaming operations;
- 15 (16) Establish minimum levels of insurance to be maintained
- 16 by a licensee;
- 17 (17) Delegate the execution of any of its powers for the
- 18 purpose of administering and enforcing this chapter;
- 19 and
- 20 (18) Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 to implement this
- 21 chapter.

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1 (b) Rules adopted under this chapter shall not be
2 arbitrary, capricious, or contradictory to the provisions of
3 chapter 91. Rules may include but need not be limited to rules
4 that:

5 (1) Govern, restrict, approve, or regulate the casino
6 gaming authorized in this chapter;

7 (2) Promote the safety, security, and integrity of casino
8 gaming authorized in this chapter;

9 (3) License and regulate, consistent with the
10 qualifications and standards set forth in this
11 chapter, persons participating in or involved with
12 casino gaming authorized in this chapter; and

13 (4) Authorize any other action that may be reasonable or
14 appropriate to enforce this chapter and rules adopted
15 under this chapter.

16 This section is not intended to limit warrantless inspections
17 except in accordance with constitutional requirements.

18 § -6 Member, employee, or agent of commission; conduct
19 generally. (a) By January 31 of each year, each member of the
20 commission shall prepare and file with the commission a
21 disclosure form in which the member shall:

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1 (1) Affirm that the member or the member's spouse, parent,
2 child, or child's spouse is not a member of the board
3 of directors of, financially interested in, or
4 employed by a licensee or applicant;

5 (2) Affirm that the member continues to meet all other
6 criteria for commission membership under this chapter
7 or the rules adopted by the commission;

8 (3) Disclose any legal or beneficial interest in any real
9 property that is or may be directly or indirectly
10 involved with gaming operations authorized by this
11 chapter; and

12 (4) Disclose any other information that may be required to
13 ensure that the integrity of the commission and its
14 work is maintained.

15 (b) By January 31 of each year, the executive director
16 shall prepare and file with the commission a disclosure form in
17 which the employee shall:

18 (1) Affirm the absence of financial interests prohibited
19 by this chapter;

20 (2) Disclose any legal or beneficial interest in any real
21 property that is or may be directly or indirectly

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1 involved with gaming or gaming operations authorized
2 by this chapter;

3 (3) Disclose whether the employee or the employee's
4 spouse, parent, child, or child's spouse is
5 financially interested in or employed by a supplier
6 licensee, or an applicant for a supplier's license,
7 under this chapter; and

8 (4) Disclose any other information that may be required to
9 ensure that the integrity of the commission and its
10 work is maintained.

11 (c) A new or current employee or agent of the commission
12 shall obtain written permission from the executive director
13 before continuing outside employment held at the time the
14 employee begins to work for the commission. Permission shall be
15 denied, or permission previously granted shall be revoked, if
16 the nature of the work is considered to, or does create, a
17 possible conflict of interest or otherwise interferes with the
18 duties of the employee or agent for the commission.

19 (d) An employee or agent of the commission granted
20 permission for outside employment shall not conduct any business
21 or perform any activities, including solicitation, related to

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1 outside employment on premises used by the commission or during
2 the employee's working hours for the commission.

3 (e) As used in this section:

4 "Outside employment" includes the following:

- 5 (1) Operation of a proprietorship;
- 6 (2) Participation in a partnership or group business
7 enterprise; or
- 8 (3) Performance as a director or corporate officer of any
9 for-profit corporation, or banking or credit
10 institution.

11 **§ -7 Authorization of limited gaming.** Casino gaming
12 shall only be permitted in one integrated resort in Kapolei on
13 Hawaiian home lands designated for commercial use. Any
14 application for a gaming license to operate the integrated
15 resort shall include a development plan for the integrated
16 resort.

17 **§ -8 Gaming license; application; fee.** (a) The
18 application for a gaming license under this chapter shall be
19 made under oath on forms required by this chapter and shall
20 include all of the following:

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- 1 (1) The name, business address, telephone number, social
2 security number and, where applicable, the federal tax
3 identification number of the applicant;
- 4 (2) The identity of any business, including, if
5 applicable, the state of incorporation or
6 registration, in which the applicant has an equity
7 interest of more than five per cent. If the applicant
8 is a corporation, partnership or other business
9 entity, the applicant shall identify any other
10 corporation, partnership, or other business entity in
11 which it has an equity interest of more than five per
12 cent, including, if applicable, the state of
13 incorporation or registration;
- 14 (3) An explanation whether the applicant has developed and
15 opened a new land-based casino within a jurisdiction
16 in the United States that previously did not allow
17 gaming, including a description of the casino, the
18 casino's gross revenue, and the amount of revenue the
19 casino has generated for state and local governments
20 within that jurisdiction;
- 21 (4) A statement whether the applicant has been indicted,
22 convicted, pled guilty or nolo contendere, or

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1 forfeited bail for any felony or for a misdemeanor
2 involving gambling, theft or fraud. The statement
3 shall include the date, the name and location of the
4 court, arresting agency, prosecuting agency, the case
5 caption, the docket number, the offense, the
6 disposition, and the location and length of
7 incarceration;

8 (5) A statement whether the applicant has ever been
9 granted any license or certificate issued by a
10 licensing authority in the State, or any other
11 jurisdiction that has been restricted, revoked, or not
12 renewed. The statement shall describe the facts and
13 circumstances concerning that restriction, revocation,
14 or nonrenewal, including the licensing authority, the
15 date each action was taken, and the reason for each
16 action;

17 (6) A statement whether the applicant, within the last ten
18 years, has filed or had filed against it a civil or
19 administrative action or proceeding in bankruptcy;

20 (7) A statement whether the applicant, within the last
21 five tax years, has been adjudicated by a court or
22 tribunal to have failed to pay any final amount of any

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1 income, sales, or gross receipts tax due and payable
2 under federal, state, or local law, after exhaustion
3 of all inter-agency appeals processes. This statement
4 shall identify the amount of the tax, type of tax,
5 time periods involved, and resolution;

6 (8) A statement listing the names and titles of all public
7 officials or officers of any unit of state government
8 or county government in the jurisdiction in which the
9 integrated resort is to be located, and the spouses,
10 parents, and children of those public officials or
11 officers who, directly or indirectly, own any
12 financial interest in, have any beneficial interest
13 in, are the creditors of or hold any debt instrument
14 issued by, or hold or have an interest in any
15 contractual or service relationship with, the
16 applicant. As used in this paragraph, "public
17 official" or "officer" does not include a person who
18 would be listed solely because of the person's state
19 or federal military service;

20 (9) The name and business telephone number of any
21 attorney, counsel, or any other person representing an
22 applicant in matters before the commission;

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- 1 (10) A description of the applicant's history of, or plan
2 for, community involvement or investment in the area
3 where the integrated resort will be located,
4 particularly noting any experience working with native
5 or indigenous communities; and
- 6 (11) A description of any proposed or approved integrated
7 resort, including the economic benefit to the
8 community, especially native or indigenous
9 communities, anticipated or actual number of
10 employees, any statement from an applicant regarding
11 compliance with federal and state affirmative action
12 guidelines, projected or actual admissions, projected
13 or actual gross receipts, and scientific market
14 research, if any.
- 15 (12) A clarification of the legal operation of casino games
16 of chance or games of other forms.
- 17 (13) The integrated resort license shall not include the
18 following gaming activities:
19 (A) Online or mobile gaming; and
20 (B) Games of chance or any other gaming, betting or
21 gambling activities on ships or planes.

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1 (b) Information provided on the application shall be used
2 as the basis for a thorough background investigation that the
3 commission shall conduct with respect to each applicant, but any
4 financial information submitted by each applicant shall be kept
5 confidential by the commission. An incomplete application shall
6 be cause for denial of consideration by the commission and
7 forfeiture of the non-refundable deposit.

8 (c) Applicants shall submit with their application a plan
9 for training native Hawaiians as defined in the Hawaiian Homes
10 Commission Act for jobs that are available at the integrated
11 resort. The plan shall take into consideration the need to
12 provide training to low-income persons to enable those persons
13 to qualify for jobs that will be created in the integrated
14 resort.

15 (d) A nonrefundable application fee of one million dollars
16 shall be paid to the commission by an applicant at the time of
17 filing to defray the costs associated with an applicant's
18 background investigation conducted by the commission. If the
19 costs of the investigation exceed one million dollars, the
20 applicant shall pay the additional amount to the commission.

21 § -9 Criteria for award of the gaming license; transfer
22 of license prohibited. (a) The commission shall issue one

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1 gaming license to operate an integrated resort to the applicant
2 that has paid the application fee required under section -8,
3 is eligible and suitable to receive a gaming license under this
4 chapter and the rules adopted by the commission, and best
5 satisfies all of the following criteria:

6 (1) The applicant has submitted a development plan for the
7 integrated resort that provides the greatest
8 likelihood that the applicant's facility will provide
9 the maximum revenue to the department of Hawaiian home
10 lands to develop and deliver lands, generate jobs, and
11 provide an economic benefit to native Hawaiians as
12 defined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act;

13 (2) The applicant has a history of, or a bona fide plan
14 for, community involvement or investment in the area
15 where the integrated resort will be located,
16 particularly noting any experience working with native
17 or indigenous communities;

18 (3) The applicant has the financial ability to purchase
19 and maintain adequate liability and casualty insurance
20 and to provide an adequate surety bond;

21 (4) The applicant has provided data identifying the
22 applicant's sources of capital and demonstrating that

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- 1 the applicant has adequate capital to develop,
2 construct, operate, and maintain the proposed
3 integrated resort;
- 4 (5) The applicant has adequate capitalization to develop,
5 construct, operate, and maintain for the duration of
6 the license, the proposed integrated resort in
7 accordance with the requirements of this chapter and
8 rules adopted by the commission and to responsibly pay
9 off its secured and unsecured debts in accordance with
10 its financing agreement and other contractual
11 obligations;
- 12 (6) The applicant has not been indicted, convicted, pled
13 guilty or nolo contendere, or forfeited bail for any
14 felony or for a misdemeanor involving gambling, theft,
15 or fraud;
- 16 (7) The applicant has not filed or had filed against them
17 a proceeding for bankruptcy within the last ten years;
- 18 (8) The extent to which an applicant has, within the last
19 five tax years, been, adjudicated by a court or
20 tribunal to have failed to pay any final amount of
21 income, sales, or gross receipts tax due and payable

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1 under federal, state, or local law, after exhaustion
2 of all inter-agency appeals processes;

3 (9) The extent to which the applicant meets other
4 standards for the issuance of a gaming license that
5 the commission may have adopted by rule;

6 (10) To ensure the continued integrity of Hawaii collegiate
7 athletics, neither the applicant, nor any parent or
8 subsidiary of the applicant permits wagering on Hawaii
9 collegiate athletics in any other jurisdiction where
10 they hold a license;

11 (11) The adequacy of the applicant's plan for creating
12 partnerships with the University of Hawaii and
13 existing educational institutions for training native
14 Hawaiians as defined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission
15 Act for jobs, including management positions, that are
16 available at the integrated resort and the extent to
17 which the plan considers the need to provide training
18 to low-income persons to enable those persons to
19 qualify for jobs that will be created in the
20 integrated resort; and

21 (12) The caliber of the proposed integrated resort,
22 including the proposed integrated resort's aesthetic

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1 appearance, amount of economic benefit to the
2 community, especially native or indigenous
3 communities, anticipated or actual number of
4 employees, compliance with federal and state
5 affirmative action guidelines, and projected or actual
6 gross receipts.

7 (b) An applicant shall be ineligible to receive a gaming
8 license if the applicant or any employee:

9 (1) Has been convicted of a felony under the laws of this
10 State, any other state, or the United States;

11 (2) Has been convicted of any violation under part III of
12 chapter 712, or substantially similar laws of another
13 jurisdiction;

14 (3) Knowingly submitted an application for a license under
15 this chapter that contains false information;

16 (4) Is a member or employee of the commission; or

17 (5) Has had revoked a license to own or operate gaming
18 facilities in this State or any other jurisdiction.

19 (c) To demonstrate financial ability, the applicant may
20 include the economic resources available directly or indirectly
21 to the gaming license applicant.

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1 (d) Simultaneous with an applicant's submission of an
2 application, each applicant that is a natural person shall
3 submit to the commission on fingerprint cards issued by the
4 Federal Bureau of Investigation or in digital format two sets of
5 fingerprints for each applicant.

6 (e) The commission shall establish a process to facilitate
7 and expedite the approval of the necessary licenses and permits
8 for the integrated resort. The commission may establish its own
9 procedures for the issuance of liquor licenses for any holder of
10 a gaming license under this chapter and the holder of a gaming
11 license shall not be subject to any requirement of the Honolulu
12 liquor commission as to the approval of forms of
13 live/professional music, dancing, and entertainment; provided
14 that all other state laws and county ordinances relating to
15 liquor are met. The commission shall be the receiving agency
16 for any environmental assessment required under chapter 343.

17 (f) Once issued, the gaming license issued pursuant to
18 this chapter shall be nontransferable and shall be valid only
19 for the person or entity in whose name it was issued and for the
20 operation of the integrated resort in Kapolei on Hawaiian home
21 lands designated for commercial use.

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1 § -10 **Purpose of the gaming license.** The gaming
2 licensee shall have the following obligations:

3 (a) Ensure the proper operation and conduct of casino
4 games of chance or games of other forms;

5 (b) Manage and conduct gaming activities that are licensed
6 by the commission;

7 (c) Operate and conduct casino games of chance or games of
8 other forms in a fair and honest manner without criminal
9 influence;

10 (d) Employ staff that have the appropriate qualifications;

11 (e) Safeguard and ensure the department of Hawaiian home
12 lands and the State of Hawaii's interests in land lease and tax
13 revenue from the operation of the integrated resort.

14 § -11 **Applicability of Hawaii law.** (a) The integrated
15 resort property and licensee shall be exclusively governed by
16 the laws of the state of Hawaii.

17 (b) The integrated resort with the gaming license
18 recognizes and accepts the exclusive jurisdiction of the court
19 of the state of Hawaii in case of any potential dispute or
20 conflict of interests.

21 (c) The integrated resort with the gaming license must
22 comply with applicable laws of the state of Hawaii and waives

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1 the right to apply regulations of a place other than Hawaii
2 which exempt the licensee from performing obligations or acts
3 that must be performed or are imposed.

4 § -12 Participation in the operation of gambling in
5 other jurisdictions. (a) The integrated resort with the gaming
6 license must inform the commission of its participation in the
7 operation of casino games of chance or games of other forms in
8 any other jurisdictions, including participation in the
9 operation through a management contract, or of such intent. If
10 the licensee is aware that any of its directors or controlling
11 shareholders, or any shareholder that directly or indirectly
12 holds the equivalent of five per cent or more of its share
13 capital has the intent to participate in the operation of casino
14 games or games or other forms in any other jurisdictions, the
15 licensee must inform the commission immediately.

16 (b) For the purpose of this section, the licensee must
17 submit to the commission or procure to obtain and submit to the
18 commission, as the case may be, any documents, information or
19 materials that may be requested, except those which are
20 considered as confidential by law.

21 § -13 Supplier's licenses. (a) No person shall furnish
22 equipment, devices, or supplies to the licensed integrated

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1 resort under this chapter unless the person has first obtained a
2 supplier's license pursuant to this section. The commission may
3 issue a supplier's license to any person, firm, or corporation
4 who pays a nonrefundable application fee as set by the
5 commission upon a determination by the commission that the
6 applicant is eligible for a supplier's license and upon payment
7 by the applicant of a license fee, the amount to be set by the
8 commission and adjusted to market conditions from time to time.
9 Supplier's licenses shall be renewable annually upon payment of
10 the annual license fee and a determination by the commission
11 that the licensee continues to meet all of the requirements of
12 this chapter.

13 (b) The holder of a supplier's license may sell or lease,
14 or contract to sell or lease, gaming equipment and supplies to
15 any licensee involved in the ownership or management of casino
16 gaming operations.

17 (c) Casino gaming supplies and equipment shall not be
18 distributed unless supplies and equipment conform to standards
19 adopted by rules of the commission.

20 (d) A person, firm, or corporation shall be ineligible to
21 receive a supplier's license if:

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- 1 (1) The person has been convicted of a felony under the
- 2 laws of this State, any other state, or the United
- 3 States;
- 4 (2) The person has been convicted of any violation under
- 5 part III, chapter 712, or substantially similar laws
- 6 of another jurisdiction;
- 7 (3) The person has knowingly submitted an application for
- 8 a license under this chapter that contains false
- 9 information;
- 10 (4) The person is a member of the commission;
- 11 (5) The firm or corporation is one in which a person
- 12 defined in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4) is an
- 13 officer, director, or managerial employee;
- 14 (6) The firm or corporation employs a person, defined in
- 15 paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4), that participates in
- 16 the management or operation of casino gaming
- 17 authorized under this chapter; or
- 18 (7) The license of the person, firm, or corporation issued
- 19 under this chapter, or a license to own or operate
- 20 casino gaming facilities in any other jurisdiction,
- 21 has been revoked.
- 22 (e) A supplier shall:

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- 1 (1) Furnish to the commission a list of all equipment,
2 devices, and supplies offered for sale or lease in
3 connection with games authorized under this chapter;
- 4 (2) Keep books and records for the furnishing of
5 equipment, devices, and supplies to casino gaming
6 operations separate and distinct from any other
7 business that the supplier might operate;
- 8 (3) File quarterly returns with the commission listing all
9 sales and leases;
- 10 (4) Permanently affix its name to all its equipment,
11 devices, and supplies, used for casino gaming
12 operations; and
- 13 (5) File an annual report listing its inventories of
14 casino gaming equipment, devices, and supplies.
- 15 (f) Any person who knowingly makes a false statement on an
16 application is guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

17 § -14 Occupational license. (a) The commission may
18 issue an occupational license to an applicant upon:

- 19 (1) The payment of a nonrefundable application fee set by
20 the commission;
- 21 (2) A determination by the commission that the applicant
22 is eligible for an occupational license; and

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1 (3) Payment of an annual license fee in an amount set by
2 the commission.

3 (b) To be eligible for an occupational license, an
4 applicant shall:

5 (1) Be at least twenty-one years of age if the applicant
6 performs any function involved in casino gaming by
7 patrons. Any applicant seeking an occupational
8 license for a non-gaming function shall be at least
9 eighteen years of age;

10 (2) Not have been convicted of a felony offense in any
11 jurisdiction or a crime involving dishonestly or moral
12 turpitude; and

13 (3) Have met standards for the holding of an occupational
14 license as provided in rules adopted by the
15 commission, including background inquiries and other
16 requirements.

17 (c) Each application for an occupational license shall be
18 on forms prescribed by the commission and shall contain all
19 information required by the commission. The applicant shall set
20 forth in the application whether the applicant:

21 (1) Has been issued prior gaming-related licenses in any
22 jurisdiction;

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1 (2) Has been licensed in any other jurisdiction under any
2 other name, and if so, the name and the applicant's
3 age at the time; and

4 (3) Has had a permit or license issued from any other
5 jurisdiction suspended, restricted, or revoked, and if
6 so, for what period of time.

7 (d) Each applicant shall submit with the application two
8 sets of the applicant's fingerprints. The commission shall
9 charge each applicant a fee to defray the costs associated with
10 the search and classification of fingerprints obtained by the
11 commission with respect to the application.

12 (e) The commission may refuse to grant an occupational
13 license to any person:

14 (1) Who is unqualified to perform the duties required of
15 the applicant;

16 (2) Who fails to disclose or states falsely any
17 information called for in the application;

18 (3) Who has been found guilty of a violation of this
19 chapter or whose prior casino gaming related license
20 or application has been suspended, restricted,
21 revoked, or denied for just cause in any other
22 jurisdiction; or

____.B. NO._____

1 (4) For any other just cause.

2 (f) The commission may suspend, revoke, or restrict any
3 occupational licensee:

4 (1) For any violation of this chapter;

5 (2) For any violation of the rules of the commission;

6 (3) For any cause which, if known to the commission, would
7 have disqualified the applicant from receiving a
8 license;

9 (4) For default in the payment of any obligation or debt
10 due to the State or the county; or

11 (5) For any other just cause.

12 (g) A person who knowingly makes a false statement on an
13 application is guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

14 (h) Any license issued pursuant to this section shall be
15 valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance and
16 shall be renewable annually upon payment of the annual license
17 fee and a determination by the commission that the licensee
18 continues to meet all of the requirements of this chapter.

19 § -15 Temporary supplier and occupational licenses. (a)

20 Upon written request of a person applying for a supplier or
21 occupational license under this chapter, the executive director
22 shall issue a temporary license to the applicant and permit the

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1 applicant to undertake employment with, conduct business
2 transactions with, and provide goods and services to licensees,
3 gaming license applicants, and holders of certificates of
4 suitability; provided that all of the following provisions are
5 met.

6 (1) The applicant has submitted to the commission a
7 completed application, an application fee, and all
8 required disclosure forms and other required written
9 documentation and materials;

10 (2) Preliminary review of the application and a criminal
11 history check by the executive director and the
12 commission staff does not reveal that the applicant or
13 the applicant's key persons, local and regional
14 managerial employees or sales and service
15 representatives, or substantial owners have been
16 convicted of a felony or misdemeanor that would
17 require denial of the application or may otherwise be
18 ineligible, unqualified, or unsuitable to permit
19 licensure under this chapter; and

20 (3) There is no other apparent deficiency in the
21 application that may require denial of the
22 application.

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1 (b) A temporary license issued under this section shall be
2 valid for not more than one hundred and eight days, but may be
3 renewed upon expiration by the executive director.

4 (c) An applicant who receives a temporary license under
5 this section may undertake employment with or supply a gaming
6 licensee, gaming license applicants, and holders of certificates
7 of suitability with goods and services subject to this chapter
8 until a license is issued by the commission pursuant to the
9 applicant's application or until the temporary license expires
10 or is suspended or revoked. During the period of the temporary
11 license, the applicant shall comply with this chapter and rules
12 adopted by the commission.

13 (d) If the temporary license expires, is not renewed, or
14 is suspended or revoked, the executive director shall
15 immediately forward the applicant's application to the
16 commission for action after first providing a reasonable time
17 for the applicant to correct any apparent deficiency in its
18 application.

19 § -16 Annual report. The commission shall submit a
20 written annual report to the governor, the legislature, and the
21 Hawaiian homes commission at least sixty days prior to the close
22 of each fiscal year and shall submit any additional reports that

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1 the governor, the legislature or the Hawaiian homes commission
2 requests. The annual report shall include:

- 3 (1) A statement of receipts and disbursements related to
4 the integrated resort pursuant to this chapter;
- 5 (2) Actions taken by the commission; and
- 6 (3) Any additional information and recommendations that
7 the commission may deem valuable or which the
8 governor, the legislature, or the Hawaiian homes
9 commission may request.

10 **§ -17 Hearings by the commission.** (a) Upon order of
11 the commission, one of the commission members or a hearings
12 officer designated by the commission may conduct any hearing
13 provided for under this chapter related to casino gaming or by
14 commission rule, and may recommend findings and decisions to the
15 commission. The record made at the time of the hearing shall be
16 reviewed by the commission, or a majority thereof, and the
17 findings and decisions of the majority of the commission shall
18 constitute the order of the commission in that case.

19 (b) Any party aggrieved by an action of the commission
20 denying, suspending, revoking, restricting, or refusing to renew
21 a license under this chapter may request in writing a hearing
22 before the commission within five days after service of notice

___ .B. NO. ___

1 of the action of the commission. Notice of the actions of the
2 commission shall be served either by personal delivery or by
3 certified mail, postage prepaid, to the aggrieved party. Notice
4 served by certified mail shall be deemed complete on the
5 business day following the date of the mailing. The commission
6 shall conduct all requested hearings promptly and in reasonable
7 order.

8 § -18 Conduct of casino gaming. Casino gaming may be
9 conducted by the holder of a gaming license, subject to the
10 following:

11 (1) The site of the integrated resort shall be restricted
12 to Kapolei on Hawaiian home lands designated for
13 commercial use;

14 (2) The term of the gaming license shall be twenty years
15 and shall be renewable for additional twenty-year
16 terms; provided that:

17 (A) The integrated resort met or exceeded its
18 commitment to provide lease payments and revenue
19 to the department of Hawaiian home lands to
20 develop and deliver lands, generate jobs, and
21 provide an economic benefit to native Hawaiians
22 as defined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act;

____.B. NO.____

1 (B) The gaming licensee's actions have not caused the
2 gaming license under this chapter to be suspended
3 or revoked; and

4 (C) The applicant remains eligible and suitable for a
5 gaming license;

6 (3) The integrated resort may operate twenty-four hours
7 per day, each and every day of the year, subject to
8 market conditions;

9 (4) Minimum and maximum wagers on games shall be set by
10 the gaming licensee with guidance and oversight
11 through regulations by the commission;

12 (5) The commission's agents may enter and inspect the
13 integrated resort at any time for the purpose of
14 determining whether the gaming licensee is in
15 compliance with this chapter;

16 (6) Commission employees shall have the right to be
17 present in an integrated resort under the control of
18 the gaming licensee;

19 (7) Gaming equipment and supplies customarily used in
20 conducting casino gaming shall be purchased or leased
21 only from suppliers licensed under this chapter;

____.B. NO._____

1 (8) Persons licensed under this chapter shall permit no
2 form of wagering on games except as permitted by this
3 chapter;

4 (9) Wagers may be received only from a person present in
5 an integrated resort. No person present in an
6 integrated resort shall place or attempt to place a
7 wager on behalf of another person who is not present
8 in the integrated resort;

9 (10) No person under age twenty-one shall be permitted in
10 an area of the integrated resort where casino gaming
11 is being conducted, except for a person at least
12 eighteen years of age who is an employee of the
13 integrated resort. No employee under age twenty-one
14 shall perform any function involved in casino gaming
15 by patrons. No person under age twenty-one shall be
16 permitted to make a wager under this chapter;

17 (11) All tokens, chips, or electronic cards used to make
18 wagers shall only be purchased from the gaming
19 licensee within the integrated resort. The tokens,
20 chips, or electronic cards shall be used while within
21 the integrated resort only for the purpose of making
22 wagers on authorized games;

____.B. NO. ____

- 1 (12) Prior to commencing gaming operations at the
- 2 integrated resort, the gaming licensee shall enter
- 3 into a development agreement with the department of
- 4 Hawaiian home lands, which will include at least the
- 5 following terms:
- 6 (A) The selected licensee agrees to invest at least
- 7 \$50,000,000 to develop and construct an
- 8 integrated resort on the site selected by the
- 9 department of Hawaiian home lands;
- 10 (B) The selected licensee agrees to create
- 11 partnerships with local educational institutions
- 12 to train native Hawaiians as defined in the
- 13 Hawaiian Homes Commission Act for jobs that are
- 14 available in the integrated resort;
- 15 (C) The gaming licensee agrees that neither the
- 16 gaming licensee, nor any parent or subsidiary of
- 17 the gaming licensee, will permit wagering on
- 18 Hawaii collegiate athletics regardless of its
- 19 legality in other jurisdictions where the
- 20 licensee operates;

____.B. NO.____

1 (D) All revenue under the development agreement,
2 shall be deposited into the department of
3 Hawaiian home administration account;

4 (E) The gaming licensee and the State agree that,
5 other than the one integrated resort licensed
6 under this chapter, the State shall not authorize
7 any additional gaming in the State during the
8 initial 20-year license period; and

9 (13) In addition to the above, casino gaming shall be
10 conducted in accordance with all rules adopted by the
11 commission.

12 § -19 Prohibition on credit agreements. Notwithstanding
13 any other law to the contrary, the gaming licensee will not be
14 permitted to offer credit to a wagerer.

15 § -20 Wagering tax; rate; disposition. A wagering tax
16 shall be imposed on the gross gaming revenues of the licensee at
17 the rate of forty-five per cent. Tax revenues collected under
18 this section shall be divided in the following way: seventy-five
19 per cent directed to the Hawaiian home operating fund; five per
20 cent directed to the Native Hawaiian rehabilitation fund;
21 fifteen per cent deposited into the state general fund; five per
22 cent deposited into the state gaming fund.

____.B. NO. _____

1 **§ -21 State gaming fund; disposition of taxes collected.**

2 There is established within the state treasury the state gaming
3 fund to be administered by the Hawaii gaming commission into
4 which shall be deposited all fees, taxes, and fines collected
5 under this chapter. Moneys from the state gaming fund may be
6 used to fund:

- 7 (1) A compulsive gamblers program and for public security
8 at the integrated resort;
- 9 (2) Local educational institutions to train native
10 Hawaiians as defined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission
11 Act for jobs that are available in the integrated
12 resort;
- 13 (3) Road or other improvements to address any traffic
14 issues as a result of the integrated resort; and
- 15 (4) Administrative expenses of the commission.

16 **§ -22 Legislative oversight.** After the first full
17 fiscal year of operation, the auditor shall conduct a program
18 and financial audit of the Hawaii gaming commission.

19 Thereafter, the auditor shall conduct a program and financial
20 audit every four years after the initial audit is completed.

21 **§ -23 Disclosure of information.** The commission, upon
22 written request from any person, shall provide the following

____.B. NO.____

1 information concerning the applicant or licensee, the
2 applicant's or licensee's products, services or gambling
3 enterprises, and the applicant's or licensee's business holdings
4 if the commission has the information in its possession:

5 (1) The name, business address, and business telephone
6 number;

7 (2) An identification of any applicant or licensee
8 including, if an applicant or licensee is not an
9 individual, its state of incorporation or
10 registration, and its corporate officers;

11 (3) The name and business telephone number of any
12 attorney, counsel, lobbyist, or any other person
13 representing an applicant or licensee in matters
14 before the commission; and

15 (4) A description of the product or service to be supplied
16 by, or occupation to be engaged in by, a licensee.

17 SECTION 3. Chapter 712, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended by adding a new section to part III to be appropriately
19 designated and to read as follows:

20 "§712- _____ Casino gaming; exempted. This part shall not
21 apply to casino gaming as authorized by chapter _____."

____.B. NO._____

1 improvement district requirements regarding

2 redevelopment authorized by subsection (a);

3 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) The redevelopment of the Ala Wai boat harbor
4 shall be exempt from the assessment and any special
5 improvement district requirements authorized by
6 subsection (a); and

7 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) No other properties or owners shall be exempt
8 from the assessment unless the properties or owners
9 are expressly exempted in the ordinance establishing a
10 district adopted pursuant to this section or amending
11 the rate or method of assessment of an existing
12 district."

13 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the Hawaiian home
14 trust fund the sum of \$5,000,000 or so much thereof as may be
15 necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the purpose of funding
16 the operations of the Hawaii gaming commission; provided that
17 the:

18 (1) Gaming licensee shall reimburse the amount
19 appropriated by remitting \$5,000,000 to the department
20 of Hawaiian home lands no later than the first day on
21 which the casino opens for operation; and

22 (2) Gaming licensee's application fee under section

____.B. NO._____

1 -8(e), Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be applied
2 as a credit against the \$5,000,000 amount due under
3 this section.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
5 Hawaiian home lands for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
7 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2021;
9 provided that section 5 shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

10
11
12

INTRODUCED BY: _____

BY REQUEST

____.B. NO.____

Report Title:

Limited Casino Gaming; Single Integrated Resort; Kapolei;
Appropriation

Description:

Grants 20-year gaming license for a single integrated resort property in Kapolei on Hawaiian home lands designated for commercial use. Establishes Hawaii Gaming Commission. Imposes wagering tax on gross gaming revenue. Creates State Gaming Fund. Appropriates funds. Effective 07/1/2021

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

Exhibit B and C

POSTCARD
and
MEDIA RELEASE



[Home](#) » [Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Meetings](#) » [Statewide Beneficiary Consultation: Draft Legislative Proposal \(Limited Gaming\)](#)

STATEWIDE BENEFICIARY CONSULTATION: DRAFT LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL (LIMITED GAMING)

Posted on Jan 13, 2021 in [Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Meetings](#)

Meeting Announcement Beneficiary Consultation

Draft legislative proposal to use tax revenues from a limited casino gaming operation to address DHHL's underfunded lot development budget



DHHL.HAWAII.GOV/HHC/GOVERNMENT-RELATIONS

Statewide Beneficiary Consultation: Draft Legislative Proposal (Limited Gaming)

Purpose: The purpose of the meeting is to provide information to DHHL beneficiaries regarding the draft legislative proposal regarding gaming and provide an opportunity for beneficiaries to provide their mana`o on the proposal.

When: Monday, January 18 at 6 p.m. and Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 12 p.m.

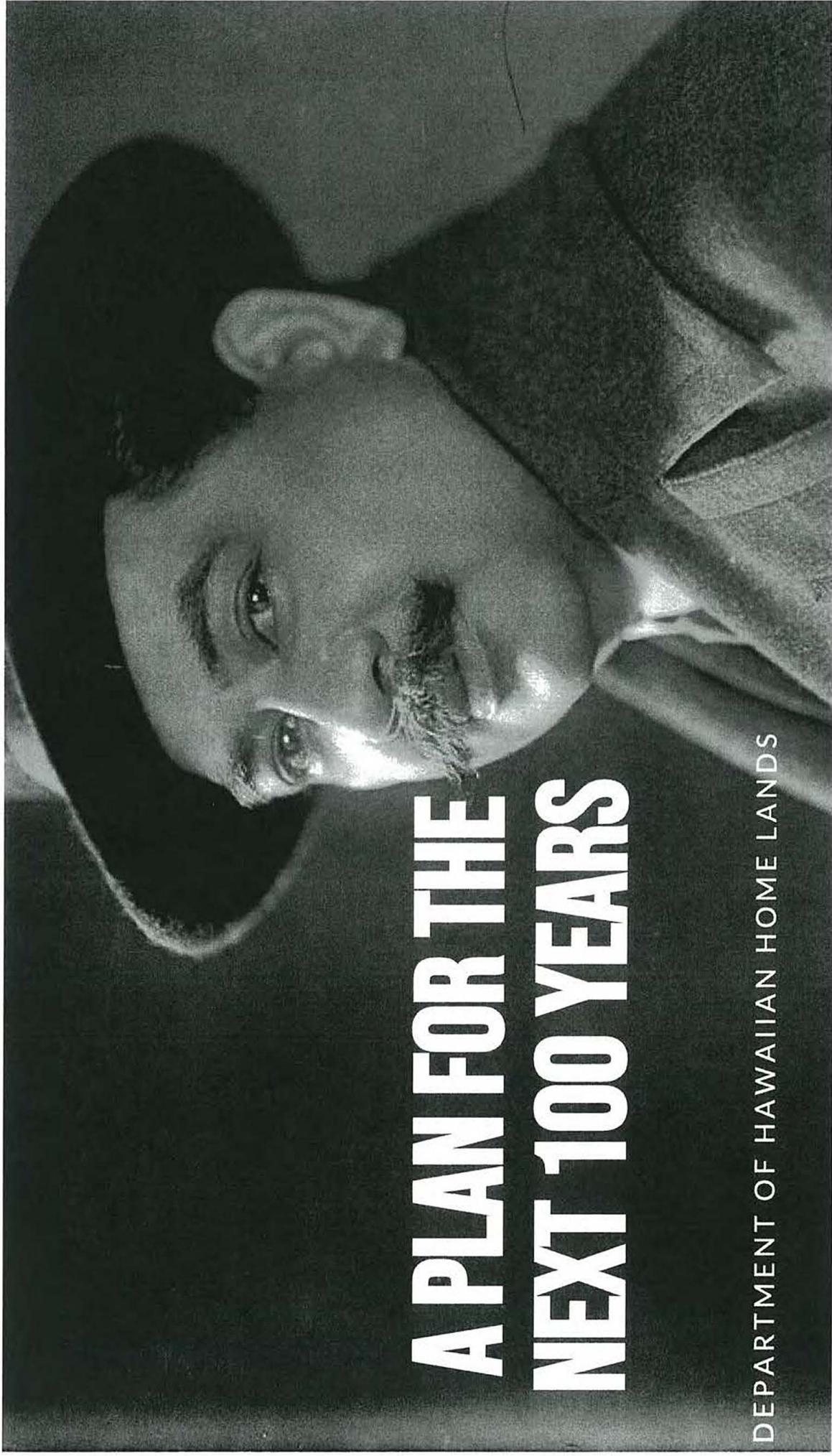
Where: [Click here](#) for information on the bill and instructions on how to join the virtual meeting.

SHARE:



Exhibit D

BENEFICIARY CONSULTATION PRESENTATION



A PLAN FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS

DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS



1,699 apps
1,190 acres



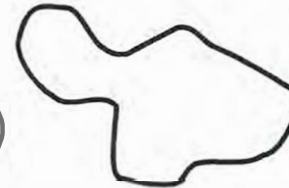
10,870 apps
1,645 acres



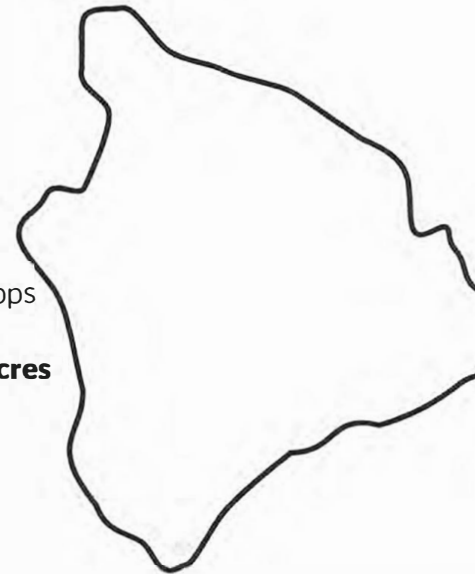
838 apps
742 acres



75 apps



3,869 apps
1,544 acres



5,909 apps
4,387 acres

**RESIDENTIAL
DEMAND VS. SUPPLY**

182

YEARS

to meet demand at our current rate

1 1/2

MORE THAN

WAITLISTERS

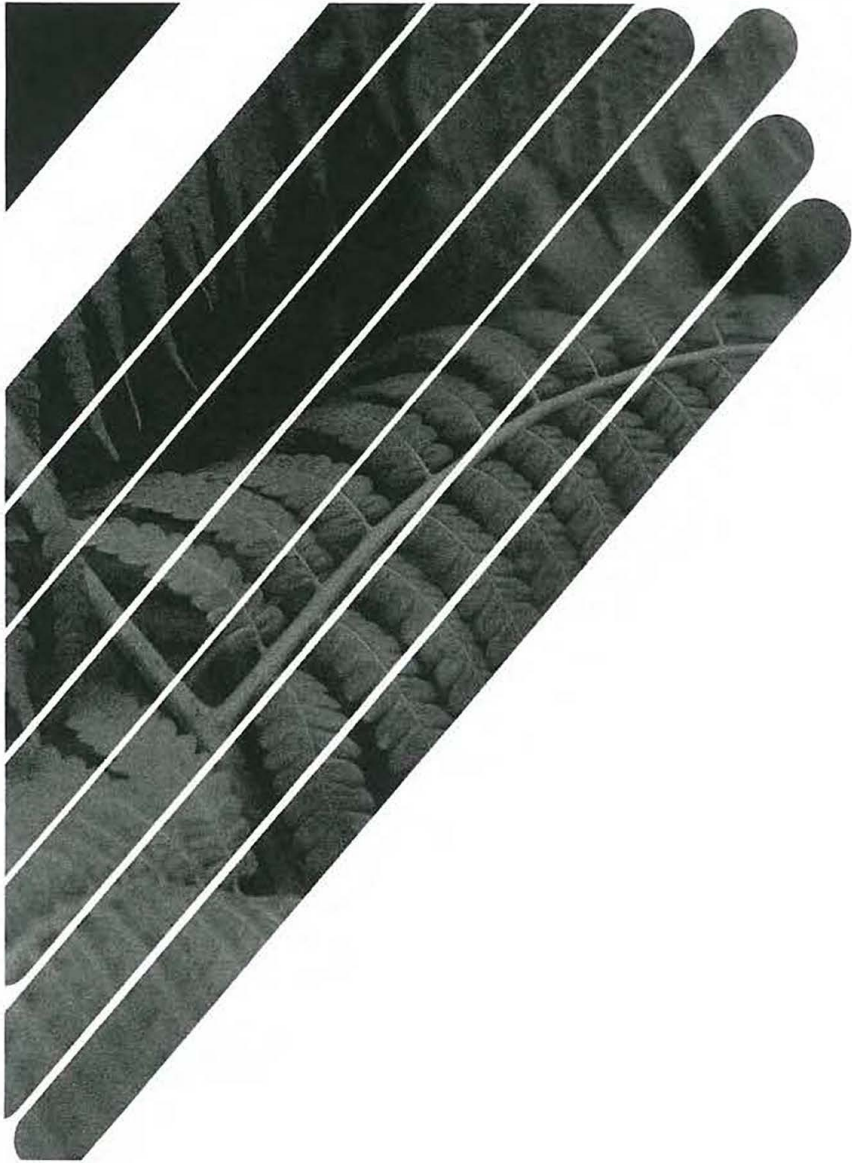
over the age of 60

2000

MORE THAN

NATIVE HAWAIIANS

have passed while on the waiting list

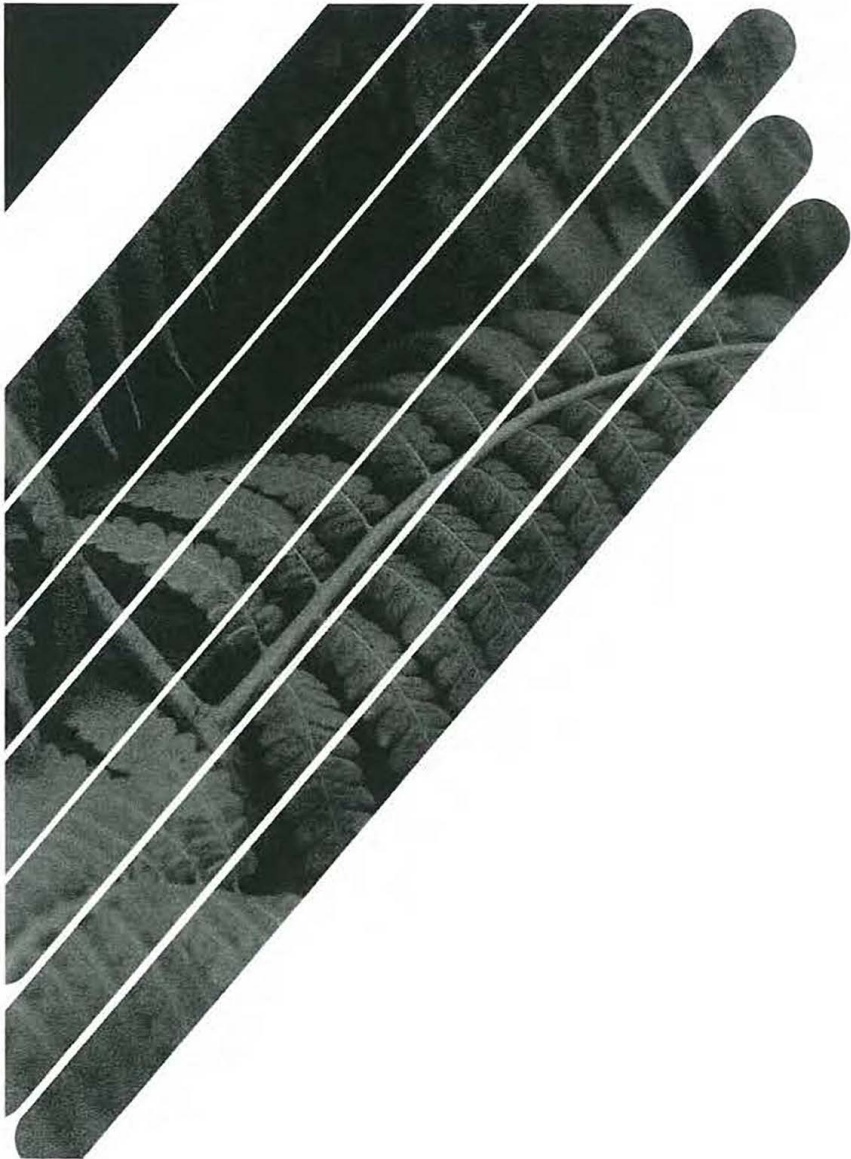


\$145.9 MILLION

FY '22-'23 BUDGET REQUEST

\$20 MILLION

FY '21 ACTUAL APPROPRIATION



\$4.5 BILLION

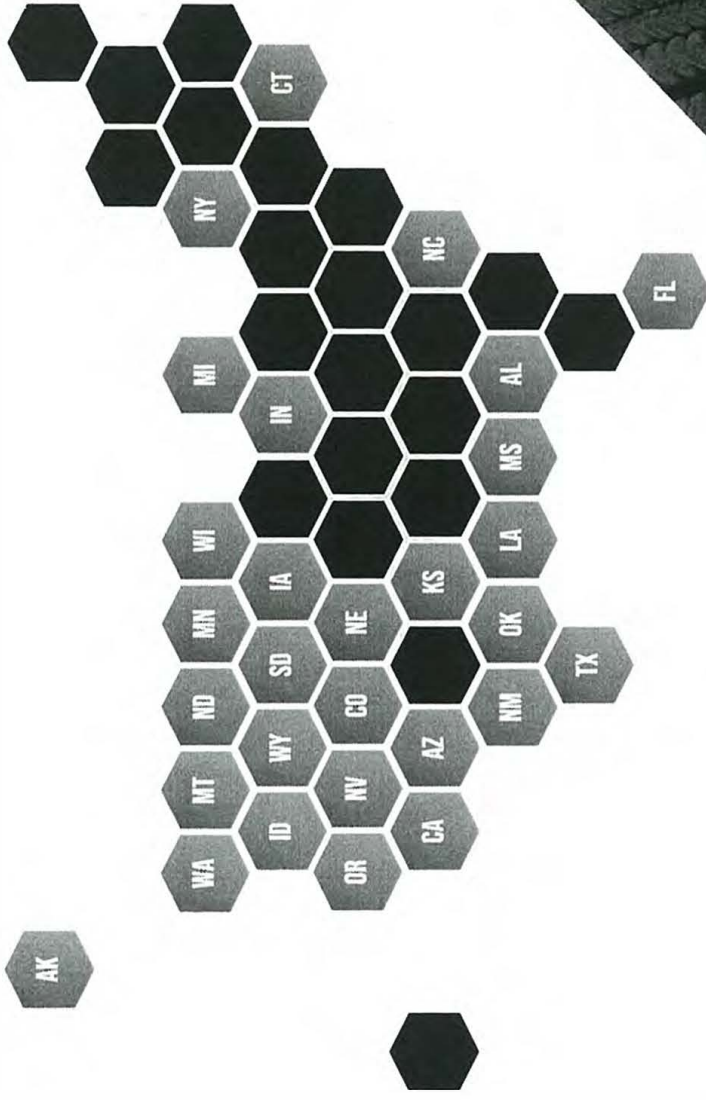
CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE OF
INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS ALONE
TO DEVELOP 28,000 LOTS - NOT
ACCOUNTING FOR NEW LAND
ACQUISITION

\$145.9 MILLION

FY '22-'23 BUDGET REQUEST

\$20 MILLION

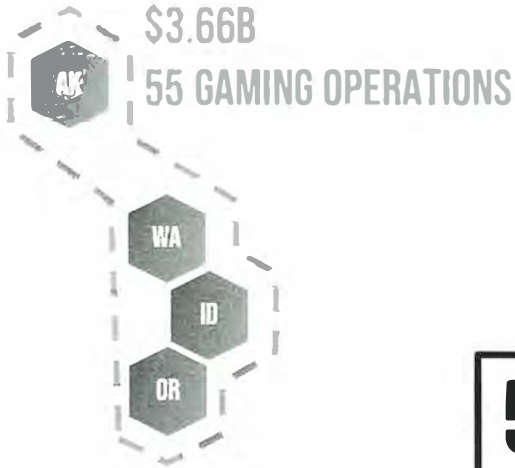
FY '21 ACTUAL APPROPRIATION



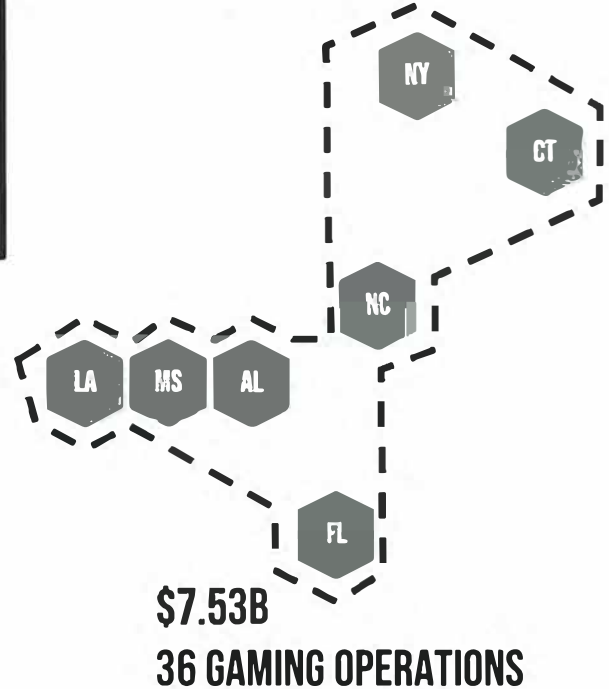
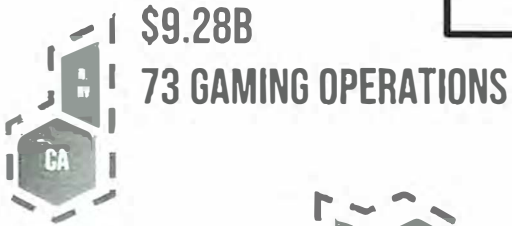
2019

STATES ALLOW TRIBAL GAMING

GAMING REVENUE
 Fiscal Year 2017
 National Indian Gaming Commission



501 GAMING OPERATIONS
\$33.72B REVENUE



AK WA OR ID CA AZ NV CO ND NM SD TX MN MT IA WI LA WY NE MS AL NC KS OK MI NY CT FL

FL

CT

NY

MI

OK

NC

AL

LA

WI

MIN

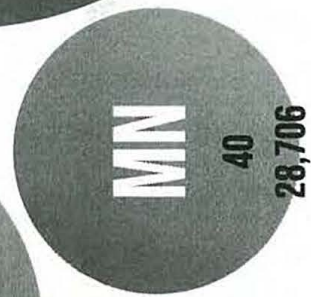
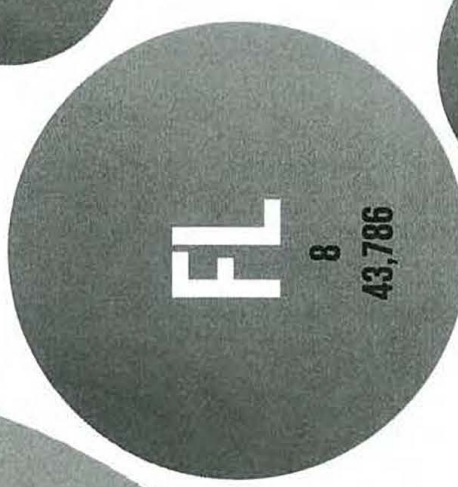
NM

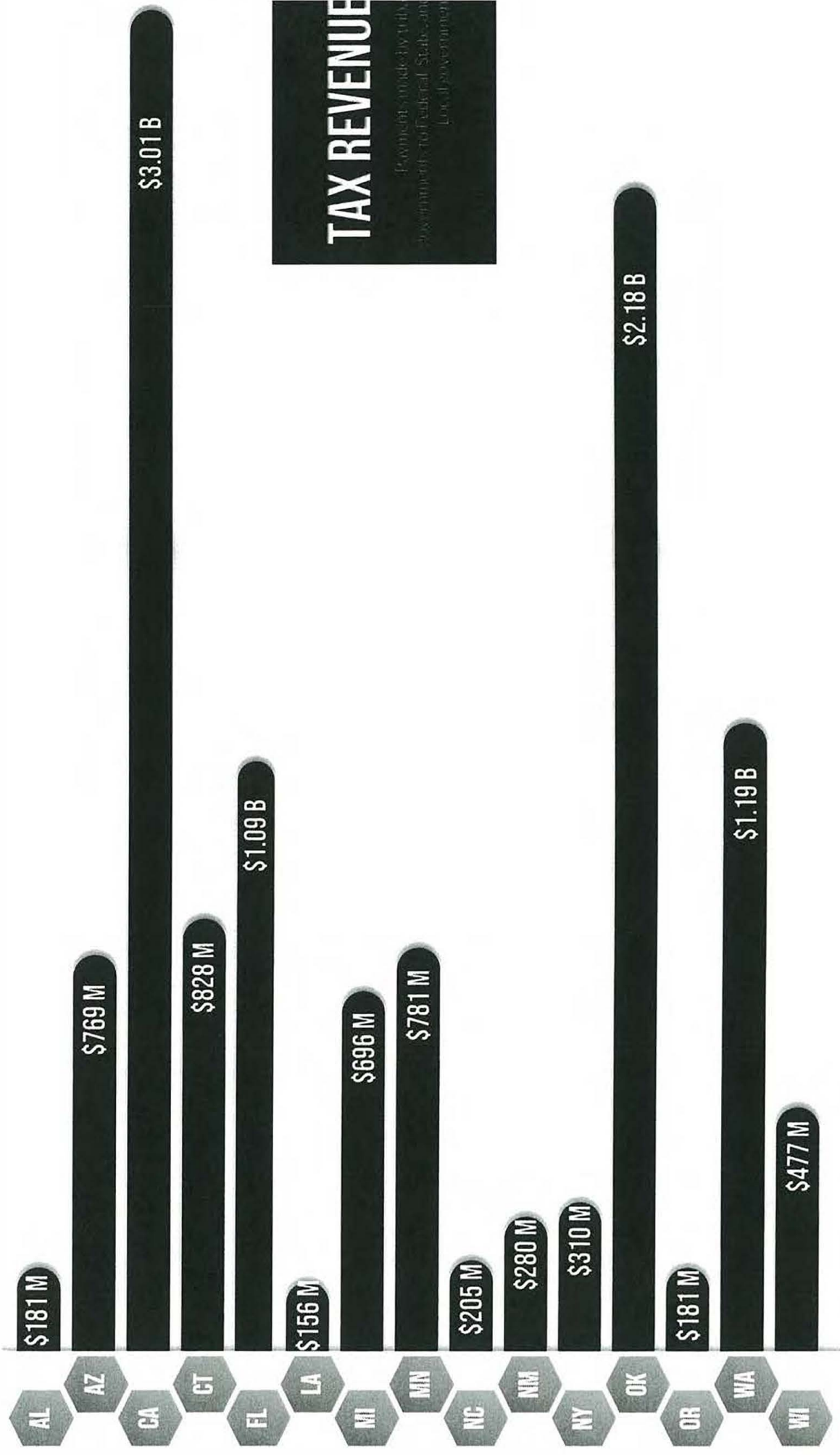
AZ

CA

OR

WA





TAX REVENUE

Payments made by cities
to the state, federal, state, and
local government

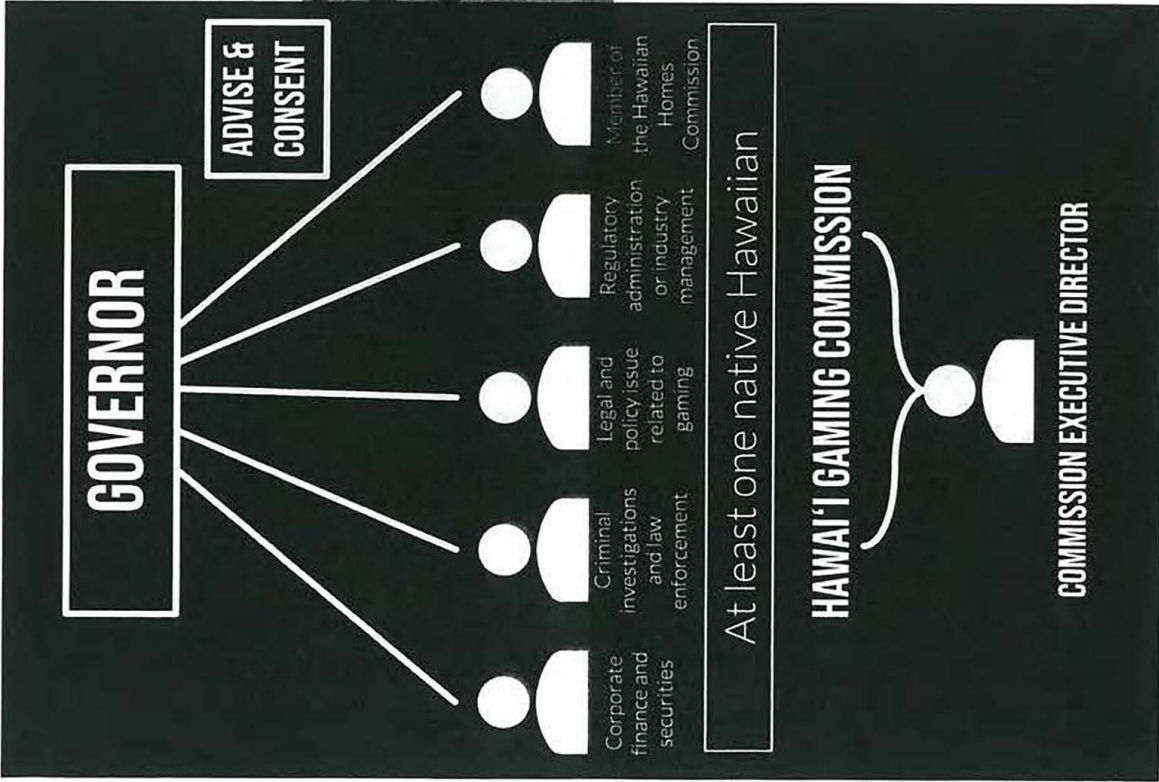
POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

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 FORTY-YEAR LICENSE

02 ONE INTEGRATED RESORT

03 ON DHHL LAND DESIGNATED
FOR COMMERCIAL USE

04 ON THE ISLAND OF O'AHU

05 EXCLUDING LANDS WEST
OF KO OLINA

LAND INVENTORY FOR
COMMERCIAL USE ON O'AHU

O'AHU - 95 ACRES

KAPOLEI - 80 ACRES

KAPĀLAMA - 3 ACRES

MŌ'ILI'ILI - 2 ACRES

NĀNĀKULI - 10 ACRES

HISTORY & EXPERIENCE

- HISTORY OF OR BONA FIDE PLAN FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OR INVESTMENT IN HAWAII
- 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

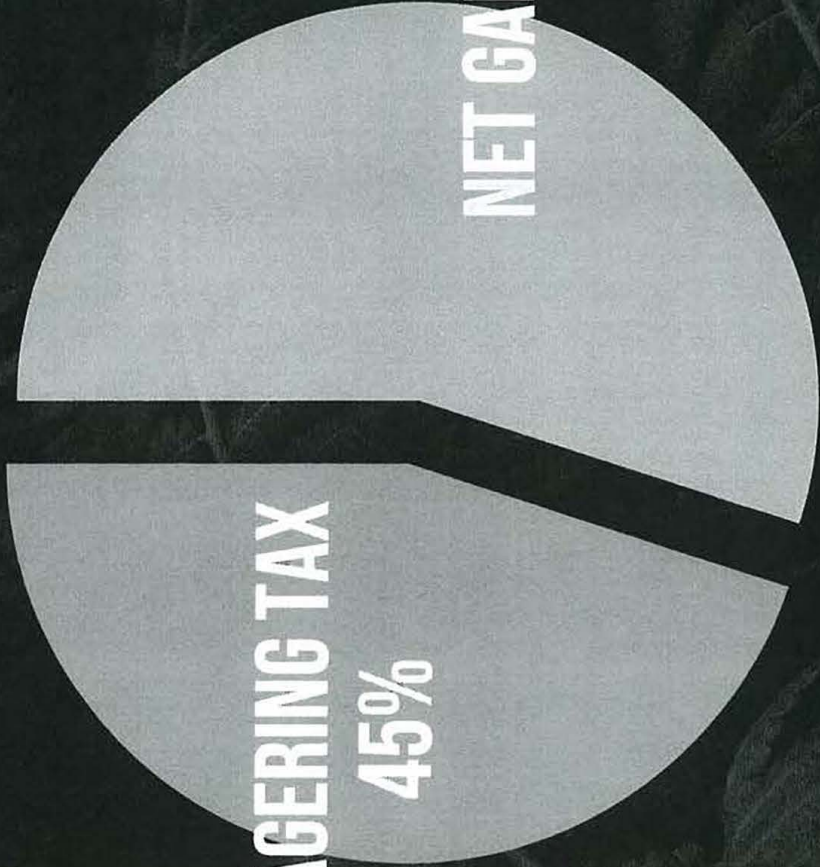
- TRAINING PLAN FOR NATIVE HAWAIIANS TO QUALIFY FOR JOBS AT THE I.R.
- ECONOMIC BENEFIT TO COMMUNITY & PLAN FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OR INVESTMENT
- NO WAGERING ON HAWAII COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS IN ANY OTHER JURISDICTIONS
- PLAN FOR CREATING PARTNERSHIPS WITH UH AND EXISTING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR TRAINING NATIVE HAWAIIANS FOR JOBS

LICENSE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH DHHL

- 01 \$200M MIN. INVESTMENT FOR
DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION
- 02 DHHL TO CONTRIBUTE \$5M
TO FUND INITIAL OPERATIONS OF COMMISSION
- 03 LICENSEE TO REFUND DHHL THE \$5M
BY THE FIRST DAY OF OPERATIONS

GROSS GAMING REVENUE



WAGERING TAX
45%

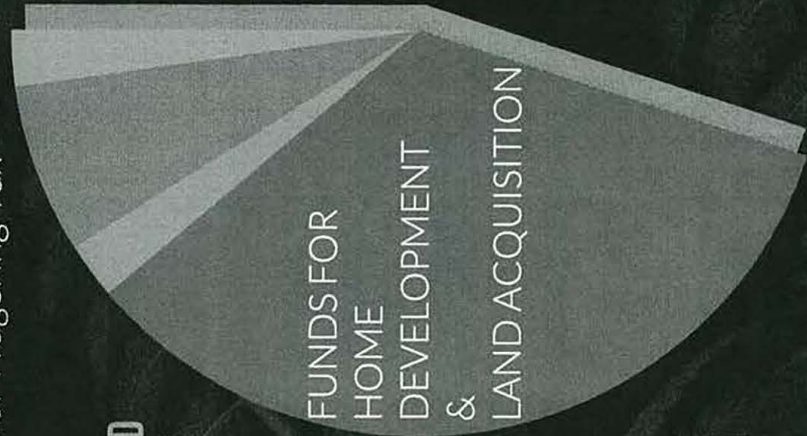
NET GAMING REVENUE
55%

WAGERING TAX

STATE GAMING FUND
5% of Wagering Tax

STATE GENERAL FUND
15% of Wagering Tax

**NATIVE HAWAIIAN
REHABILITATION FUND**
5% of Wagering Tax



**HAWAIIAN HOME
OPERATING FUND**
75% of Wagering Tax

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**

CONCERNS RELATED TO CRIME

An integrated resort will increase crime on O'ahu.

WHAT THE DATA SAYS

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.
"Casinos and Crime: An Analysis of the Evidence." Margolis, Altheimer, & Gray (1997)

There is a lack of evidence to support the idea that casinos and crime rates are related overall.

Gamblers other than casino gamblers are more likely to commit crimes

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

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

SOURCES

Blaszczynski, A., Ladouceur, R., & Shaffer, H.J. (2004)

Philander, Abarbanel, Bernhard, and Cho (2017)

Henderson, J.C. (2012)

Wood, R.T., Wohl, M.J., Tabri, N., & Philander, K. (2017)

LaPlante, Shaffer (2007)

Black et al (2012)

A foundational framework for responsible gambling policy, stakeholder roles, and harm-minimization

Up-to-date science on integrated resort development impacts and recommendations in Japan.

Case study on the successes of an integrated resort in Singapore

Research on measuring responsible gambling beliefs and behaviors in players.

Exposure to casinos does not necessarily provide a direct path to addiction or to gambling related problems. Adaptation Theory Analysis.

Following an initial increase in gambling participation, problematic gambling stabilizes at a lower level.



INDIAN GAMING BE ABLE TO FREELY EXPAND TO HAWAII

INDIAN GAMING REGULATORY ACT (IGRA) 1988 - SECTION 20

IF A TRIBE WISHES TO ENTER INTO TRIBAL GAMING ON NON-RESERVATION LAND, THE LAND MUST FIRST BE TAKEN INTO TRUST BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR IF ONE OF THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS APPLY:

- 1) the lands are located within or contiguous to the boundaries of the tribe's reservation as it existed on October 17, 1988;
- 2) the tribe has no reservation on October 17, 1988, and "the lands are located... within the Indian tribe's last recognized reservation within the state or states where the tribe is presently located;"
- 3) the "lands are taken into trust as part of: (i) the settlement of a land claim; (ii) the initial reservation of an Indian tribe acknowledged by the Secretary under the Federal acknowledgment process; or (iii) the restoration of lands for an Indian tribe that is restored to Federal recognition."

AND

THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE MUST CONCUR

Exhibit E

MEETING NOTES: BENEFICIARY CONSULTATION JANUARY 13, 18 & 19, 2021

DHHL BENEFICIARY CONSULTATIONS
Proposed Gaming Legislation
MEETING RECAP

January 13, 2021, 7:00 - 9:00 pm (Kapolei only)

January 18, 2021, 6:00 - 8:00 pm (Statewide)

January 19, 2021, 12:00 - 2:00 pm (Statewide)

Acting Planning Program Manager Andrew Choy welcomed everyone to the Beneficiary Consultation (BC). Auntie Home Schaedel opened the 1/13/21 meeting with a prayer. *Pule given by Tyler Gomes on 1/18/21 and Ulu Lota on 1/19/21. Choy introduced the DHHL Chairman William Aila Jr, Deputy Tyler Iokepa Gomes and staff, and provided some information regarding how to participate and engage in the discussion as well as the meetings ground rules. It was announced that the BC would be taped and posted on the DHHL website.

Gomes welcomed and thanked everyone that joined the meeting today.

Gomes noted that one question that came up repeatedly was, where were beneficiary consultations? Typically, beneficiary consultations do not occur before policy issues are presented to the Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC). However, the Department heard the beneficiaries wanted consultation, we listened and that is why DHHL is holding the meetings.

The bill really came out of DHHL looking to find a way to meet the funding needs of the department that are not being met by the State. Currently, the DHHL has 10,000 lessees, but there are 28,000 applicants on the waitlist. Looking for a solution to address the waitlist and gaming has been identified.

Issues- (1) lots of applicants, not enough lands. Not all DHHL land is developable (on cliffsides) (2)Time: it will take 182 years to clear out the existing wait list (even if there aren't any new applicants). (3)More than ½ of wait listers are over 60 years old and many can't afford to develop raw land or put in infrastructure. More than 2,000 beneficiaries have passed away before getting a lease. (4) Budget- The budget appropriated to DHHL is \$20 million. DHHL requested \$145.9M (normal ask is for \$200M but reduced due to COVID-19). At a very conservative estimate, it costs 150K per homestead for infrastructure costs in Kapolei, where development is easier than other geographic-challenged areas, it would cost \$4.5B for infrastructure only (estimate doesn't include land purchases/home building/etc.) to clear out the existing waiting list.

Bill creates 2 things. Creates exemption for DHHL:

- 1) Sets up a gaming commission,
- 2) Limited gaming – One license for one integrated resort (hotel/casino/etc.) on DHHL land designated for commercial use. Excludes lands west of Ko `Olina.

Currently 29 states have tribal gaming. There are 501 gaming facilities that generate \$33B/annually. Looking at the top 16 states: N. Carolina has 2 gaming facilities and provides 11,730 full time jobs. Connecticut has 2 casino and provides 25,197 full time jobs. Casinos create an astounding number of new jobs, not just service industry jobs, but IT, upper management/executive, compliance and enforcement. Many Hawaiians who have relocated to the mainland found gaming jobs. Gaming provides opportunity for relocated Hawaiians to move back to Hawaii and for our mo`opuna to stay here and find jobs in a new industry.

Tax revenue- The State is facing a huge tax deficit of \$1.8B/annually for the next 4 years. A new revenue engine serves both to increase revenue to the State and fund DHHL.

State would create Hawai'i Gaming Commission (GC)- Governor would appoint five (5) GC members, including a minimum of one (1) native Hawaiian. Governor can appoint all native Hawaiians. GC would be administratively attached to DHHL.

The HHC supports a 20-year license. The Legislature will most likely introduce slightly modified version.

As a result of extensive BC opinion, DHHL currently has 95 acres of commercial land on O`ahu, 80 acres are in Kapolei.

There will be extensive license application requirements for a casino developer, including track record of community involvement, capital, unblemished history of criminal activity, and a development plan that provides maximum revenue to DHHL. Community benefits include training plans for native Hawaiians so they qualify for jobs at the integrated resort , community involvement, no wagering on Hawaii collegiate athletics, and UH/educational partnerships for job training.

DHHL would create a Development Agreement (DA). Before any DA goes in place there will be more beneficiary consultation. DA requires \$50M minimum investment, however, the Legislature may increase it to \$200M. DHHL to initially contribute \$5M to fund operations but it must be reimbursed by the 1st day of operations. DHHL will make money in 2 ways: 1) DA rent and 2) taxes.

Gross gaming revenue: 45% wagering tax. Of that, 75% will go to DHHL operating fund (home development and land acquisition), 5% Native Hawaiian rehabilitation fund, 15% to state general fund, and 5% state gaming fund.

\$30M/annually is a conservative estimated revenue stream to the department. DHHL is working to get more low- and high-end revenue stream estimates. Could be as much \$125M to \$200M/annually. Philosophy is to build to meet your need.

State Gaming Fund will pay for: 1) Compulsive gamblers program and public safety, 2) roads and infrastructure, and 3) gaming administrative costs.

Concerns people have brought up-

- Crime will go up. *There is a lack of evidence that casinos cause crime to go up.*
- Addiction will go up. *Even without legal gaming, Hawai'i's addiction rate is higher than any other state (due to black market gambling) Gambling addiction is 1-2% in U.S., in Hawaii 2.2%.*
- Gaming problems. *Over time there is no long-term change.*
- This will open up gaming by Indians in Hawai'i. *Per the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, Section 20- the tribe needs to have historical connection to the land that they want to game on. No Indian tribes have that connection and additionally, Hawaii's governor would have to agree before the Department of the Interior would allow Indian gaming in Hawaii.*

The data really suggests that if you provide for, and properly mitigate up front, there is no statistical change in addiction, crime, etc.

The Legislature asked DHHL, which projects would be shovel ready by 2023? DHHL's response was 700 units be ready and it would cost \$65M dollars (3x the current CIP budget).

No one has another idea to fund projects adequately to get Hawaiians onto land. Right now, there are no other recommendations, just this one. Courts agree DHHL is underfunded. The constitution was also amended. How do we, as Hawaiians, exert authority to demand that the promises made are met and how do we achieve self-sufficiency?

Lehua Kinilau-Cano, Legislative Analyst, went over the following Legislative Package:

Requests:

- Request for Independent Council – ensuring beneficiaries interests are met
- Representation on the Board of Agriculture and CWRM

Ways to save \$\$:

- Request to exempt DHHL from school impact fees when developing housing
- Request to exempt DHHL from general excise taxes when developing house (significant cost savings)
- County Boards of water supply, water rights
- Infrastructure maintenance (DHHL spends \$5M/annually on this)
- Historic Preservation review – process reviews through the DHHL instead of SHPD due to SHPD's backlog
- Game rooms and illegal activities in the homestead communities – make it criminal, expedite agency hearings, allow remote contested case hearings (right now HHC may only go to outer islands once a year)
- Limited casino gaming

She encouraged attendees to participate in the Legislative process and that this year there is a great opportunity to participate remotely. Kinilau-Cano put the Legislature's link in the chat box. In addition, she encouraged attendees to participate in the law school training.

Choy then opened the meeting for questioning (if the comment was said orally, it is included here along with the DHHL response if one was provided. Comments from questions in the chat were summarized when possible and are followed by the DHHL responses (in italics). The responses are paraphrased, not verbatim.

** BC #1 Q&A - Kapolei, January 13, 2021 (7:00 - 9:00 pm)

- Sam and Chantel- Identified concerns that there needs to be perfect execution to run it sustainably and to mitigate the issues. I can't think of any example where the State has perfectly executed any program (particularly those involving Hawaiians)
- Why is it stopping at Ko 'Olina? *The existing commercial lands west of Ko 'Olina are off limits. Should the DHHL acquire new lands, it would exclude lands west of Ko 'Olina to primarily to protect the existing homestead community in Nanakuli.*
- What is the \$\$ split? *Money- 80% to DHHL, 20% to State-. Since the majority of revenue will go to the DHHL, it ensures the DHHL projects will be the priority recipients.*

- *Why would any casino revenue go to the State's general fund? The DHHL can't take care of everything, need State's assistance for programs such as gambling addiction, public health and safety. Also, it is doubtful that the bill would pass without a portion going to the State.*
- *There are 3 commercial parcels in Kapolei. Did DHHL pick a parcel?- DHHL has not picked a property, the legislature is open to land anywhere on Oahu. If DHHL decides to redesignate land, it would require beneficiary consultation.*
- *Did the (revenue) funding from Ka Makana Ali'i (KMA) match projections? - Projections for KMA revenue were on track until the COVID-19 pandemic. KMA provided about \$5M/annually. All of DHHL's commercial lease revenues are down probably about 40%. Would need 5 or 6 KMA malls to equal revenue of one casino.*
- *What is the timeline? The leg session begins 1/20/21, bill cut off is 1/27, Leg session end April 29. If it goes through, Gov has a year to make appointments to the GC. The GC sets the regulatory framework for how long they want to solicit applications, contesting period, other procurement components. The regulatory body needs to build out the system. Four years is an estimate. This is one of the main reasons for advocating a separate entity for gaming. It will take a one body completely dedicated to doing that one job and keep "it clean."*
- *What about other lands for PV? There are other multiple solar farms, but the revenue stream is not the same as what could be generated by a casino.*
- *Who is the target casino audience? The target audience is tourist. That is why DHHL is not recommending a lottery which is very dependent on the local community. Hawaii's favorable geographic location in the Pacific attracts visitors from multiple countries.*
- *DHHL will continue to pursue renewable energy. DHHL is looking to save money. HHC recently approved a pilot project that provide beneficiaries with down payment assistance.*
- *How many total acres are projected? That is something the beneficiaries and commission to consider. The current parcels in Kapolei are no bigger than 15 acres. DHHL could acquire land too.*
- *Current process for the Kapolei Regional Plan Update-Will it be more robust? DHHL would like to the attendees mana'o regarding the regional planning. Following the Q/A, there will be several questions DHHL will propose to the attendees directly relating to the Kapolei Regional planning process.*
- *Will there be online gaming or a weekly lottery? The bill does not contemplate a lottery or on-line gaming.*
- *What is the economic impact on native Americans? Many native Americans benefit WHEN the gaming commissions make investments at the upfront work in the creation of the gaming commission etc. What is not seen is, there are a lot of donations casinos do in Indian communities (i.e., donating to local hospitals, funding infrastructure, etc.) that are separate, but beneficial to communities on top of revenue generation.*

- Plans to replicate an existing casino? *No.*
- How long is the lease? 4 Years? *No, the Leg is contemplating 40 years. The HHC approved 20 years. Pachanga is an amazing example of gaming can do for a community. The difference for the community over the last 20 year is big. Prior to gaming, they had no running water, homes with dirt floors. Really something to look at -- how it changed entire lives.*
- Seems like a huge chunk will go to land acquisition which is a benefit to applicants. What do current lessee stand to benefit? *DHHL bears the cost of huge infrastructure issues. While the applicants were the focus of the presentation, this will benefit lessee too. What is seen repeatedly in communities, is casinos providing benefits to improve infrastructure and hospitals, because there is a desire to have healthy communities surrounding the casinos.*
- Will native Hawaiians get job preference? *The bill does not have anything in it for preference, however any DA (that DHHL enters with HHC approval) can require a preference.*
- 5% set aside for public health and safety. (1% was deemed acceptable). *DHHL wants to ensure that there is increased support for public safety. There are possibilities for doing things like a police sub-station.*
- Will DHHL expand their administrative offices on Oahu? *DHHL was limited by State for staffing. That is a bigger question for the State in general. However, financial autonomy could address staffing needs.*
- How much revenue could agriculture provide? *DHHL does not have a projection for revenue generation for agriculture lands. The best ag lands go to homestead leases at \$1/year. The focus for agriculture is not to generate revenue, but rather to grow native Hawaiian farmers.*
- Comment and questions raised orally Kama K.-How are you going set up the casino. What is the rent for Innergex solar panel for the 179 acres? *The general lease agreement is \$200K per year, plus a percentage payout from the power purchase agreement.*
- Comment and questions raised orally Kama . They (Innegex) are clearing /300K/600K monthly. A lot of Hawaiians want to see numbers. We want to see you build the casino. Do I want it, yes? Is it feasible? What's to say that we will get what we are supposed to get. I really hope it does work. I think a lot of people are scared of that. *The tax revenue needs to be as high as DHHL says. The leg could gut the bill/change the % of profits allocation, but at the end of the day HHC could say "no" and stop the project There are checks and balance to prevent the benefits from not reaching beneficiaries . Regarding, \$600M power purchase agreement- DHHL makes rent, plus a cut of the revenue. If you think gaming works, but are concerned with Governor being in control, then talk to your legislator. Once it leaves DHHL's hands we do not have a say, but you can continue to engage in the process.*
- How are we generate revenue if we lease for \$1 a year?- *GL leases are not \$1 per year, but rather the lands bring in a lease rent based on the and highest and best use.*
- Will there be an EIS? *Because this is on state lands, the project will go through the Chapter 343 process and will include a cultural impact assessment.*

- *The strongest limitation DHHL could put in is 1 license. The Gov could expand, so DHHL needs to make it the premier place. People will go to Hilton, embassy suites, but there is only one Royal Hawaiian. We need DHHL's casino to be the Royal Hawaiian.*
- *Is it DHHL's kuleana to generate their own revenue? No not according to the constitution. So, if the legislature is not willing to consider this proposal, then that is an excellent question to pose to the leg- What are they doing to meet their kuleana.*
- *There were several questions regarding revenue generation, and the amount DHHL is getting for its leases. Link to asset management box on the DHHL website.*
- *Lots of federal monies were returned. Categorically not true. DHHL has been spending down both Federal and State funds.*

**** BC #2 Q&A - Statewide, January 18, 2021 (6:00 to 8:00 pm)**

- *I am a full-blood Hawaiian waiting for a home on Hawaiian Home Lands but a limited casino is being considered before I am able to obtain a lease. This bill is meant to help us figure out a solution. DHHL not satisfied that there are waiting beneficiaries. Not many acres are set aside for commercial use – need to get people on land faster.*
- *Hanalei – Is DHHL proposing to a tribe with federal recognition. Short answer is “no,” we don't have to be a federally recognized tribe to do gaming. Does not require federal processes.*
- *Chessine – Who will be doing the build-out and casino operations? DHHL is a state agency and will need to follow procurement rules and regulations. DA Developer and operator. DHHL will not be running the casino*
- *Noel – (BCs) DHHL does not do BC for legislative proposals before going to HHC. However, gaming issue important to a lot of people. Wish it came it out earlier. Legislative proposals do not typically have BCs. We understand that beneficiaries are upset with DHHL and the department is willing to be flexible. When did this idea come up? After StarAdvertiser October article – disappointed by extent of resources, even as hard as the 150 staff work. What do we do? Especially with estimated \$1.4B shortfall for next 4 years due to the pandemic.*
- *Lottery? An option, but the question is who plays it – resident. We don't want to make the revenue on the backs of residents. S/B tourists.*
- *Julian – What is the State's responsibility for funding and are there any statutory obligations that the State has not been meeting? State constitution says that it shall provide sufficient funds. Department's request does not get funded – not enough revenue in the State to take care of everyone's requests. Nelson case = courts upheld that DHHL be sufficiently funded.*
- *What are other funding ideas? Commercial lands generate revenue. Due to COVID-19, loss 40-50% of revenue. DHHL has hotels, shopping malls, renewable energy projects but they do*

- not generate revenues anywhere close to a casino. How do we save \$ - pilot program to help beneficiaries with down payment. DHHL trying creativity as much as possible.*
- *Why does the casino have to be on DHHL commercial land? The HHC only has authority over DHHL lands and more importantly, the HHC Act has a bit more power on their own lands than a normal owner.*
 - *Repurpose commercial lands? That'll benefit some people. Way too little amount commercial lands. Do we build 200 more homes or look for more opportunities to build 20,000 more homes. Infrastructure on existing commercial lands is limited.*
 - *Build casino on Kakaako land? DHHL does not currently own land in Kakaako. OHA does. If bill opens up to Oahu, then allows DHHL to obtain land, i.e. Waikiki. HHC also has authority over land use on DHHL lands. Beneficiaries have a voice to change zoning (commercial to residential), but that will reduce revenue.*
 - *Does the Governor name the GC and who will they be accountable to? Appointees accountable to State, at least one member will be HHC, must be compliant with the bill.*
 - *Rent to own to address wait list? DHHL just began rent to own project in Kona, Lai Opuia (2nd project). 1st project in Kapolei and considering other options.*
 - *Will revenue be used to lower home prices (in addition to infrastructure). Question for HHC to consider. Never had an opportunity for that question due to insufficient funds. Will consider how to make homes more affordable.*
 - *Why is DHHL giving free rent funds – why were those funds given out if now saying not enough funds and need casino? NAHASDA funds from the federal government were given due to families having financial problems due to pandemic. Other NAHASDA funds support construction.*
 - *How is DHHL paying for the July 2020 Kalima law suit? State is paying. Not sure if DHHL is sharing that cost.*
 - *Will beneficiaries receive a monthly income from casino revenue? If the size of revenue is enough and 28,000 waitlist homes built, then the HHC can address that decision. That idea has worked in other jurisdictions.*
 - *What about the 20% ceded lands income? DHHL receives \$0, the ceded land income going to Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Note: Bellows is slated to return to DHHL but on federal government timeline. They know that we're waiting for the conveyance.*
 - *How to participate in legislative process? Training program that UH is putting on - Ka Huli Ao. DHHL will also make presentation available on DHHL website.*
 - *Contractual or personal connections between casino and the planned Ewa Beach resort? No.*
 - *Will there be a sunset clause added to the 40-year casino license to protect the Department's percentages? For the Legislature to address – constituents should ask their representative.*

- Alternatives to existing homestead uses? *Rentals: possible to rent but needs to be to a beneficiary. Businesses runned out of the home – depends on location/impact to neighbors.*
- As interest rates are moving up, can DHHL finance the leases for the homes to be built? *That would require the department to have cash to secure that financing. Cash reserves needed for payments.*
- How much is DHHL investing for the proposal? *DHHL is investing \$0, staff's hard work (can't hire lobbyists), providing \$5M upfront but repayment required before casino is opened.*
- With land being scarce, how are we able to afford Isenberg project? *Isenberg is a DA -- someone is building it for us and they pay us rent. Presently, most beneficiaries want single-family homes but trend changes can be addressed by the HHC.*
- Have we tried other ideas? *Nothing that comes close to one casino's estimated revenue. Would require multiple other projects.*
- Why not hemp? *DHHL proposed hemp and medical marijuana but was not HHC approved. State also changed law that made the hemp proposal moot. Other ideas welcomed.*
- Why solar for Nanakuli and casino for Kapolei. *In Nanakuli, the commercial land is right next to a homestead. Nanakuli is one of the top suitable sites across the State for solar energy due its sunlight and heat. In Kapolei, the casino is makai of Roosevelt Avenue.*
- Any idea who would bid for DA? *Not sure at this point but the probably best in the industry. Beneficiaries will have a shared voice in the decision.*
- When would casino revenue be used for building homes? *Island plans articulate how many homes could be built on each island. 17,000 homes articulated.*
- Where are we at regarding the Nelson case? *Nelson has gone up and down the court system (twice). Last Supreme Court question is re: what was the rate of inflation to calculate sufficient sums in 2016. Judge has issued his opinion and HHC will follow a timeline to address/appeal the decision.*
- Why isn't DHHL given sufficient lands if it's called for in the constitution. *DHHL has a long and troubled history of not bring given sufficient land, resulting in settlements like Act 14. Need to continue to find suitable lands for housing.*
- Do we need Gov/Leg approval? *Once bill introduced, requires majority vote from House/Senate. If supported, Gov can sign bill, Gov could not sign and become law without signature, Gov could veto the bill.*
- Why can't DHHL renegotiate commercial rates? *BC process followed. We are getting market rate and highest/best use for general lease lands.*
- Will there be additional attempts to get suitable homesteading lands? Is it a priority? *DHHL actively pursues opportunities for additional land. Sometimes it is a federal offer, e.g. pilot project for DHHL down payment assistance. Additional land is a high priority.*
- Offer scholarships for purchasing homes? *Federal NAHASDA funds for 80% or below AMI.*

- Will there be a BC for Waiawa lands (rail). *Ewa Drum lands and Varona Village. BC conducted 2014; waiting for final appraisal. If there is a difference in appraisal, City and County required to compensate the DHHL for the shortfall.*
- Are proceeds from shopping center used to paid staff employees? *No – staff salaries are separate administrative costs.*
- Why are we supporting an illegal venture? *Bill would make it legal for DHHL, just the DHHL.*
- Why aren't DHHL lands for beneficiaries fee simple? *Product of the act itself. Act would need to be changed at the federal level/DOI/Congress.*
- Are we sure no other entity with assets can make a casino? *Bill written for only 1 casino. Everyone needs to support that the bill not be amended beyond one license.*
- Benefit package only for Kapolei? *If it's in Kapolei, then it'll be a part of the negotiation. Open discussion for beneficiaries to ask HHC for other communities/as many ways as possible.*
- Does DHHL need DOI for gaming? *No, only need to amend State law.*
- If casino passes, would other commercial land be changed for homesteads? *If beneficiaries want it, HHC to consider.*
- Why doesn't State it, they need the most money. What about an offshore casino? *Issue has been brought up in Leg before. Benefit for DHHL is to be in the driver's seat and ensure beneficiaries get the most out of it.*
- Beneficiaries don't really have a say – is it for employee paychecks? *Revenue from casinos won't change employee paychecks. BCs are critical.*
- What is DHHL doing about beneficiaries who don't pay their lease payments? Empty homes? Upkeep? Use those homes for waitlist. *HHC addresses those issues every month. DHHL tries to be as responsive as possible, short staffing makes it difficult, does the best it can with the resources that it has.*
- What about lands that has been awarded but unoccupied for decades and then sold? *DHHL made a fix -- vacant lands that are unimproved cannot be sold.*
- Why isn't BC important now or before legislation is introduced? *BC is something that goes to the HHC first. Timeline is short. Not all policy issues are the same.*

**** BC #3 Q&A - Statewide, January 19, 2021 (12:00 – 2:00 pm)**

- Why does DHHL have limited funding? *Current \$/sources: Leg and Gov legislative process/trust funds/NAHASDA federal funds/revenue from commercial lands (was \$20M/annually but cut in half due to Covid-19 pandemic). Other options explored: solar + % of PPV, hotel, mall, new initiatives to reduce DHHL costs such as down payment program for beneficiaries.*

- Is airport on ceded lands? *No, OHA gets 20% from ceded lands, not DHHL. Ceded lands program does not impact DHHL.*
- Why did DHHL not do a BC? *DHHL's legislative package does not require BC.*
- Why does it feel like a decision was made already? *HHC made a decision based on info provided. There are additional options for beneficiary weigh-in: legislative process, BC before a DA is made, beneficiaries will have opportunity to ask for community/economic benefits. Several casinos in the county make significant contributions for infrastructure, etc.*
- Only kanakas as employees? *Employment cannot be based on race but training/educational opportunities can be provided so that beneficiaries are most suitable for the jobs.*
- Who will fund the casino? *DA developer pays for it, operation and maintenance. DHHL will get DA lease rent plus majority of taxes.*
- What else can do done with casino revenues? *DHHL will look at waitlist, surplus revenue can fund other benefits.*
- Any increase in taxes? *No increase in taxes were written into the bill.*
- Hawaii is one of 2 states that doesn't allow gaming. Can we do lottery or bingo? *Those kinds of operations are smaller in scale but also puts burden on local residents (versus tourists).*
- Why doesn't DHHL pursue the 20% that OHA is getting for ceded lands? *Would require a constitutional amendment. Due to litigation, capped at \$15.1M. Note: DHHL/OHA are two separate agencies.*
- If we need \$, why don't we go after State/military? *HHLRA passed by Congress (got Kapolei lands), Act 14 (State law to address lack of payment for leasing lands), considering federal surplus Ewa land, in talks with DLNR re: lands owed to the DHHL.*
- What are non-beneficiary contributing to DHHL revenues? *Leased properties generate revenue, revenue is dedicated to lot development.*
- If gambling is legal, why would tourists come to Hawaii? *Hawaii's proximity to Asia is positive, work on marketing to create a casino that has an enticing destination appeal.*
- Why can't Kamehameha School, DHHL, OHA all come together. *HHC Act was created in 1921 as a federal act (public trust), Kamehameha School is a private trust, OHA is a State agency. Not sure if the 3 agencies can become 1 entity, but collaboration is pursued.*
- Godfrey – Good presentation/info. Homework well done. However, his family opposes due to values and ethics issues but could introduce activities like moonshine or a pakalolo dispensary. Secondly, does the Act require beneficiaries pay for water? If didn't have to pay for water (maintenance subscription for unlimited water rather than charged by quantity) then farming would be booming. Should ask beneficiaries if they want raw land – let people decide, not the department.

- Mapuana – what are the other options? *Only a limited amount of land available for revenue generation? Renewable energy = DHHL gets rent for land + PPV, hotels and 2 malls (KMA \$5M/annually before pandemic).*
- Cora – What the policy/operational procedures? Rural committee literacy training – even though HHC approved initiative, they did not have adequate time to consider the casino idea. Not pono. What would stop the DHHL from introducing other initiatives without a BC? *Beneficiary consultation policy (link on website).*
- Why do we have more people on the waitlist than actual land. How many acres used for non-beneficiaries? Mention all categories. Handout flow chart about the governing power – not pono, only 1 out of 5/6/7 positions are for Hawaiians. In total opposition. What about food security? *Bill does not decide where project is going – this is about creating a possibility. Projects get BC, legislative package do not typically go through BC. Residential land main focus – but there are AG lands available on Molokai. GC at least one native Hawaiian (beneficiary) + HHC. Can be all native Hawaiian if adequately expertise and experience. DHHL Planning Office has plans for food production. CTAHR agent contracts for ag services. Survey conducted in August for ag program plan + will go back out for BC in the near future.*
- Kahaku – HHC made 100 years ago with allocation of 200,000 acres, status? Are the acres used up? Could other bills/proposals be created without BCs - leads to distrust. Why haven't the 90 acres of commercial lands converted into residential? Why haven't we demanded what is owed to us? Can't we force them to give us ceded land instead of selling the land to foreign entities? Lowering blood quantum? What about hemp or medical marijuana? Consider self-build homes so infrastructure is not a problem? \$42,000 for package home. Aliis were not for gambling – it was banned. *Liliuokalani tried to legalize gambling/Kuhio and David Malo also supported gaming. It was missionaries that tried to make gambling a bad thing. Regulation will help to curb crime. Self-build homes were offered, however, it was largely unsuccessful. Not everyone has time/desire/resources to figure out for wastewater, electricity. Hemp/marijuana not HHC approved – can be reraised with HHC. Lowering blood quantum – could technically have 2 awards under the Act. Considering that, almost 40,000 applications. There is an existing bill before Congress to lower blood quantum. Foreclosing on State debt – State paid \$600M (Act 14). Ceded lands revenue for OHA. Foreclosing on State properties – not aware of any lands that are in default. Conversion of commercial to residential – Beneficiaries set aside the commercial lands (Oahu Island Plan). What other bills would be passed without BC – all legislative bills go straight to HHC without BC, may need to rethink that policy. 203,500 acres of land – much of the land in not inhabitable. Per Oahu Island Plan, 1.5% set aside for commercial use, a lot of non-homesteads lands have not been encumbered by anyone (resulting in management costs), often look for partnerships to help with land management.*

- Warren - Is department providing more opportunities for property management? Will workers be working on property – are they given first choice. *We cannot violate federal law re: job selection by race. Can provide training/education so Hawaiians are more suited for employment.* Education opportunities on property? *An educational facility on property is not currently decided, beneficiaries could ask for a school to be built during negotiation.* Will there be housing for employees on property? *Can be negotiated during DA.* Sounds positive. When we do get to the opportunity when local businesses can be a part of the entity? *DA negotiation process, possibly ask the developer to set aside a portion of the land for local businesses.* Developer chosen? *No, not yet. Bill creates gaming + one integrated resort.*
- Charlani - \$600M payment amount is a joke. Homeless would take their last funds and spend it in the casino. Our people need to be in homes. There are 14 vacant homes that are falling down in Waimanalo that should be taken back. Vacant lots should be taken back. There's a \$900,000 Waimanalo Hawaiian Homelands house/lot for sale – price is out of reach. *If you didn't get a postcard, please contact office to get change of address form. HHC did take action to not allow beneficiaries to sell their lots but beneficiary disagreed and the action did not pass, so at this time they can sell lot but the issue can be readdressed.*

After the Q&A sessions concluded, DHHL:

1. Link posted for DHHL survey.
2. Next steps slide 1: meeting video t/b posted, 30-day consultation end Feb 9th, email for comments [dhhl.planning@hawaii.gov](mailto:dhdl.planning@hawaii.gov), consultation reports presented March 2021, legislative session begins Jan 20, 2021. Share mana`o with legislature.
3. Choy asked some questions regarding process to the attendees. Those with comments were requested to put it into the chat box (if additional questions were asked during this period, they were listed above).
4. Cedric Duarte, Information, Communications and Community Relations Officer, posted two items into the chat. The items include a link to the gaming proposal as well as a link to a survey. The survey should not take more than 5 minutes.
5. There will be state wide meetings starting next week. Everyone invited to this meeting is welcome to participate. The meeting notice for tonight's meeting was sent to both applicants (residing in Kapolei area) and Kapolei lessees. For the statewide meetings occurring next week, the notice was sent to ALL beneficiaries (applicants and lessees)
6. Choy posted DHHL Planning Office's email in the chat box to allow participants to ask additional questions, submit comments, etc. After the meeting concluded.
7. Kinilau-Cano highlighted leg high points-Right now the proposals only have numbers based on the HHC numbers, but as this goes through the process, Kinilau-Cano will update ICRO to provide the house/senate numbers. She really encouraged everyone to

provide written testimony because this year is very different. It is really important for DHHL to have beneficiary consultation, but it is as important for beneficiaries to engage and weigh in with the leg.

###

Exhibit F

30-DAY
COMMENT PERIOD

Applicant	Lessee	YES	NO	COMMENT	SELF ID as a DHHL BENEFICIARY: COMMENTS AND OPINIONS
1	1		1		Against - not on Hawaiian lands, no place culturally and lifestyle
1	1	1			In favor - 4 priority should be Hawn programs and developments
1	1		1		Against - beneficiary/ohana will not benefit
1		1			In favor - move forward or come to a standstill
1		1			In favor - examples re: unsupported negative activities, keep \$ in State, jobs
1		1			In favor - add lottery
1			1		Against - no different from illegal activities
1			1		Against - waiting to get lease award, add'l casinos will follow, will DHHL support those who lose \$
1		1			In favor - wish for DHHL success, decision
1			1		Against - no more development on DHHL land if ot for kanaka
1			1		Against - not in Act, DHHL mismanagement of lands/leases results in waitlist
1			1		Against - no gaming in State, wording vague, DHHL lands should be used for homes
1		1			In favor - on waitlist, proposal well researched, timely and provides hope
1			1		Against - HHC being irresponsible to trust, too much risk, keep Hawaii as is
1		1			In favor - on waitlist, would work at casino
1		1			In favor - education, repairs, keep \$ in Hawaii
1			1		Against - create lottery
1		1			In favor - stepping stone for larger ventures, does not want State to be fiduciary partner, plan well
	1	1			In favor - \$, HHL homes, jobs, land, scholarships/grants, \$ distribution
	1		1		Against - grow marijuana
TOTAL		10	10	0	
		YES	NO	COMMENT	DID NOT SELF ID as a DHHL BENEFICIARY: COMMENTS AND OPINIONS
		1			In favor - revenue, jobs, State not fulfilling responsibilities
			1		Against
			1		Against - other DHHL complaints re: staff, existing conditions
			1		Against - land should be used for kanaka maoli
			1		Against - not a beneficiary priority/willing to listen
				1	Against - lottery
				1	Other - monthly limit for resident casino visits
		1			In favor - add lottery, illegal gaming/drugs exist anyway
			1		Against - gaming is addictive. Keep Hawaii as is.
			1		Against - creates more problems
		1			In favor - promote Hawn resort, \$ for education (esp. rejected KS applicants)
		1			In favor - illegal gaming exists, 4 can benefit Hawns
		1			In favor - produce \$, good for State \$ too, support homeless
			1		Against - all Hawns should have a say
			1		Against - crime, traffic, leave casinos in Las Vegas
			1		Against - keep Hawaii green, limited \$, creates more crime, open doors for tribal gaming
		1			In favor - produce \$, illegal activities already exist/increasing, do not let lobbying sway decision
		1			In favor - will benefit beneficiaries, self sufficiency, jobs and training for W. Oahu
			1		Against - more bad tourists, addictive gambling
			1		Against - Kapolei has young families, crime, economy will recover
			1		Against - don't create opportunities for people to lose families/homes/etc. OHA corrupted.
		1			In favor - keep \$ in Hawaii
				1	Other - born/raised on Molokai homestead, parents and in-laws have Nanakuli homesteads
			1		Against - pollution, traffic, crime - keep Kapolei safe, clean and healthy
		1			In favor - economic benefits
			1		Against
				1	Other - Hawaii needs new industries, jobs, \$
			1		Against - retain Hawaii's natural beauty, look for other answers
		1			In favor - spotlight Hawaii, jobs, \$, infrastructure
		1			In favor - \$, HHL homes
			1		Against - only DHHL benefits, gaming brings coverty, crime
		1			In favor
		1			In favor
		1			In favor - recommend \$ transparency, jobs and contractors priority to Hawns,
			1		Against - illegal activities
		1			In favor
		1			In favor
			1		Against - law enforcement, crimes against women, further addiction,
		1			In favor - only for non-residents
		1			beneficiaries
			1		Against (you tube video attached)

Applicant	Lessee	YES	NO	COMMENT	SELF ID as a DHHL BENEFICIARY: COMMENTS AND OPINIONS
			1		Against - Sen.Inouye and major business organizations opposed gaming
			1		Against - crime, have enough businesses
		1			In favor - self reliance like Native Americans, build on success, consider Bingo
		1			In favor - infrastructure now In place, keep \$ in Hawaii, exchange for income taxes
		1			In favor - taxes, keep \$ in Hawaii
			1		Against - crime, homeless, debt, addiction
		1			In favor - tribal gaming successful, black market gaming has no control/regulation, shop local
			1		Against - too many risks, hotel but no casino
				1	Against - casino too many negative Issues, propose lottery
		1			In favor - \$, medical clinics, job, industry, transportation
		1		1	kuleana
			1		Against - start lottery
				1	Other - commends OHA for coming up with plan to generate \$, start lottery
		1			In favor - Florida resident - would spend \$10,000/yr at a Hawaii casino
			1		Against - become more self reliant such as community gardens, crime, addiction
			1		Against
			1		Against - DHHL corrupt, Inefficient
			1		Against - lottery, marijuana
		1			In favor - \$, home ownership, status quo not working
				1	Other - tribal gaming negative impacts, move ahead carefully
			1		Against - Keep casinos in LV, focus on nature, try lottery
		1			In favor - \$, infrastructure, lived in LV and crime low
		1			In favor - keep \$ in Hawaii,
			1		Against - open farm and co-op grocery
			1		Against - build fee simple condo with income generating commercial on bottom floors
			1		Against - focus on building homes and families
		1			In favor - \$, financial security, lottery to support schools/infrastructure/homeless/elderly
		1			In favor - economic benefits for 2nd city
		1			In favor - \$, jobs (crime already exists in Hawaii)
			1		Against - crime, addiction, create lottery
			1		Against - crime, addiction
			1		Against - addiction, reevaluate assets for revenue
			1		Against - traffic, crime, child trafficking
				1	Other - make is a misdemeanor for Hawaii residents to gamble at casino
		1			In favor - let people decide/put on ballot, gathering place for locals
		1			In favor - keep \$ in Hawaii
		1			lottery
			1		Against - Waimanalo homes mismanaged, DHHL will not be able to manage casino
		1			In favor - \$, DHHL homesteads
			1		food/job opportunities
		1			In favor
			1		Against - losing culture, mainland casinos didn't benefit - raise real property taxes for non-residents
			1		Against - religious opposition to gambling
			1		Against - addiction, more casinos will come
		1			In favor - Hawaii already has high crime, creates jobs, free country/free choice
		1			In favor - jobs, \$
		1			In favor - allow gaming statewide
			1		Against
				1	Other - powers against casino but no better suggested raised for 4
			1		Against - crime, homeless
			1		Against - keep Hawaii green, tourists don't visit Hawaii to gamble
			1		Against - will hurt Hawaii, leave gambling in Las Vegas
				1	Other - good BC presentation - has more questions
		1			In favor - mainland tribal gaming successes - jobs, education, community, culture/arts
		1			In favor - tribal gaming successes - jobs, education, \$ - keep Hawaii \$ in Hawaii
			1		Against - gat Hawns in homesteads, educate for homeownership
		1			In favor - \$, support Hawn people
		1			In favor - entertainment, \$ - solicit support from airlines

From:
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 9:52 AM
To: DHHL.Planning
Attachments:

I think it's a great idea that it will bring money to build homes for Hawaiians, not to mention jobs for the people in Oahu. Since the state is not living up to their monetary responsibilities to DHHL

119 responses



This message was sent to you by a T-Mobile wireless phone.

I think it's a great idea that it will bring money to build homes for Hawaiians, not to mention jobs for the people in Oahu. Since the state is not living up to their monetary responsibilities to DHHL

From: [Athan Adachi](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Beneficiary Consultation process on the draft legislative proposal to authorize limited gaming
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 12:30:34 PM

I am against any form of legalized gambling for any reason.

Athan Adachi
St

Honolulu, HI

From: Abe Aiona
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 12:05 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino

Aloha, I do not live on Homestead Land. I would like to inform you of an incident that happened in 2001 when I called Hawaiian Homes Office. I asked if my name could go in place of my fathers and the lady on the phone said that he would have to come in and make the changes. At that time I told her that he was in the hospital and not doing good in fact he was getting close to dying. She still said he would need to come in to do the transfer. So much compassion from the staff. So he died and my hopes of getting onto Hawaiian Homes Land was gone.

If you come into Waimanalo you will see that the homestead lands are in a terrible mess. What kind of people can get free land and let it look like crap. We have homeless, and some of them have families that have homestead land.

So you think that a Casino will make this all better? I don't think so. In fact your office and many before you has done very little with controlling homesteads. I think first of all you need to clean up the existing mess before you take on a bigger project. I have very little respect for Hawaiian Homes Commission and so did my dad.

I will never approve of a Casino on Hawaiian Lands.

Abraham Aiona
Waimanalo

From:
To: [DHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 8:10:33 PM

Aloha,

This letter is to inform you folks that I am against having a casino on Hawaiian Homelands. I understand that it will not benefit our kanaka maoli. Hawaiian Homelands should be used for our kanaka maoli.

Shirley Aipa
David Keliheleua

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S20+ 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone

From: [fred and suliki](#)
To: [DHHL, Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gaming / Casino
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:18:04 AM

Simple NO this has never been a beneficiary's priority that I have heard of from any meeting that I have attended. We are working hard to serve our member in our positions as community leaders remember we don't get payed, and this would really set us backwards for our goals. Kupuna, Housing, Water, Health, Farming, Mercantile, Ranching, Culture, Financing and Education for our Beneficiary's and their Ohana it's not that hard. I will still listen and be open minded, but this doesn't sit in with any of our goals to serve our community in any way. I would like to which association made this proposal?

Fred M Aki III

From: [Lewis Andrade](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gaming in Hawaii
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 6:53:21 AM

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

I believe that gaming in Hawaii should be limited to a State Lottery where this venture will benefit all peoples of Hawaii by providing funds for building more classrooms and all the equipments that goes with it. Repairing bathrooms, provide air conditioning, etc. I don't have to tell you since this is an ongoing problem. No funds should be allocated to any salary what so ever. A percentage should be allocated to the Hawaiian Homes if the property belongs to Hawaiian Homes land for development of homes for so many Hawaiians on the waiting list.

Why go to Las Vegas when your "deposit" will go to better use in Hawaii.

From: [Davey Andrew](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kapolei Casino Commentary
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 5:00:42 PM

To whom it may concern:

I worked as a financial analyst for Caesars Entertainment Corporation in Las Vegas from 2018 to early 2020 and I wanted to share a thought on Hawaii residents gambling at the casino.

When we looked at possible casino developments in tourist destinations, we typically worked with state and local governments to impose limits on the number of times a "local" would be able to enter the casino in their state/city per month (or year depending on the agreement).

The reason for this was to deter local residents from becoming "problem gamblers" and to keep local food/beverage and retail establishments afloat (since locals would be more inclined to eat at local restaurants rather than at the casino restaurants if they could only enter the casino a couple times per month).

I thought this was a great idea since the point of a casino in a tourist destination is to draw more tourism, tourist dollars, and tax revenue for the region (in this case, Kapolei/Hawaii) and not to turn residents into problem gamblers.

Thank you for taking comments. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Mahalo,
Davey

From: [Earl Arakaki](#)
To: [DHHL, Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Casinos
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 4:09:18 PM

Aloha DHHL;

We (Earl & Evelyn ARAKAKI) are in favor of DHHL building and maintaining a casino at Kapolei.

Why not? We in Hawaii should also have Mega Millions and Powerball lottery to supplement state funds.

Native American properties on the mainland have casinos. Every state except Utah and Hawaii have gambling.

Residents of Utah can easily cross state lines to gamble.

Politicians opposed to gambling always remark, "...gambling creates a lot of social problems in communities..."

We don't have gambling but we've had for decades and decades social problems, i.e. illegal cockfighting/gambling, illegal gambling machine rooms, illegals "6-5" Football and other sports score gambling. And a huge social problem our communities have had to endure is crystal meth (aka BATU) which leads to homelessness. Whenever I see homeless locals I know it is because of meth. If simply down on their luck they have family members who would love to take them in but can't because of their Meth addiction. Politicians fear social problems from gambling? What are they (politicians) doing about the fore mentioned problems?

Get off the "Vacations Hawaii, Boyd Gaming/Hotels" take. Lets keep the cash in Hawaii.

Politicians don't want to take a chance on gambling in Hawaii? Why not? These politicians always ask us to GAMBLE AND TAKE A CHANCE and vote for them.
WE DO...AND WE ALWAYS LOSE!

Mahalo,

Earl & Evelyn ARAKAKI
Ewa Beach, HI.

From: [Anna Barbeau](#)
To: [DHH, Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino Proposal/unhealthy in all ways
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 8:14:13 PM

Gambling/gaming is addictive, unwise on all levels. All the developers know this. Owners/investors will gain, residents of Hawai'i will become 'the tricks' who once hooked will be gutted yet kept on the line while their Families/Dependents suffer. ALL involved in pushing this ('wanted') activity will gain monetarily, with full knowledge that it will be the cause of ruination of many. The developers will profit at the cost of Hawai'i residents. This is factual and they should be ashamed to willfully want to take advantage of weak willed people. Leave it to 'Sin City' AKA Las Vegas. Let folks go there, keep Hawai'i as clean as possible for as long as possible. Whining that Las Vegas rakes it in..so does Monaco and other gambling meccas of the world. Let them have the corruption, murders, uber prostitution, bad narcotics, syndicates, increased concealed weapons and violent crime. Stop it already. Hawaii is unique. Don't smear and dirty Hawai'i for greed. You all are very fortunate to reside here, show your gratitude by NOT sullyng this unique beautiful land. How rude!

Tax paying/voting resident since 1968
A. M. Barbeau

From: Ryan Barry
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 11:48 AM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Hawaii Casino

Gambling is illegal in Hawaii for good reason. It creates more problems than it solves. Gambling gives false hope of enrichment; it preys on the weak. It exploits people's basest desires and addictions for profit. Gambling and human trafficking are highly correlated, as well as alcoholism, violence, and illegal activity. Find more ETHICAL ways to raise housing funds - like fundraising events and auctions. Try a lottery.

Ryan Barry
Honolulu, HI

From: [Lelene Bay](#)
To: [DHHL, Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Planned Casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 6:06:16 PM

I am a beneficiary.

I approve going forward for the planned Casino on Hawaiian Home Lands.

We need to move forward and at not backwards nor at a stand still.

I am glad someone came up with a plan that could benefit the beneficiaries.

So many are nay sayers so we end up nowhere.

If you don't take a chance and make the first move, we will probably never get anywhere another 100yrs.

I want something to happen while I am still alive.

I think I may be late with my comment, but I tried.

Thank you for your time and your planned work.

Lelene Bay
Hawaii Island

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From:
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino thoughts
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 11:20:45 AM

Aloha-

I am not Hawaiian, but I have lived on Oahu for 36 years. I have taught in the DOE for 22 years, all in the Campbell complex (Waipahu, Ewa, Ewa Beach).

Over the years, I have witnessed the joy and despair of students applying to KS. There is a palpable tension on campus every season between students and families as they await application results. Who got in? Who didn't? Why? I myself have written references for exceedingly bright children who were never accepted into KS.

It's not the fault of KS. They are limited by budget and space, as is the DOE. If only there were monies available to build more campuses, hire more teachers, etc.

But wait! There is a golden opportunity for the Hawaiian community to earn millions (and probably billions, in due course) of dollars, millions of dollars that could provide stellar education for ALL Hawaiian children, not just the lucky few that gain admittance to KS.

A casino. A casino resort does not have to be tawdry. It does not have to promote adult-themed burlesque shows. A Hawaiian casino would have Hawaiian shows, employ Hawaiian staff, sell Hawaiian made items in the gift shop. It would provide so many jobs, and would be a huge draw for tourists and locals alike.

I think a well-planned casino resort and good leadership would bring in enough money to provide for education AND homelands, plus much, much more for other needs in the Hawaiian community.

Thank you for your time-

Cindy Beers

From: [joseph_dirt](#)
To: [DHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gambling revenue
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 11:03:43 PM

Aloha,

as a resident of Hawaii I am in favor of legalized gambling. I believe that gambling is already present in many forms on the island of Oahu and that if tourists or even locals wish to take part in a game of chance, that it should be to the benefit the indigenous people of Hawaii.

V/R

Joseph Bennett

...

Sent from my iPhone

From: [George Berean](#)
To: [DHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kapolei Casino
Date: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 3:44:45 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to make a comment

I think it is an excellent idea for the Hawaiian Nation to sponsor & own a casino. Far too long have they been given a fair shake to develop an income producing vehicle.

I think this will be a good source of tax income for the state government. I also think a percentage of the income should support housing for the homeless.

George S. Berean

Sent from my iPhone

From: 1>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 9:15 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Cc: Representative Aaron Ling Johanson; Senator Bennette Misalucha; Representative Sean Quinlan; Representative Daniel Holt; Representative Stacelynn K. M. Eli; Gomes, Tyler I
Subject: [EXTERNAL] GAMING PROPOSAL(S)

Aloha Kakou

I strongly support the current gaming proposal(s).

Why must we be behind the curve in absolutely everything?

The latest nonsense to come out against a casino is unsubstantiated, impossible to prove nonsensical claims that casinos bring crime. Well, Exhibit A, we already have rampant crime (including unreported crimes because the public knows nothing happens in this revolving door justice system), yet no casinos? Hmm. So my research shows no casinos causes crime. See? I came make an equally nonsensical, unsubstantiated, unprovable claim.

Taking the nonsense further, unless you have been living in a cave all your life, or chose to live with your head in the sand, Chicago is rampant with crime and synonymous with murder and sex crimes ... yet they have no casino. Hmm. Yet, an hour away is Hammond, Indiana, which has several casinos. Yet, contrary to the drivel I am reading, the crime rate of Hammond isn't close to Chicago ... and by not close I mean one couldn't believe they exist on the same planet if they bought this nonsense; but they do. So according to my research, the reason Hammond has a lower crime rate than Chicago is because Hammond has a legal casino, and Chicago doesn't have a legal casino. Ditto New York City and Atlantic City, Ditto ... absolutely everywhere.

Have we learned nothing from Prohibition? As it stands, gaming being illegal in Hawaii has only driven the activity straight into the open, willing arms of the criminal underground, and our people into jail cells. The illegal status of gaming in Hawaii has done absolutely nothing to discourage or curb gaming. All it has done is make criminal groups richer, and our people criminals. Further, our people who are gaming (but can't afford a Vegas vacation to give their money to another state), will do so in the shadows, at risk of robbery and the like. Victimization because they can't come forward, because they were engaged in an activity that is illegal under the guise of protecting people from victimization, despite being the only victim in the scenario. How ironic is that? They end up the only victims. I hope that wasn't the intent of the laws, though it is the only result. Appears rather biased in favor of the well to do to me. Unfortunately, with the sweeping legislation across this country legalizing sports gaming, we appear to be one of only two states in the country to realize this ... and I'm tired of being one of only two states to constantly not realize the realities of the world.

Then why does it continue to be illegal in Hawaii? Simple. Vegas, and the Vegas tourism outliers, such as airlines, hotels, tours, and the local politicians that the aforementioned own, pumping the public conscience with the aforementioned nonsense, much like the nearly ancient hypocrisy of alcohol and opioid pharm legality v paka lolo illegality. There is a lot of money and power that does not want the Hawaiians and locals to take a bite of it. Therefore, I stand corrected, (recorded) criminals aren't alone in being the lone profiteers wanting gaming to stay illegal in Hawaii.

Instead, we should be keeping that money here. Keep local money local. The choice is simple, they pay us, or we pay them and the endless list of mainland corporations. Either way, the money will be changing hands, and I'd rather it go to Hawaiians and locals ... SAFELY, which can only be accomplished LEGALLY.

Further, we can attract a whole new tourism segment, helping to bolster ALL of us in Hawaii Nei. Instead of local money going to 48 other states, bring the money of those 48 states here!!

Aside from keeping local money locally, KEEP HAWAIIAN MONEY IN HAWAII. Tutu and Uncle go Vegas a couple times a year and it isn't for the weather.

Finally, think of the jobs! Hello!!!

The fact of the matter is, gaming laws in Hawaii are grossly outdated and/or corrupt; there is no 3rd option. Be proactive, not reactive. Be leaders, not the perpetually led. Be ahead of the curve, not forever behind it. Frankly, get your or your colleagues heads out of the sand.

Mahalo

Kelii Billington

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 6:42 AM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] stop rape and prostitution of hawaiian's land and people. hawaiians have historical ties to our islands

find other ways to raise funds

i am not a beneficiary but ALL Hawaiians should have a say in ALL matters relating to OUR islands.

that was and still is the problem.

Maile

From: [Brigida Cariaga](#)
To: [DHHL Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino in Kapolei
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 11:08:55 AM

I'm opposed to having a casino in Kapolei; the advantage of this is way less than the disadvantages: #1 increased crime followed by more traffic, etc
Leave the casinos in Las Vegas
Brigida D Cariaga
Kapolei resident for almost years

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Rowena Carreira](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino
Date: Saturday, January 23, 2021 9:22:16 PM

I really think the Casino is a great idea also lottery tickets. everybody could have a chance with lottery tickets, chance to pay off bills. get off of State or Government help. chance to live a better life. The Casino would bring in money to our.State but lottery tickets would bring money and also a change lives.

Rowena Carreira

From: [Gino Castagnetti](#)
To: [DHHL, Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment Re -Casino Resort.
Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 1:32:16 PM

Thanks for the democratic approach to request public comment.

I own a home in Kapolei, Hi, and completely OPPOSE any legislative changes to current law / policy to authorize Casino gambling in the State of Hawaii.

Tourists come to Hawaii for the island's beauty, cultural experience, beaches & healthy change of pace from their home towns, cold winters & to relax,---- NOT to Gamble.

I have been to Las Vegas to view the entertainment & gamble on penny, & nickle slots, but ONLY WITH pennies I CAN AFFORD WITH OUT ADVERSE IMPACT ON MY FAMILY.

Gambling in Hawaii will only produce limited assistance to Hawaii Homelands goals, but in my experience create another addiction problem, potentially crime, more poverty for low income persons as some try to get rich gambling with limited resources & divide families.

Any change to Hawaii gambling law will Open the gambling door to Native American tribes for additional gambling casinos.

Keep Hawaii Green in plants, trees, grass, flowers, but knot in Gamblers Dollars.
firmly opposed.

From: William Castillo
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 6:36 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment in Support of Limited Casino Gaming

To the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Decision Makers:

I am writing my full support for the LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL TO AUTHORIZE LIMITED CASINO GAMING IN THE FORM OF A SINGLE INTEGRATED RESORT.

My name is William Castillo and I am Native Hawaiian and a resident of the State of Hawaii with many family members on the beneficiary waiting list.

The issue is simple, DHHL lacks the fiscal resources to fulfill it's mission to manage the Hawaiian Home Lands trust and to develop and deliver lands to Native Hawaiians. Expecting the government to further subsidized during an unprecedented budget and economic crisis is ludacris and short-sighted. The proposal at least offers a viable solution to the issue. The fact is that investments in infrastructure and development are not possible with the current fiscal situation and these actions necessary to get Native Hawaiians into homes.

The negative argument that casino gambling brings unwanted crime and social issues is moot. These issues already exist. Illegal game rooms and illegal sports betting is rampant in the state and we are not without social issues as our homeless situation has continued to get worse. And now we see an increase of violent crimes related to burglary and even arson. These social issues exist whether we have a casino or not. The difference is that revenue from the casino can be earmarked to deal with the problem rather than the symptom.

Lastly, please do not let the lobbying of Las Vegas sway your decision. We all know that the *ninth island* has a direct economic incentive to not allow gambling in the State of Hawaii. 22 states have legalized sports gambling and that number is expected to increase. 44 allow lottery as a form of entertainment. It is time to imua and look to the future rather than continue to complain about the past. I ask for your leadership and your support of the proposal to authorize limited casino gaming.

Thank you for your time. Respectfully submitted on February 11, 2021.

William Kahoku Castillo

From: [Willvcenteio](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on proposed DHHL Casino in Kapolei
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 7:12:12 PM

Aloha DHHL planning commission,

This email is in response for "public" inputs and comments to the proposed Casino in Kapolei in support of DHHL commitment to provide Hawaiian beneficiary with suitable homestead leases in fulfillment of its fiduciary obligations to manage these lands.

Mahalo to Commission Chair William Aila Jr. and vice chair Tyler Gomes for initiating and developing such a comprehensive plan to take control and embark on a path for HHL to fulfill its many outstanding commitments and manage their future.

I see their proposal as a major step for beneficiaries and this Department to gain self sufficiency and control of their destiny in reaching their established goals.

The most impressive language in this legislation is the paragraphs which deal with the cultural and employment benefits which will be made available to the beneficiaries and their Ohana.

This source of revenue has a huge upside of providing work, training, and career opportunities, for west side families in desperate need of work and housing.

The commitment expressed in this proposal for education, training, housing, & upward mobility, for native Hawaiians to live, work, & play, on the west side not only in the casino but surrounding hotel's restaurant, business, schools, cultural centers, represents much more than just a commitment to house people but a real effort to enhance their lives.

These dreams cost money!!

The obvious hurdles of a underfunded program neglected for years is finally being realized but more importantly is finally being acted upon to try to control the destiny of the families whose lives and welfare has been entrusted to the Department of Hawaiian Home Land.

I employ you to pass this legislation and finally take control of Native Hawaiians destiny.

Mahalo
William Centeio

Sent from my iPhone

From:
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2021 2:34 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for legislation on Casino on DHHL land in Kapolei.

Testimony for legislation on Casino on DHHL land in Kapolei:

Aloha DHHL planning commission;

This email is in response for "public" inputs and comments to the proposed Casino in Kapolei.

The obvious hurdles of the underfunded DHHL programs is finally being realized but more importantly is being acted upon by this important legislation.

I implore you to pass this legislation so Hawaiians can finally take financial control of their own destiny for housing, education, employment, health care, and long overdue improvement to their quality of life.

The path to self reliance and survival requires \$\$\$.

Please vote yes!!

Mahalo

William Centeio

Sent from my iPhone

From: [David Chang](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No casino
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 12:42:30 PM

Aloha,

I am a Native Hawaiian who is firmly opposed to the building of a casino at Kapolei or anywhere else in Hawai'i. Our islands are overrun with the worst kind of tourism as it is. This will only attract more. Moreover, casinos actually encourage addictive and self-destructive gambling. No amount of public service announcements telling people to gamble carefully or seek help can undo the damage of casinos. And finally, casinos bring very unsavory and unethical business elements into Hawai'i.

Hawaiian Homelands are there to serve Kanaka. Casinos would do great damage to our community. Do not approve this casino or any other casino.

Mahalo,

David Chang

From: [Mung Fa Chung](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment for Casino in Kapolei
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 12:37:27 PM

To whom it may concern,

As a resident in Kapolei /Ewa area, I am strongly disagree with the idea of building a Casino in Hawaii. Kapolei/Ewa is a district with young family, we don't need casino over here. A casino may be more crime and put the safety in the community at risk.

Hawaii is a world class family vacation destiny in the world, a casino is destroying this image.

Economy will recover soon as vaccine being more available, but building casino in Hawaii will put the community at risk and destroy the image of Hawaii in a long term.

This is not a good idea AT ALL!

Thank you,

Mung Fa Chung

From: [Mr Crispin](#)
To: [DHHL Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public commentary
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 7:05:54 AM

The whole purpose of the Dhhl was to manage land for hawaiiians to have homes; not to create opportunities for individuals to loose their homes, to lose the farm, to loose thier families, to loose all they have, through gambling lossess, in order to enrich the dhhl directors with gambling proceeds.

There was enough corruption and NON management within the OHA.

Provide homes for hawaiiians on the land.

No gambling. No casino.

Crispin (single legal name)

Homeless Hawaiian

Kapolei

From: [crowm001](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] casino
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 11:34:44 AM

Our politicians have had their heads in the sand for years, losing out of a huge amount of revenue the State could have collected from a casino. People who gamble will find a way to gamble, friends have poker games, bet on various sports events, etc. I often listed to stories at my barber shop, I won \$ 200 last week in L. V. I did not receive a reply when I asked what the total cost of her trip was. Apparently almost all the barbers fly to L. V on a quarterly basis. I see ads on TV all the time, we normally have perhaps a dozen flights a week hauling thousands of our residents to L. V to gamble. Most states have some or several types of gambling, why not legalize it here and keep that money in the State.

aloha

merle crow

From: [Roberta Mahealani Davis](#)
To: [DHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 'A'ole Kapolei Casino
Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 2:46:04 AM

I am 66 years old a Kupuna, a Native Hawaiian & a Kanaka Maoli. I was born and raised on my kupuna Pūaleiā'i Kapaakea Molokai homestead. My dads parents have Nanakuli homestead and so does my inlaws and the property is huge. What is so small

Sent from my iPhone
Māhealani

From: [Socorro Deguzman](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NO CASINO!
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 9:54:33 AM

I don't like a casino in Hawaii. It will bring pollution, traffic, more crime, more problems than solutions. Keep Hawaii- KAPOLEI in particular- safe, clean, and healthy. Socorro Deguzman

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Donaldson, Lee](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Commentary on DHHL Proposal for a Casino in Kapolei
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 12:32:00 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
Importance: High

Aloha,

I fully support the idea of opening the casino as presented. The economic long term benefits are much needed here in Hawaii. My family has resided in Hawaii for over 40 years and this is something I feel is long past due to help support our local economy for the long run.

Mahalo,

R. Lee Donaldson, G.G.

Honolulu, HI

Phone:

Email:



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From: [Tessie Duey](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Cc: tess.duey@gmail.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino in Kapolei
Date: Saturday, January 23, 2021 9:35:11 AM

I oppose this plan.

Sent from my iPhone

From: E
To: [DHHL Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Hawaii Gaming Proposal
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 9:22:58 AM

To whom it may concern,

Hawaii needs new industries that employ and provide opportunity for the people who live here. Plus you need tax dollars.

Thanks

Ed

From:
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 12:21 PM
To: DHHH.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Do not bring casinos to Hawaii!

Do not bring casinos to Hawaii

After this Fiasco of the Rail. It is true that Hawaii cannot stand without help from the outside, meaning we cannot be sustained locally. Local farmers and restaurants are being crushed by corporate America.

Please leave the beauty, the fresh air and mother nature to thrive. That is what why people come to visit. To see the sunset, the colors in the sky and the salty breeze of the ocean. To hear the birds waking each morning, the waves crashing. To feel the ocean and sand between their toes, to witness humpback whales, sharks, turtles, seals, fish and dolphins swimming in the ocean or basking on the sand and in the sun along the shoreline. To experience a canoe ride, to learn how to ride a surfboard, to catch a real wave, to bodysurf, to bodyboard, to sand-slide, to watch pro surfers catch huge waves. To see and feel that the Pacific Ocean is not ice-cold like on the West Coast.

To wake before the sun and hike to see a waterfall or witness the birth of a new day on the horizon. To experience what we know as Aloha, to non-natives we are the nice people that live in Hawaii.

How many places have you visited, in your lifetime, that you are able to embrace all that is Hawaii?

How many places have you visited, in your lifetime, that allows gambling?

I hope your answer to the first question is one...because there is only one Hawaii!

Please do not bring in a short term lesser evil to solve the problem we have.

Keep gambling problems away from Hawaii. We have enough on our plate

I do not know or understand how politics, State or government funding works. I have been to places that allow gambling and we, as a State, are not very far from having a gambling state reality.

Please lift every stone that the people are suggesting. It may not be the answer but it may help to think outside the box for the answers you seek.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

From: [Diana F](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino Kapolei
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 6:07:02 AM

With changing times and COVID-19 financial recovery will takes years. Having a Casino on our island would bring our state into the spotlight around the world and make Hawaii the most sought after place to be again like years ago not to mention bringing monies back into the state generating jobs and plenty of income to where there would be enough to be allocated specifically to DHHL, including our state alone and its much needed infrastructure - all for a quick solution to financial recovery. If a surf park could be agreed upon in comparison look to where the real money would come into beneficial play. My thoughts for sharing as I wish my email remain anonymous .

From A long time over 30yr resident.

From:
Sent: Friday, February 19, 2021 10:59 AM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Kapiolani Casino

I am in favor of the proposed Casino on Hawaiian Homestead land that would allow that agency to generate much needed revenue so that Native Hawaiians who have been waiting a lifetime can finally get a home.

From:
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 3:21 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino in Kapolei

I do not support building a Casino in Kapolei for Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL). When I Look at it, Only Hawaiian Home Lands will benefit and the Hawaiian (Polynesian Community will suffer. A lot of times the lower income people will try their luck in winning the big bucks. Which in turn will bring them to the poverty level or less. Crime might rise, homelessness will rise because they cannot support themselves, all for Hawaiian Home Lands to benefit. In what way will Hawaiian Home Lands give back to the Hawaiian People? Monthly payments? Free Housing? The People will not have enough money to buy a house. They will spend their monthly payments on more gambling.

Yes it might benefit the State of Hawaii, at what cost? Who is going to govern the Casino, like the Commission in Las Vegas. Who will be allowed to build in Hawaii and how many Casinos will be built in Hawaii? You know that developers worldwide will put their bid in to build in Hawaii. Who will provide protection for the higher crime rate? The state cannot control the Illegal gambling in Hawaii right now. The State cannot even control the Illegal fireworks in Hawaii.

How can the developer claim it is the best thing for Kapolei. Why not build the casino 200 miles out in international waters so only the well to do can get to the Casino.

My concern is for the poor getting poorer and the State getting richer. These are only some of my concerns.

Vr,
Jeffry Jay Fujii

Email:
Ph. No.

From:
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2021 10:02 AM
To: DHHL.Planning
Cc: Ede Fukumoto
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino on Hawaiian Home Lands

My name is Ede Anne K. Fukumoto and I am on the waitlist.

I am against this "gaming" plan that DHHL is offering as a way to build money in our DHHL coffers. In my opinion, it is no different from bringing illegal activities drugs, "the mob", unnecessary gaming and other unwanted buildings to our lands let alone our state and I am not happy. We already have a lot of problems with our people, why dangle this kind of for-profit arm in front of them???

If I had to suggest an alternate to this plan, why don't you build a casino in Vegas, the benefits of which would be applied to our homelands here?

Mahalo,

Ede

From: [greenteaZ](#)
To: [DHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kapolei casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 5:21:40 PM

I support this proposal. IMUA

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S9+, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: [Leslie Griffin](#)
To: [DHHL Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Limited Gaming Casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 10:23:25 PM

I support the proposed Limited Gaming Casino on DHHL in Kalaeloa, Oahu, Hawaii

From: [Jared Hai](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 9:44:23 AM

Hello,

I just wanted to let you know that I am in favor for the Casino.

I understand that we need the Money and cannot count on the State for help. ITS TIME WE MUST HELP ourselves and do it quickly but prudent for those registered with DHHL.

The following is what I would recommend:

1. Transparency on Financials
2. Jobs be prioritize to Hawaiians who are registered with Department of Hawaiian homelands which has been verified with 50% or more Hawaiian.
3. Contractors involved in all aspects of procuring, building and maintaining be prioritized to Hawaiians who own businesses that are registered with Department of Hawaiian homelands which has been verified with 50% or more Hawaiian. Exhaust that list before going out to find.

The whole being and facet of this project should be for the Hawaiians that are registered with Department of Hawaiian Homelands.

Keeping the Money in and benefitting registered DHHL Hawaiians.

The State should not be telling DHHL what they can and cannot do with the Land and their role seems to be one that slows us down.

Thank you for All you Do!

Jared Hai

From: [Pamela Hall](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 7:34:47 AM

I am totally against the proposed casino on Oahu's west side. I have seen areas on the mainland where casinos were introduced and the surrounding neighborhoods deteriorated with many illegal activities. I would not want that to happen here.

Mahalo,
Pamela Hall

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jonathan Hamblin](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning; Jonathan Hamblin](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Gambling Casino @ Kapolei
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 9:10:17 AM

To Whom It May Concern,

A reluctant but firm YES to a gambling casino @ Kapolei.

mahalo,

Jon Hamblin

From: [Ethel Hao](#)
To: [DHHI Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] casino in KAPOLEI
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 3:12:16 PM

Yes YES YES approve the CASINO

Why are the people ALWAYS let behind

My goodness APPROVE the CASINO

From: Moana Heu
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2021 9:04 AM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposed to Kapolei Gambling Casino

Aloha -

My name is Moana Heu and I am opposed to having a gambling casino in Kapolei.

As a retired Major for the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), I know that HPD has consistently opposed gambling due to the problems it creates, not only for law enforcement, but for the community.

As a woman, I agree with the recent report by the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women which concluded that men who gamble are more prone to purchasing sex, and that a casino would likely increase domestic violence toward women, prostitution and sex trafficking.

As a Kapolei resident, I am opposed to having a gambling casino in Kapolei due to the increased crime that is bound to occur in connection with an activity that preys on those with addiction issues or an inability to control impulsive behavior, not to mention the problems a gambling casino will create because of insufficient infrastructure.

Additionally, having a casino in Kapolei will increase traffic on thoroughfares to/from Kapolei, worsening the commute for those living on the west side. With the rail project over-budget and years away from operation, the unintended effects of having a casino in the area will further reduce the quality of life for west-side residents.

As a Hawaiian, I know that this is not a *pono* use of the land. When Prince Kūhiō advocated for the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act to "elevate his people", I assure you that he did not intend for this to be accomplished by preying on the weaknesses of others.

Instead of a gambling casino, efforts should be directed towards programs that require "sweat equity" so that owners are invested in their homes. As a Kapolei resident, I have seen firsthand that the vast majority of properties and homes in Malu'ohai and Kaupe'a are very poorly kept - the yards are little more than patches of dirt and the houses are in need of repainting and repair. This indicates to me that people do not value something which was given to them and, therefore, don't feel the need to keep it in good shape.

As employees of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, I would think that you would or should have an understanding of the Hawaiian people and their values. Relying on income from a social activity that has been positively associated with several social problems is not *pono* - and is not acceptable.

Therefore, as for a gambling casino in Kapolei - **Kū'e!** Oppose!

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide my comments. Moana Heu

From: [Roger Higa](#)
To: [DHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Public Commentary on Proposed Kapolei Casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:34:07 PM

Aloha!

If done correctly, I am 100% behind the idea of having a Casino to generate much needed funds.

HOWEVER, I highly recommend that Hawaii residents be ineligible to gamble due to the social ills that come with it. Non-residents should be the only individuals allowed to take part in gaming should this be approved.

Regards,

Roger Higa

From: [Happ Higaahi](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 11:41:24 PM

Good Evening,

I would love to see this come to fruition as I have seen great outcomes from Native Americans benefiting from this exact proposal. Since I left Hawaii 19 years ago I have come across several Native Americans and have had great discussions on these issues surrounding our people, our land, and our futures. The Natives with gaming have been able to prosper on the income they receive whether it's in a monthly stipend or developing lands on their reservations for the benefits of the people. Several mentioned with out gaming and the revenue it has brought a lot of their reservations would still be undeveloped, people with no hope, and the same status quo. It would be nice for more opportunity for more than one casino or gaming company to invest , thus there would be competition in the industry. Hawaii is not attached to another state where as competition may only be a short drive over state lines. Competition will also attract loyal customers from different companies to travel to Hawaii to enjoy paradise and gamble. The only thing I can express concerns over is the direct benefit to the Hawaiians, some will disagree and say it's not going to benefit me I don't want it. Rather it be just for Land development from DHHL there needs to be more funding to perpetuate the culture on the land that DHHL develops which also could include scholarships, grants, and resources for local communities to access. What's to say OHA doesn't step in and say otherwise I believe this is why there needs to be unity between DHHL and OHA to get this done and maybe more than just one resort or gaming company. Without competition of an opposing entity this could lead to only one gaming company influencing the gaming commission. I benefited living with my Grandparents on Hawaiian Homestead and would love to see this come to fruition so we may build new developments for future generations and modernize old homesteads and assist those whose homes need a little face lift.

Aloha,
Happ Higashi

From: [Alexander Hino](#)
To: [DHH.L.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino Commentary
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 5:46:43 PM

Hello,

I would like to say that I'm against the building of a Casino in our state. While gambling (casinos, lottery, etc) would provide a new revenue source is not a reliable way to increase the total budget available for a state department. The results of other states attempting to use gambling to provide income has been well summarized in "The Lottery: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver (HBO)". I recommend that you take 15 min to watch this video if you're not offended by crude language. While the analogies may be graphic, they clearly illustrate the problems caused by state gambling. I'll attach the youtube link below.

Best,
Alexander Hino

From: [john hoag](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Cc:
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino proposal
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 4:18:50 PM

ATTENTION: DHHL COMMISSION

My late wife, Jeanette N. Makaio grew up in Keaukaha, Hilo. While enjoying the spirit of aloha afforded by living in a DHHL community she and her family (Abraham and Phoebe Makaio) were very aware of the long unfulfilled promises to so many of other Hawaiian families. However the introduction of another "virus," namely casino gambling, to the Hawaiian people would bring great harm not blessings.

When considering sovereignty bills our late U. S. Senator, Daniel K. Inouye always made sure they contained a ban on all forms of gambling. He wisely knew that the introduction of any form of legalized gambling would automatically open the way for all forms of gambling throughout the entire state. And gambling as an economic generator is, as stated in the 12/20/20 Honolulu Star Advertiser editorial, a "Bad Bet." Most of our local citizens are in favor of visiting Las Vegas but keeping the problems associated with gambling there. Nevada as a state historically has had one of the highest numbers of addictions, bankruptcies, divorce rates, women killed by men, school drop outs, and suicides. These statistics were provided to the Coalition to Stop Legalized Gambling Hawaii over the years by respected university professors who objectively studied the economic impact on the introduction of any form of gambling into a community. One study by Dr. John Kindt University of Illinois concluded that a negative 3-1 to 6-1 cost benefit ratio of revenue to social costs, This is why Hawaii's major business organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce of HI, HI Business Roundtable, Hi Bankers Association, and Small Business HI have standing policies opposing legalized Gambling, along with most of Hawaii's churches, HPD, etc. In their book, "The Price of Paradise," vol.II, former University of Hawaii President David Mclain and Dr. LeRoy Laney wrote, "gambling would be disaster for Hawaii's image and for its people."

There is also the political threat to our already tenuous trust in our government leaders. A well known hotel developer, Chris Hemmeter left Hawaii not many years ago for greener pastures in New Orleans. His misadventure are amply covered in a Pulitzer Prize winning book by Tyler Bridges, " Bad Bet on the Bayou," For Hemmeter's efforts longtime Louisiana Governor, Edward Edwards was ousted and convicted of crimes, several city officials were given jail time and Hemmeter filed for bankruptcy. Gambling is toxic when sold as a cure for government fiscal shortfalls.

John A. Hoag, President First Hawaiian Bank, retired 1995

From: [TERE Hunt](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 11:29:23 PM

Generating money yeah, but crime will increase and this area is already over populated. The Ko'Olina area will no longer have the allure because KAPOLEI has become a fee for all. No casino needed. We have enough businesses here to promote the economy. Go somewhere else! They start in Oahu and then all the islands will have to join in. No way! What were you thinking?? You can't even finish the damn rail, now you want to start another stupid project. NO NO NO!

Sent from my iPhone

From: Hyatt, RaeAnn P
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2021 12:36 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: Testimony/Comment Re: Limited Gaming Proposal on HHL

Importance: High

Aloha~

I support DHHL's proposal to establish a Casino on Hawaiian Home Lands for the reasons as stated:

- it will generate mass amounts of funding - which should be utilized to establish/fund Native Hawaiian outreach programs, benefiting homesteaders and those on the waitlist;
- the funds generated should go towards speeding up the process of building more (homes, townhomes and/or condo type) dwellings; to revitalize homesteads in need; and kokua dilapidated homes/homestead areas.
- the Casino would create jobs – those that reside in homesteads or Kapolei should have the first choice
- the funds can be used to purchase more land, dwellings or buildings throughout the State to build upon DHHL's investment portfolio
- the funds should be funneled back into 1) Kapolei homestead areas; 2) homesteads on O'ahu; 3) homesteads throughout the State.
- the funds should be used to create more scholarships and community grants
- --a set percentage of the profits should be set-aside yearly to establish the fund distribution

To combat the negative effects/sides it can cause, DHHL should fund programs to combat gambling, alcohol/drug addictions, and homelessness.

Although "gambling" might be frowned upon by some, Hawai'i residents have been flying to Las Vegas on a daily (pre-Covid-19) by the plane loads -<look at the numbers through Vacations HI> to vacation, gamble and/or visit 'ohana there.

The Casino should be marketed as a Resort-type, family-friendly Casino to draw more people to ensure that we (Hawai'i), can keep the local funds here instead of spending it in Vegas.

Kapolei has established itself as the second-city. It has many shopping, dining and entertainment options as well as three-hotels within a 2-mile radius.

Ko'olina and its luxury brands of hotels, shopping and dining is also a quick 15-minute drive nearby.

I believe to fulfill the Trust and Prince Kuhio's mission and promise to the Native Hawaiian beneficiaries, the Casino should be established.

Mahalo no,
Rae Ann Hyatt
Malu'ohai Homestead Lessee

From: [jacksonsmusic](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kapolei Casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:55:12 PM

I think it is an outstanding idea to put in the casino. It will give the Hawaiian people the same chance at self reliance that the Native Americans have on the mainland.

Your opportunity is that you can build on their success, and do even better. Do not be afraid to reach out to them to learn of their growing pains, and how to avoid them.

The argument of the governor is disingenuous. He opposes your initiative, because he can't figure out how to personally profit from it. Crime won't increase any more than what's going on with the illegal gambling they already have. Legal gambling will pretty much eliminate that problem altogether.

Also, at least you should insist on being able to have Bingo. That would be a smaller starting place to demonstrate that the claims of increased crime are not correct. And, by providing Uber, Lyft, and bus rides to and from the casino, there is less chance of people being robbed when they try to leave with their winnings.

Thanks, Louis Jackson.

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

From: [Alohalani Jones](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino in Kapolei
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 6:41:31 PM

I am responding to the proposal of having a Casino in Kapolei. I believe this has been planned for years however they needed the infrastructure to be set and in place, A New Hwy leading to it, Hotels, and Hawaiian Land. I would Prefer to have our \$\$\$ stay here in Hawaii rather than travel to LV. Gambling will be wonderful in exchange for Hawaii residents NOT having to file income taxes. That maybe a clincher for public approval!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Melissa Pink Carnation](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 5:20:15 PM

Yes we need a casino, would help the city with taxes collected, Keep money in Hawaii instead of people going to Las Vegas, people are going to gamble either way, Hawaii needs the money. Thank you Melissa Juárez

Sent from my iPad

From: [Mary Ann Kahana](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 7:44:14 AM

Aloha DHHL,

I am a beneficiary since 1985 and I have yet to get any lease award. Your efforts for this casino is unacceptable. It does not support Prince Kuhio's legacy. I understand the intent to generate funds and casino is not the answer. Could you imagine all our Hawaiian people gambling their livelihood away and you DHHL will not be available to support them. Once you open this casino it will start more casinos to follow. Find other means to generate funds. Personally, I enjoy gambling but know that our people may not gamble responsibly and this occurs in areas with casinos worldwide. Are you going to be supporting these people after they lost their money to DHHL casino. I don't think so because native Americans have trouble in this area as well. I say a'ole to casino.

Mahalo,
Mary Ann Kahana (still waitlisted since 1985)

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jo-Ann L. Kalamau](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Using DHHL Lands for Casino Income
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 12:36:08 PM

I would not want to be in your shoes during this time, however, I commend you in stepping in to this major battlefield.

I know you need this income. Not only to build homes, but to pay legal lawsuits.

My wish is that you succeed.

This gaming move is unprecedented. Along with the world pandemic going on, gaming is something brand new for all of us here in Hawai'i.

People would be mainly afraid of increased crime, not budgeting their income wisely, more homelessness.

Nothing as major ever, was thought of like this idea of gaming, to bring revenue to DHHL, or was ever pursued as strongly as this idea, as it was brought forward in December 2020. Gaming was said before, years ago, for me 1977-2020, but not brought to pass. Whew!

DHHL is still in the same predicament today, "Not Enough Money".

I heard Gov. Ige say today during his State of the State Address, \$30 million dollars is going to DHHL. Was that annually or a One-Time payment. That won't be enough even IF DHHL DOES get those monies.

There are more people who don't believe in the commandments of God then there are people who believe in the commandments. If we could get more people to believe and do His Commandments, we would have a better chance to pass this new concept of gaming in this time of hardship, yet, find enjoyment by controlling our spending when we go casino gaming.

Pay your 10% Titheing first to God, making sure you are paying to Jesus Christ Church. His name is on His Church. "The Church of Jesus Christ"...

90% left to pay your house expenses next, so you have a place to live, electric, etc., only extra money to game and go home when you reach your budget limit. Fight temptation to spend over the budget.

Go when you can; No go, if you can't afford it.

If we can control our lives by budgeting our money correctly, we could have a chance at gaming becoming another "Administrative Rule", or law, what ever...a slim chance, but a chance anyway.

This world is Satan's domain. We'll be giving him another Avenue to tempt the weak. We will need to be on Jesus Christ side to fight gaming's temptation with strong will.

I wish you the best decision. This is my input. Thank you

From: [keliiikeole kalaoukaaea-kahele](#)
[DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Disappointment with DHHL over the years!!!
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:07:18 AM

Aloha,

It saddens me to see the priorities of DHHL wanting to build resorts and legalize gambling while our kupuna and Hawaiian people are still waiting and passing away never having an opportunity to live on Hawaiian homesteads. It's not about making money, do what's right and put kanaka back on the land. In hilo, get Walmart, target and home depot out, kanaka can use those prime land. No more development on Hawaiian land if it's not for kanaka....

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: Inga
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 12:08 AM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] OPPOSITION TO CASINO

To the DHHL,

There is no debate whether casinos are bad or not, everyone knows they are. The expensive studies prove what common sense sees clearly.

1. Sex trafficking and all the associated long list of crimes to women and children, abortion, STD'S, etc.
2. Gambling away money that leaves families without necessities
3. Even more broken families
4. More homeless
5. More debt driven crime; murder, theft, arson
6. Even more people would become addicted to gambling

Conning Hawaii into believing the raised funds will benefit Hawaii families is just that, a con. It will also provide Hawaii with yet another "Business " for corrupt leaders to fill their own pockets.. It is impossible for any conceivable benefit to outweigh the guaranteed far-reaching destruction to society and especially the family core. Like other vices, this is another one that is quite often most devastating to the indigenous people.

Is that not exactly who you are supposed to be elevating and serving?

Thank you,
Inga

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From: [carol lee kamekona](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino Proposal
Date: Sunday, January 24, 2021 6:48:01 PM

Aloha!

I am providing written testimony with regard to building a casino on Hawaiian Homelands.

I am in OPPOSITION of this proposal!

Nowhere in the Hawaiian Homestead Act does it provide for gaming on Hawaiian Homelands. The Department has skirted the definition of usage on lands for housing and mercantile. For many years the Department has claimed it needs to lease lands to non Hawaiians in order to raise revenue to provide for infrastructure and homes for its beneficiaries. The mismanagement of those lands and leases is why the waitlist is at over 28,000 Kanaka Maoli waiting for a morsel of what is inherently theirs.

Therefore, again I say I am totally in opposition of this proposal.

Respectfully,
Carol Lee Kamekona
Maui Waitlister

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Von Kenric Kaneshiro](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:41:10 PM

To whom it may concern,

I fully support legalization of gaming in Hawaii to enable the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) to erect and operate a casino on their land. I lived outside of Honolulu for 17 years, and I was able to observe and learn of improvements to the lifestyles of tribes who used the revenues from their casino operations to fund programs that provided more opportunities for their native population.

There is considerable gaming that happens underground and in a grey market over which the state has little to no control and regulation. Legalization would for the most part create unrivaled competition to the illegal, underground operations that plague the suburban and urban communities--alike, and thereby lessen the appeal of the illegal grey market. I am not ignoring all the ill wills that come from gaming. The fact is, when it gets pent up people spend even more crazily in Las Vegas if they have to wait a year. Addiction happens even with those illegal football parlays.

My support is genuine and proven by my background being an anti-gambler. I have an engineering background, and am not an active gambler, nor have I ever gone to Las Vegas for the leisure of gaming. I have a lot of relatives, friends, and acquaintances that make at least one if not multiple trips to Las Vegas annually. Imagine if all of these folks instead decided to "shop" local, perhaps book a kama'aina room at the Kapolei Resort & Casino, and keep their dollars here? Create "California in Hawaii". Subsidize a Trader Joe's store on the premises so locals can shop for all of their mainland treats that they go there to bring back, and instead have it all here.

Green light on that casino. It is for everyone's benefit.

Von Kenric Kaneshiro

From: [Kalai Kapana](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No Casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 7:17:41 PM

I say NO to a casino. There are too many risks than benefits. How about you build a hotel with no casino. You can provide jobs and make a profitable margin without putting families income and welfare at risk.

From: Tanya Kauhi
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2021 7:47 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] OPPOSITION to the Limited Gaming Proposal

Aloha,

I am a currently beneficiary to my grandmothers lease for DHHL on Maui and would like to express my opposition to the casino proposal. I understand the need for the proposal, casino and proposed revenue benefits. But I believe the negative issues that come with that outweigh them. I do however suggest we propose a lottery similar to the Powerball lotteries held in America for similar revenue, but with safer and more manageable enforcement. In my opinion, this would be a better way to start this revenue stream to see if our market even supports such measures. Thank you for your time.

Mahalo,

T. Kauhi

From: Fabian Kaulukukui-Heloca
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2021 9:40 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Limited gaming proposal

Aloha,

My name is Fabian Kaulukukui-Heloca.

I am against this gaming proposal.

I am against this proposal being on Hawaiian Home lands.

First of all, no gambling should be allowed in the state of Hawaii.

We do not have sovereign nation status therefore do not qualify as a reservation to allow gambling to benefit the tribe. Being that the DHHL is a state agency, this seems to be another way to open Hawaii up to gambling and all of its negative issues.

Secondly, how is the issue to benefit Hawaiians?

From reading the proposal, the wording is very vague and wide open to interpretation. Allowing for businesses that have no ties to Hawaiians to benefit while under the guise of helping Hawaiians is just plain ludicrous.

If any lands are used, the purpose should be to provide homes for native Hawaiians not for tourists. We need more affordable homes not resorts.

Sincerely,

Fabian Kaulukukui-Heloca

From: Winona Kauwe
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 4:48 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Cc: Maydene Simmons; Abe Aiona
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments re: Casino on Hawaiian Homes Land

Aloha.

I say leave the Casinos in Vegas, not in Hawaii and especially not on our Hawaiian land.
Lets not forget our Hawaiian values and our culture.

Basics: Respect the aina. Love it, and it will take care of you. Our farmers know this well.
But a casino??? Casinos are on tribal Native American reservations. We are not a tribe.
We are a sovereign people.

We do not need a casino on Hawaiian lands. Casinos have no place in our Hawaiian culture
and lifestyle.

Winona Kauwe
Waimanalo, Hawaii

From: [Rebecca Kapolei Kiili](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kiili_DHHL Commentary for Gaming Proposal
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 1:33:41 PM
Attachments: [Kiili_DHHL_Commentary_for_Gaming_Proposal.pdf](#)

Aloha,

Please find the attached commentary on the current gaming proposal as part of the Beneficiary Consultation process.

Mahalo,
Rebecca Kiili
Maui

January 30, 2021

Rebecca K. Kiili

Department of Hawaiian Homelands
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Aloha,

My name is Rebecca K. Kiili and I currently reside on the island of Maui. I am a DHHL beneficiary on the waiting list for a homestead lease. I am currently ranked at 3113 for area 293 and ranked 4086 for area 291. My application date is August 11, 2009.

I recently watched the presentation on the draft legislative proposal to authorize limited gaming in the form of a single integrated resort on Department lands designated for commercial use. And want to provide commentary as part of the Beneficiary Consultation process.

I am in support of this proposal and believe that it has been well researched and addresses all of the concerns about this type of endeavour in a very thorough and thoughtful way. I think it is timely and provides hope for all of us still waiting on the list for an award.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Kapolei Kiili

Rebecca Kapolei Kiili

Maui

From: [Garret Kitazaki](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Cc: [Garret Kitazaki](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kapolei Proposed Casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 5:35:50 PM

Dear All Concerned.

For our Hawaiian Residents on all islands.

Monies available can help fund and create medical clinics. In the most needed areas of our state.

This would benefit all in the supporting of many jobs and industries also. Supplying of the food , beverage, transportation etc.

Thank you.

Garret Kitazaki

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Kuloloia](#)
[DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Feedback on potential casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 5:30:56 PM

Aloha,

As a former homesteader and current applicant on the waitlist, I happily welcome this idea. However, my hope is that the majority of income will be divided amongst those that are focused on the continuation and implementation of Hawaiian programs and developments.

Mahalo,

Anthony Kuloloia

From: [Mary Lee](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Cc: [Rob Perez](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment to Gaming Proposal
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 4:44:12 PM

I'm not a lessee but feel the Hawaiian people have been wronged for too long. This is why this state's name is Hawaii—because of its Hawaiian people. They belong here, everyone else is just guests/visitors. The Hawaiian people have been suppressed and homeless for sooo long because of the states inability to fulfill their fiduciary kuleana to the Hawaiian people. When does the empty rhetoric discussions end with all these politicians and long overdue action begin? Many Hawaiians have died waiting for a homestead lease to build a house, build a life, have purpose and to be proud.

Now that DHHL has finally started to think outside the box and started being creative they encounter negativity because it wasn't Ige's or the politicians idea, yet they offer no viable solutions. It's easy to say no because they're not on the firing line, it's DHHL—they're the bad guys. BUT, in actuality it's the SOH and all these politicians who are against any type of gaming/gambling that have and continue to suppress the Hawaiian people and leaving them homeless.

So to the SOH and all the politicians who are against any type of gaming/gambling, step up to the plate and fulfill your mandated fiduciary kuleana immediately—like yesterday! Do it right by righting the wrong ! HLM, Hawaiian Lives Matter!!!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ikaika Lima-Po](#)
To: [DHHL, Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concerning Casino in Kapolei
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 9:59:43 PM

In the hope of any situation, building a casino in Kapolei may or may not solve any financial hardships the state faces. It will most likely bring hardship for the future people of Hawaii. We as humans, give or take some people love to gamble, place bets, push the button, and pull that lever to see and hear the lights and sounds of slots roaring with false hope. I should know I've been there done it and ended up at the bottom.

I don't know, but I know, that a casino will not solve anything. The crime and drug rate may go up and ruin the now and future generation. There is a movie called (Walking Tall) starring Dwayne the Rock Johnson that should be watched before making any decisions you could call it a movie night if you must. But

My opinion would be, to start a lottery for the state. No need spend money to build the casino, no need buy machines and no increase in crime and drugs. The lottery is a printed piece of paper with numbers on top, simple concept and the state still gets a big bite of the pie with much much less effort.

Ok you get the idea, I'm done, goodbye and make the right call, don't build it!

From: [M Lortz](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CASINO PROPOSAL
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 6:51:06 PM

Although I commend OHA for coming up with a plan to generate funding, I am of the opinion that OHA and native Hawaiians can reap a higher yield if they combine forces to develop a State Lottery that guarantees a percentage towards building residences quicker, especially seeing that many have waited generations to get a home. Perhaps even involving the residents themselves, in raising their own homes, with the help from friends, family and neighbors alike, creating lasting bonds.

From: [Brett Love](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino Public Comment
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 7:56:58 PM

Hello,

As a mainlander who lives in Florida I don't know if I am allowed to make a "public comment" on this matter but I would like to give my 2¢ worth. My wife and myself would love to see a casino that the majority of the proceeds are going to the DHHL. We understand how a gambling venue works and it CAN work if done correctly to help the people of Hawaii and the DHHL. We are not huge gamblers but we would spend ~\$10,000 a year at a casino in Hawaii during our multiple visits to the islands. I understand the heritage and views of everyone and would not be upset at either a yay or nay decision. Hope to see this happen in the near future and wish those proposing the casino good luck.

Regards,
Brett

From: [Lovella Lung](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] DHHL - réponse to request for Casino Feedback
Date: Friday, February 19, 2021 3:40:58 PM
Attachments: [HPSCAN_20210220013556923_2021-02-20_013645423.pdf](#)
[HPSCAN_20210220013339375_2021-02-20_013531370.pdf](#)

2 pages - regret problems with sending.

Ipo

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Regards,
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HP Team

February 18, 2021

Hawaiian Homelands Commission
DHHL_planning@hawaii.gov

Dear Commissioners:

In response to your request for feedback, as a DHHL Beneficiary, I wish to register my strong opposition to gaming in the State of Hawaii and specifically gaming in any form on Hawaiian Homelands whether on residential or commercial properties.

I view this proposal from the Commission to be irresponsible and egregious to its Trustee relationship with its Beneficiaries and short-sighted in fulfilling its mission to award home ownership to eligible Hawaiians. This proposal comes across as a desperate attempt to obtain DHHL money "at any cost" as was cited by one of the official supporters of this proposal. This is unacceptable. I say no gaming at any cost.

If anyone in Hawaii wants to gamble and has the wherewithal to do so, it costs little more to pay for a round-trip ticket to Las Vegas or to any of the Indian gaming casinos which you extoll. When you're pau gambling, with ticket in hand, come home. The most beautiful place in the world awaits your return.

Hawaii as an Island State has wisely resisted every temptation to open itself to gambling. For well thought out reasons, greater minds in all branches of our local government and congressional delegation have blocked legalized gambling on-land and in Hawaiian waters. Inter-island cruise lines are prevented from gaming onboard, also to my mind, good thinking.

In considering this proposal, you open DHHL and its Beneficiaries to incalculable risk and dangerous and unintended consequences. I find this to be a naive and short-sighted venture that puts at risk not just DHHL but all the people of Hawaii. I expect that an Environmental Impact Statement of sorts has been done to include feedback from the neighboring areas and residents of Ewa Beach. I applaud your thinking out of the box, but there needs to be a better, less riskier more focused strategy. Underscoring my concern is that the Commission knows nothing about gaming and its consequences.

You repudiate any similarity between Indian Gaming and what would become Hawaiian Homeland Gaming, yet you continue to make the comparisons anyway. Not the same, so please stop the comparisons.

We must all be responsible stewards of the aina. It is our sacred trust. This proposal is not the best and highest use of the land. There needs to be a better idea to make money, if that is the goal.

Mahalo for your time and consideration of my mana'o.

Malama pono,

L. I. Lung a.k.a. Apo Lung

Louella I. Lung

From: Mailani Makainai
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2021 5:53 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Gaming

Aloha

My position on legalizing gaming any sort of gambling and or casinos is 'A'OLE.

Mahalo,
MM

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: [Elaine Poipe San Jose](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Commentary of Limited Gaming in a Single Integrated Resort
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 6:38:14 PM

WE, THE KĀNAKA KŪLEANA HĀNAU OF ALL MOKUPUNI O HAWAII HAVE BEEN TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF FOR FAR TO LONG AND EVERY SINGLE ONE OF YOU WHO SITS IN THOSE SEATS TODAY AND SINCE 1921 WHEN THIS ENTITY REPRESENTING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF THE OCCUPYING COUNTRY OF AMERICA FEDERAL DUTIES WERE ESTABLISHED ON LIES, DECEIT, AND CONTINUOUS FEUDALISM FOR U.S.A. AND NEVER BASED ON US, THE KĀNAKA KŪLEANA HĀNAU OF MOKUPUNI O HAWAII, AND IT HAS GONE ON FOR FAR TO LONG, AND NOW THE ONLY WAY YOUR BRAINS COULD COME TO IN SEEKING HOW TO DIG YOURSELVES OUT OF A CENTURY WORTH OF NOTHING IS TO BRING GAMBLING TO HAWAII!!!! THAT IS THE LOWEST THAT ANY ENTITY WHOSE DIRECTED BY THE VERY OCCUPYING FEDERAL/STATE OF AMERICA CAN EVER COME TOO IN TRYING TO FIX WHAT WAS NEVER YOUR DUTIES TO BEGIN WITH. ALL I SEE IS THAT WHEN THIS COMMISSION ACT OF 1920 WAS INTRODUCED ON WAS BASED ON SHUTTING MY KŪPUNA 'ŌIWI EYES AND MOUTHS UP BECAUSE THEY KNEW WHAT TRUTH BEHIND THE FRAUDULENT "ILLEGAL TREATY OF ANNEXATION" WAS BASED ON AND TO CONTINUE THIS ACT, YOUR ORGANIZATION DEPARTMENT FIGURED TO THAT ALLOWING A LIMITED GAMING/GAMBLING IS AND THE ONLY WAY?! I THINK NOT! SHAME ON YOU ALL WHOSE IN THIS D.H.H.L ORGANIZATION WHO WE PUT OUR FAITH AND HOPE IN TO FOR FAR TO LONG NOW. IT WILL SOON BE A 100-years IN 7-8 MONTHS TIME AND WHAT DOES THIS ENTITY REALLY GOT TO SHOW FOR ITS SELF?!

IS THIS REALLY ABOUT HELPING HOUSE THOSE WHO'VE BEEEN ON THESE WAITING LIST FOR OVER 40-50 YEARS AND CONTINUE TO DIE OFF OF HIS WAITING LISTS? OR IS THIS REALLY ABOUT DIGGING YOURSELVES OUT OF THE COUNTY AND STATE APPROVED LAWSUIT AGAINST YOUR DEPARTMENT?! BECAUSE IF YOU ASK ME, THERE WILL BE MORE LAWSUITS COMING YOUR WAY WITH HOW YOUR OFFICE STAFF HAVE PURPOSELY AND CONTINUED TO MISPLACE SO MANY APPLICATIONS FOR D.H.H.L HOUSING, ALSO NOT TO MENTION HOW YOUR OFFICE STAFF PUT THEIR OWN FAMILIES IN/ON D.H.H.L HOUSING/ PROPERTY BEFORE THE WAIT LISTERS, AND ALSO HOW ALL YOUR D.H.H.L LAND MANAGERS ARE MISAPPROPRIATING FEDERAL/STATE FUNDS ON MOKU O KEAWE. NOW CAN YOU IMAGINE HOW THE OTHER MOKU PROBABLY HAVE THE SAME PROBLEM AND THAT'S SO SHAME.

I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT A PROPERTY WHERE D.H.H.L EQUIPMENT IS STORED ON HAS EQUIPMENT THAT WAS PURCHASED TO DO BIG PROPERTY LANDSCAPING BUT SITS ON SAID PROPERTY AND HAS NEVER BEEN USED ON SAID PROPERTY. BECAUSE IF IT WAS USED, THEN THIS PROPERTY WOULD OF BEEN UP KEPT WITH IT'S OVER GROWN GRASS, AND NOT TO MENTION BUT ALL OF THE OPALA ON SAID PROPERTY WOULD CONTINUE TO STILL SIT ROTTING AWAY ON THE SAID PROPERTY. THIS HAZARDOUS MATERIALS CONSIST OF RUSTED BARBWIRES, OLD FENCING, AND OLD FENCE WOOD POSTS ALL BURIED UNDER THE OVER GROWN GRASS.

THE SAID PROPERTY MENTIONED ABOVE IS THE VERY PRIME EXAMPLE THAT YOUR 100-YEARS OF NOTHING SHOWS THAT COLLECTING MONIES FROM

FEDERAL FUNDING WAS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN TAKING CARE OF OUR PEOPLE (KĀNAKA) AND PUTTING THEM BACK TO THEIR ANCESTRAL LANDS TO MALAMA SAID LANDS, WHICH YOUR DEPARTMENT HAS FAILED TO HAVE DONE!!!!

SO MY ANSWER IS " A'OLE LIMITED GAMING IN A SINGLE INTEGRATED RESORT CALLED KO OLINA. "

ALOHA PUMEHANA,

Elaine P.K. Makaio-San Jose

From: Sarah Martin
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 7:25 AM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino Hawaii

Hi,

My name is Sarah Martin and I'm 32 years old. I live on Oahu.

I know the state needs to make more money since covid destroyed the tourism.

I think the best way we could make money is to legalize weed and add the lotto to hawaii. We don't need to have a casino to generate revenue.

Weed is already all over the state. If we taxed it, we could use that money to help improve Hawaii! And the lottery would also be a huge help! So many people on the island love the lottery.

I think we should leave the casinos for vegas.

That's my personal opinion. Hawaii is for beaches and relaxing. Vegas is for bad decisions.

Thank you,
Sarah Martin

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Scott Martin](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino gambling
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 7:51:10 AM

Aloha

I write in support of Casino gambling in Hawaii and especially on HHL property. There is no better way to accumulate funding for the construction of local Homes. If you assume each local home costs \$500k DHHL could produce up to 60 homes annually, in perpetuity. That is welcome relief to those waiting on the rolls for years. Families experience the pride and joy of home ownership, children get to sleep at night in their own bedrooms. More importantly the legacy of home ownership is passed down from generation to generation building sustainable financial wealth and success.

A yes vote is imperative, even against the outside forces that want to keep the status quo. Status quo is not benefiting local families.

Regards,
Scott Martin
(local haole)
Kailua Kona, Hawaii

From: [Rochelle Mas Morel](#)
To: [DHH.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Saturday, January 23, 2021 3:10:42 PM

I am all for it i have been on the waiting list for 30 years an would luv to work there

From: [Teagan McArthur](#)
To: [DHHH.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No Casino
Date: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 6:02:05 PM

Aloha,

Although the hope is to help our economy, having a Casino in Hawaii is not what we need. People wait years on the list for somewhere they can build a house to call home. Some of us aren't even able to get on the list because we don't have enough Hawaiian blood.

What we need are places to help us become more self-reliant and stop relying on the states to bring us food. Things like community gardens where we grow and take what we need is going to help us. It'll teach us to be patient, independent and bring out the true meaning of Aloha. Building a safe place for the Keiki to play is what we need. So please, do not build a casino. It could cause an increase in crime, gambling addiction, and breaking homes apart.

Please choose what the people want and find something else.

Mahalo,
Teagan McArthur

From: [Jeffrey Milisen](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Legislative Proposal to Authorize Limited Casino Gaming
Date: Thursday, January 28, 2021 7:46:15 AM

I am not Hawaiian, so maybe my opinion counts a little less here, but I come with a story from where I grew up in Ledyard, Connecticut. When I moved there in 1987, the major industries were General Electric, Pfizer, and some small-time farming. These are decent paying, middle-class jobs that hired locally and treated their employees well. Crime was nonexistent.

Then the Pequot tribe got independent status and a reservation. With that reservation came one of the largest casinos in the world. Then the Mohegan tribe followed suit in the neighboring town of Montville. It sounded like a great idea and a lot of us supported the idea of the local tribes making some quick cash. People started pouring in from NYC, Boston, and all across the US. The tribes got rich quickly and went to distribute the money in the form of monthly checks to anyone who could prove that they were X% Pequot.

I went to school with the Pequot kids. They made so much money they should have been set for life, and they knew it. They didn't pay attention in class because, why would they? They were paid to go to school. They spent their money on brand-new lifted trucks and started competing over who could drive the most outrageous vehicle.

The area's big industries turned to support gaming. The kids who didn't receive direct tribal checks no longer wanted to be scientists and engineers. Instead, they became waitresses, dealers, and cashiers. I got a job in one of the retail shops in the main mall. On my way in to work at 5am, I would frequently pass grown men crying on the benches at the entrance or children hanging on the fences bordering the gambling floor, waiting for their moms to finish at the slots-their bedtime had passed hours previously. I will never forget the day a man threw himself out of the hotel and landed on the cement ceiling of the casino, hopelessly in debt and depressed. His body pounded 6 inches into the concrete.

One day, FBI came in and shut my retail down, along with the offsite warehouse and headquarters. Our CEO had been laundering Chinese mob money and engaging in big-time fraud.

By the year 2000, the casinos were struggling to compete with other casinos that had opened up in NY, PA, and MA. The tribes still owed a massive debt but they had no income. The checks that supported the families went to investors. Those kids who had squandered their schooling had no professional skills.

My town had once been a forgettable opening in the middle of the woods. Now the area was flooded with crime, abject poverty, gambling addiction, poor education, and low-wage jobs. I know Hawaii isn't in the same starting place as Ledyard, but these are problems that are inherent in any casino. I already see the start of gambling addiction in local families that vacation in Vegas, aka "little Hawaii." And any casino that is built will be dependent on tourism. DHHL is hurting now, presumably because our tourism economy has dried up. With a casino in place, that gambling money will largely come from locals who take paychecks that should have been destined for rent and bills, and spend them at blackjack instead.

This is your choice to make, but please move ahead carefully.

Mahalo,

Jeffrey Milisen

From: [Scott L. Mitchell](#)
To: [DHH.L.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gambling in Hawaii
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 5:27:06 PM
Attachments:

I strongly object to opening the doors to casino gambling in Hawaii. Hawaii residents have a historical precedent toward gaming and often visit Las Vegas. I personally believe it should remain that way. Hawaii has remained a special place for visitors, because the activities evolve around nature, the outdoors and people are not stuck in a casino for hours on end. It would be a shame to bring casino gambling here to Hawaii. It would not benefit the community and all of the problems associated with gambling would plague our community.

If any gaming is to be allowed in Hawaii, it should be limited to Lottery type gambling where the revenues could benefit the community directly as is done in other states. For years we have talked about increasing educational funding by taxing Hawaii's citizens even more than they already are taxed. Why not implement a lottery to fund education as is done in other states.

I don't want casino gambling in Hawaii.

Scott L. Mitchell

Sustainable business practices start with the smallest things: please consider reading this e-mail online instead of printing.

From: [Marlene Morris](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Casino on DHHL lands in Kapolei
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 5:13:06 AM

I have always been saying that the State of Hawaii needs to find other means of acquiring revenue besides overtaxing the people. My opinion is that Hawaii should pass some sort of gaming in order to relieve budget shortfalls. I believe that by doing this, DHHL would be able to fulfill Hawaiian Homes awards for homes.

There has been so much talk of gambling bringing crime, but truth be told, we already have so much crime without gambling. I lived in Las Vegas for 10 years, and have never seen any crime unless you go looking for it. Living was cheap in Vegas, and the gaming industry paid for the roads and schools. I did research maybe 20 years ago and discovered that Hawaii residents spend 29 million dollars a year in Vegas, we should be keeping that money at home.

Let's not bury our heads in the sand anymore and step out and pass this.

Aloha,
Marlene Morris

From: [Curt Muraoka](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for DHHL Casino
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 11:29:17 AM

Aloha,

"Buy Local" and "Support Local" -- why would these sentiments not apply to legal casino gambling?

Over many years predating the national rush to legalize gambling (as is widely known, 45 states allow casinos), the "social ills" associated with gambling addiction have been cited as the reason for prohibition. Vegas isn't nicknamed "the 9th Island" for nothing, and illegal gaming is already here for anyone who cares to look. Hawaii allows "social" gambling, and doesn't define clearly what that looks like, so a person who really wants to find a game can find a game--thus the social impact is already here. Yet we haven't fallen apart neither as a state nor as a country even though the pathology for problem gambling is similar to drug and alcohol dependence.

On some level, legalized casino gambling in Hawaii is an *If you can't beat 'em, join 'em* type proposition.

Until we join in, Hawaii will continue to transfuse millions of dollars daily into the lifeblood of the 9th Island, which isn't really part of Hawaii, is it?

Curtis Muraoka
Captain Cook, Hawaii

From: [Ivy Muraoka](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino Planning
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 5:23:08 PM

Aloha,
As a beneficiary, **Loppose** the idea of having a casino built due to the fact that i as a beneficiary as well as my ohana will not benefit from it.

Mahalo,
Ivy Muraoka

From: [Tori Nakamatsu-Figaroa](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Casino
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 7:31:50 PM

Hello!

I don't support the casino. Please don't keep relying on tourism for our economy. Please don't use helping kanaka maoli as an excuse to foster unhealthy environments. If money is such a need, maybe open a farm and co-op grocery, something that will benefit the community it's in and help Hawaii be less dependent on goods shipped to us.

Again, I don't support the casino.

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider my email, hope you're having a great day!

Cheers,
Tori Nakamatsu-Figaroa

From: [Claire Nicely](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No Casino!
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 8:51:07 AM

DHHL:

I believe a casino to fund Hawaii Homeland requirements are not in the best interest of the people of Hawaii. While I believe that the Hawaiian people are entitled to what was pledged to them, there should be other means to do so other than a casino.

Perhaps the land designated for the casino could be used to build a few simple condo with income generating capability - using the first two floors for commercial / resale outlets, such as a grocery, medical offices, to support payment of the condo units above - could be an alternative.

Mahalo,
Claire Nicely

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Leiana](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Building a casino in Kapolei
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 7:38:58 PM

Aloha, why are you folks are focusing on building casino? there's a lot of families that been waiting for many years like my Mom Hannah Mahi-Wilson, my Aunties and Uncle's and my siblings on waitlist my sibling and I recently lost our mother thus past two years, please focus on the families, not this non sense that going to cause violence, crimes and even killings on our aina because people so greedy for money and how knows drugs. I lost my nephew this past August for working in an illegal gambling a group of guy's came in and shot him so please my Kanaka's reconsider "Aole casino we need home for our Families no crimes in our community please, Mahalo!

Leiana K., Nihoa

From: [Terry Norrington](#)
To: [DHH.L.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] HawaiianHomelands Casino
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 7:35:37 AM

I am writing to express my support for a Land-Based casino to be built on Hawaiian Homelands.

This would greatly help the island peoples financial future. & well-being.

We are a great tourist destination and have, because of the recent pandemic, suffered economically. Meanwhile tourist simply do a quick stop-over in Hawaii to continue their vacation to Las Vegas where they are entertained there.

Hawaii doesn't even have a lottery, which benefits most every state in the US Mainland. These Support schools, infrastructure of cities and yes even the housing for homeless & our elderly.

It's a false narrative that casinos create poverty and crime.

Meanwhile, we have for years promoted our citizens trips to Las Vegas with perks.

A Government regulated casino is a plus to the Hawaii Islanders & our government institutions.

TERRY L NORRINGTON

From: [KALEO OLMQS](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gambling on Hawaiian Home Lands
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 9:21:31 AM

I am in favor of having a Casino on Hawaiian Home Lands. This will give people in Hawaii an option to Gamble in Hawaii instead of going out of State. Jobs will be created and monies will stay here in Hawaii.

Organized crime, drugs and crime is already here in Hawaii.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Jessica O'Malley](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kapolei casino
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 8:30:40 AM

Aloha -

I'd like to share my household's opinion that we believe the casino introduction in Kapolei would be a good idea for economic growth for the second city.

Mahalo for your time,
Jessica O'Malley

From: [Ravlene Puahi](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kapolei Casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 5:10:42 PM

Yes, we should have a casino for Hawaii. It will help in many ways, education, repairs. And me. I go to Vegas almost every year paying at least \$3-4 thousand, we have a group about 25 people holding tickets for Vegas, we were scheduled to visit Vegas in March but recently our trip got pushed back till June. In the past years I have gone to Vegas our plane was always full, when visiting any Boyd Casino lots of local people playing machines. Let's build it and they will come

Sent from my iPad

From: [Raylene Puahi](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kapolei Casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 5:19:40 PM

Yes, we need a casino for many reasons, education, repairs, the people who spends thousands of dollars, everyday going to Las Vegas.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Kammv Purdy](#)
To: [DHHL, Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gaming Casino
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 10:48:27 AM

Aloha,

Please, NO casino on Hawaiian Home Lands or in Hawaii. I would rather use our agricultural homestead land to grow Cannabidiol. This agricultural enterprise will make use of our agricultural lands, produce revenue for all homesteaders & the State (not one developer) and give us homestead beneficiaries an opportunity to own our farm business. Mahalo for giving us the opportunity to share our mana'o through this process of beneficiary consultantation.

Mahalo.

Harry @ Marlene Purdy

Hoolehua, Molokai, HI

Sent from my iPhone

From:
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2021 2:25 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino Resort in Kapolei

To whom it may concern,

I am in opposition of the casino resort planned in Kapolei. I agree that a casino will bring in large amounts of money however, one needs to ask where this money will be coming from. Looking at Oahu's economy and crime, one can only foresee that a casino will increase the crime rate on Oahu. I understand that there will be gamblers who gamble their own money, but with many out of jobs where will the unemployed and homeless get their money to gamble? More stealing, more theft, more robbery, more drug dealing. It's easy money and gives them a chance to win more thus creating a cycle and addiction for some. So yes, I am sure a casino will bring in lots of money, but do we want it at the expense of our safety, our community, our aloha spirit? For the sake of these things, I kindly ask that those in support of a casino would look at other means to fund their plans. Possibly something like the lottery. Thank you for your time and consideration.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Tasha Relator](#)
To: [DHHH.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Kapolei Casino
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 12:23:31 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am against the opening of any casino in Hawaii. There is enough drug problems in Hawaii in general, this will only add to the problem.

Bringing a casino to Hawaii will bring great crime, drugs, and even possibility more children missing in Hawaii. I can't imagine this being a good thing at all.

Sincerely, Tasha Relator

Sent from my iPhone

From: Joanna Pokipala
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 5:23 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on Gaming Proposal

Aloha mai Kaua,

My name is Joanna Maile Pokipala Resurrection. I am a Kanaka Maoli. I am not a homesteader nor am I on the waiting list due to lack of blood quantum. However, I want to voice my opinion on having a casino be put on Hawaiian Lands. That opinion is in opposition to this idea. Kānaka have enough addiction problems and this will be added to the list. Please reevaluate your assets and gain revenue that way.

Mahalo,
Joanna M. P. Resurrection

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Danny Roe](#)
[DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Casino in Kapolei
Date: Monday, February 01, 2021 6:36:25 PM

I am a homeowner and I live in Kapolei. I am apposed to opening a Casino in Kapolei or for that matter anywhere in Hawaii. We do not need casino's in the Hawaiian Island. I believe it will increase our already heavy traffic situation, high crime level and place further stress on our understaffed and over worked Honolulu police department. Most importantly I am concerned about the potential for child trafficking. Bottom line I am apposed to the proposed Casino project.

Thank You
Danny L. Roe

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Jeff Ruoss](#)
To: [DHHL Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment on Proposed Casino
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 1:38:20 PM

In an effort to provide economic benefit and avoid undesirable impacts I suggest the following;

Make it a misdemeanor for Hawaii residents to gamble at the proposed casino and enforce it.

From: [Jeff Ruoss](#)
To: [DHHL Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Casino Gaming Public Comment
Date: Monday, February 01, 2021 12:07:03 AM

It should be illegal for Hawaii residents to gamble. Do not change this law please.

Although a casino that caters to non-residents would be beneficial to the island economy.

Hard earned income by locals cannot be gambled! The impacts to families and the Hawaiians in general would be negative.

From: [Shirley Saffery](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Big Yes for Casino in Kapolei
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:53:47 PM

I am so happy that Dhhl is proposing this Casino. The Legislature continues to squash any mention of gambling in Hawaii. Let the people decide this. We are 1 of 2 states with no gambling, even bingo. I don't know what the State is trying to prove by this. Actually it should be on the ballot to put an end to this. Not everyone wants to go to Las Vegas. It would be great to have a place for locals to get together. Good luck

Sent from my iPad

From: vurdosek ·
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2021 10:56 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino

Not sure why it aint legal here yet....why are sending all that \$\$\$\$ to vegas....its time to 🤖🤖🤖🤖🤖 hawaii and keep that \$\$\$ here and export our wealth to other states

From: [Cecelia Sasaki](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Cc: [LaVerne L. Matanane](#); [Loretta Spencer](#); [Norine Matanane](#); [Nobie](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gambling Casino on DHHL
Date: Saturday, January 23, 2021 9:33:18 AM

As a beneficiary on the Waiting List I opposed the idea of using Hwn Home Lands for a casino. Why not a lottery? The expense to build, operate & maintain a Casino would cost a lot more than running a lottery. A casino would cause a lot of problems. Alcohol & drug addiction & financial debt for people who cannot affordable to gambling.

The DHHL was established to get Native Hawaiians back on their lands which was taken away from them. I am against a gambling casino on Hawaiian Homes Land.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Stephanie Serra](#)
To: [DHH, Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casinos
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 6:19:47 PM

Just as a lucky resident of the fabulous state of Hawaii, here are some points of my opinion regarding the above mentioned subject.

Please excuse the almost certain grammatical errors forthcoming:

1. In light of the human loss, and economic devastation, that I believe will take more than a decade to recover from, I think it is time for Hawaii to be progressive and a bit self serving , (an example 1a) to get a big jump on economic recovery, comparatively to other states that don't have tourism as it's main source of state revenue. Is that considered gross national product? Idk.

1a. I say, why are our hardworking residents paying to the good state of Nevada, (whose residents do not pay state tax, because mostly if the gambling revenue, I'm assuming.) So they spend their hard earned money on a package deal to Las Vegas, and really, they are going basically to "gamble" because L.V. yes has some attractions, i.e. how many times can you see Hoover dam? So I'm pretty sure repeat customers are definitely ones who enjoy gambling.

So I say, hey make it possible so they can at least gamble here and help their own state, and maybe next vacation they can visit somewhere new.

2. I don't know the homestead/native lands and the proposed bill, but I've been saying for awhile, like Alaska, they should be getting monies, especially for their children etc.

3. But I think it could be better. ALOT BETTER. ABSOLUTELY Hawaii tourism should definitely incorporate casinos , and gambling, not just one, (isn't that monopoly?).

Here is why and how I think it could be.

If the worries are if the hotels had gambling, the crime element, and or the stupid thinking Hawaiians are gonna run and blow their paycheck, okay the small percentage that I guess have no impulse control, well it already happens in the gaming rooms that we all know they are there, I don't know if now they are legal, with some of the games being games if skill, which I'm told is??? But for law enforcement they look for warrants outstanding so I think it's good. Yes I've seen customers play to 600 plus then go back to 0. Which I would have cashed out, but they play to hit the big cash. At any rate depending on the owner and how loose the games are, I have definitely won more than I've played. Can't say that about Vegas, (my mom lives there). And mostly, I have only put in 5 -10. The most I won was 400, and it was a tournament with no buy in.

A. If you wanted to keep in certain area, like away from Waikiki etc. Fine, I believe there is plenty of land on the islands and and the purposed area. It would certainly make use and bring that rail line out of the red, and I'm sure tourists would be riding it.

B. I suggest having outside developers, I'm sure plenty of wealthy japanese developers would agree to certain area, renting the land, exclusivity on all builders, workers, materials etc, somehow be supplied by Hawaii etc. Not to stereotype, but I do believe alot of japanese

countrymen enjoy playing as do I.

Think about how many jobs this would be for Hawaiians! Builders, then staff, from valet to dealers to hotel staff to restaurants to floor shows that could def incorporate the beauty and culture of Hawaii. Think of the enticement of fans coming to see a boxing match? Think of how many more tourists that would come because of the incredible islands and the ability to gamble. The revenue I know would be absolutely WAY more than expected.

I believe you're talking about a bill, for Hawaiians. That's great and a move for the native Hawaiians as it should be. But the mere fact of legalizing gambling will make the Hawaii islands, one of the wealthiest states in the U.S.

And maybe just have it on Oahu and the big island. So any elements associated with gambling, casinos, won't be obscuring the culture and history etc without disturbing the other islands if that should be wanted.

I think Hawaii should ABSOLUTELY have a state Lotto, and scratcher tickets. Like states like California, where proceeds go to education, I don't know how you can argue with that. And to the naysayers that gambling is either against their religion, etc, remember we live in a free country and people should have the right to decide to or not, especially when gaming rooms are all over raking in money, and paying no tax. They aren't seedy, or filled with evil element, they are very strict and a definite help for the police Dept in my eyes.

But I also think, in undertaking this, please please, we need to have extremely scrupulous, competent, experienced, men and women to make it happen, and please no nepotism. The one thing i see and

Have seen to tragic ends, so many individuals holding positions that they have no training nor experience and who's errors and obvious mistakes and blunders set back whatever or wherever business that employ them in so many fields, which keeps progress and quality to a snail's pace, because someone's relative, or friend needed a position, but had no business (no pun intended) being there, making mistake after mistake costing taxpayers huge amounts of money.

Think about how many people could be working steadily if the wheels and cogs of a blended commitment between progressive legislation, developers, and thousands of honest hard-working Islanders who want to see that they are changing with the times so their children and their children can enjoy great education, and that 1950s dream of having a home, a good job, a good economy that employs every working class, that we know, a society needs to be successful. We cannot succeed if there is only the very poor and the very wealthy, there has to be a middle to survive. History shows it. if there is a will there is a way, and I, being cut down in my prime by health issues, have experienced homelessness and trying to navigate thru it, so abhorrently by exactly the kind of people in positions they have No business in, also blended with the doubting Thomas's who keep progression down, because of downright greed, and lol knowing the fact that if people found out that they have no idea what their doing, they too might be homeless.

I'm sure there are points I forget and will probably remember but I tried to incorporate the reasons for YES! absolutely ! casinos for Hawaii!!!. Ignore the response of the same idiots who live in the past, the same answer and the same one when I had a great plan for homeless - but it will bring crime...hate to tell ya, but crime us already every where and um one thing

might help, no poverty, jobs, good economy. So it goes back to my theory, non progressives just aren't intelligent enough for whatever positions they hold, and they don't want to be discovered that they don't know what they are doing and are scared so they just say no.

All in all, if we start now, we will be able to bypass the years of mending from covid that sadly, other states and countries will be up against because,... we're lucky. We are lucky of having tourism to support Hawaii and oh so lucky we can incorporate a new avenue for the islands, which will make us probably one of the wealthiest states, having a wealth of culture from it's natives, a healthy and booming economy, affordable middle to low class housing, probably a 50% drop in homelessness, education funded by Lotto, (which bring our children up and maybe passing a point, where sadly we know that covid is seriously threatening our children s education, which to me is sad and irrevocable global,) lower crime why? Because there are jobs, our economy is good, we are progressing. If that is a bit state-selfish then let it be, better than to be single-selfish by not taking advantage of the gift that is here to be used. Also after being cooped up for how long? We don't know, but hey I'm sure alot of people will want to come and relax and enjoy the aloha spirit!

And a side note, let's hope we have some hotel-casinos are developing (remember we can set the "style" okay casinos in Hawaii could certainly take on the class of Monaco's casino, it can be our choice, does not have have a seedy element.

Another side note...long shot, but thinking ahead. Ok whenever's brilliant idea if taking out all Jacuzzi on the islands, unbelievably dumb. If we have chlorinated pools what's the difference? There's tons of fecal matter in the Ali wai canal and living on keehi harbor I've seen makeshift toilets dumped right in. Then there radiation in the Pacific from fukushima.so to take out Jacuzzi which gives so long change relief for muscle and spinal issues. What moron made that happen? Stupid.

Okay thank you, and I hope you guys make a precedence and revel in the kudos that I know will be abundant if someone has the vision and guts to bring the incredible God given gift, the islands of Hawaii and gift of the hawaiians to be appreciated and help them flourish in these times of great decisions.

Thank you,

Kekepania

Kakaako, hi.

From: Maydene Simmons
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 9:54 AM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Casino

Here are my comments:

Has anyone driven through Waimanalo recently? 75% of all homes in Waimanalo are occupied by Native Hawaiians. DHHL is supposedly managing these properties? You don't have to drive off Kalaniana'ole Hwy when driving through beautiful Waimanalo to see the management style of DHHL. I am not referring to the ocean properties currently occupied by the homeless population (that's another issue). And so, DHHL wants to enter the Casino business to generate revenue to build homes for Native Hawaiians when they can't even manage existing homes? I don't think so.

Mahalo

From: Pea Dog
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 4:06 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino Proposal

Dear Sir or Madam,

I wanted to write to voice my support for the idea of a casino on DHHL lands. If properly managed, it has the potential to bring needed funds to DHHL projects. I would hope that it will also speed the process of placing families onto DHHL land.

Sincerely,
Pamela Small

From: [Danielle Smith](#)
To: [DHHL Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Commentary Submission: Opposition of Proposed Casino Gaming
Date: Monday, February 01, 2021 6:23:29 PM

Aloha e Department of Hawaiian Homelands,

I am sending this email to submit commentary on the proposed casino gaming center in Kapolei.

As a member of the Kanehili homestead in Kapolei, I must oppose this bill.

The bill starts off by quoting the state constitution "...further rehabilitation of the Hawaiian race shall be faithfully carried out." I ask in what ways does the proposed gambling center serve as a place of rehabilitation? How will DHHL make sure that it is specifically serving Native Hawaiians?

While it is true that there is potential for this integrated resort to earn lots of revenue in a short time, the sheer cost of construction, maintenance, and "specific funding that would help alleviate negative impacts" (Gomes, 2021), will take years to earn back and all money's earned will not go solely to DHHL trusts. The state has an opportunity to earn tax revenue on this facility as well, funds that are not promised to go directly to improving the lives of Native Hawaiians. It can also be argued that such a integrated resort will bring in more opportunities for commercial growth, but that should not be the goal. The goal should not be to create more low-paying jobs for Native Hawaiians to compete for amongst settler presence. Tourism is already poorly managed in Hawai'i and COVID-19 has shown proof that locals are not protected or supported from and in the tourism industry. A limited gambling facility also has the potential to increase the adverse cultural effects within Native Hawaiian communities, marketing unfruitful ways to spend money, promoting addiction, and idolizing a gambling lifestyle. While tourist and non-locals may benefit from the fun, residents will suffer the social impacts, regardless of efforts to maintain them.

Instead, I propose that the DHHL board should draft a bill that addresses issues of food security, career outlook, Native Hawaiian identity, and that promotes a circulate island economy. Possible institutions to place on DHHL lands can include programs like Ma'o Farms, with both profit and non-profit branches that serve the community in a healthy and sustainable way. Providing more means for Native Hawaiians at all ages to earn a higher education, go on international trips, and provide new and better ideas. One can easily ask the people what they want for themselves, and a much better answer than "casino" can be provided.

I plead for the DHHL board to hear the communities pleas AGAINST the development of the proposed integrated resort.

Mahalo,
Danielle

From: [Tim Smith](#)
To: [DHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kapolei casino
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 6:36:34 PM

I fully endorse the right of indigenous Hawaiians to build and operate a casino on their lands in Kapolei

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [Dawn Soderquist Okano](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino comments
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 6:53:33 PM

Aloha,

My husband and I would like to voice our very strong opposition to building any casino gambling here in Hawaii.

Hawaii is a special place because it is so different from the mainland. However, with all the mainland stores and technology moving in, we are losing our sense of the Hawaiian culture. Adding casinos to Hawaii would be a disgrace to Hawaii's ancestors. Imagine how the ancestors would feel with gambling here in these culturally beautiful islands.

I have seen places on the mainland build casinos thinking they are going to receive so many benefits from the extra money coming in. I have seen firsthand that did not happen.

Please, let's not go down this path. Let's think of others ways to raise money.

I have been a realtor for over 40 years here and I have seen how surprised most people are when I tell them how low our real property taxes are. I would suggest looking at raising taxes for non-residents. They expect it and they would not even feel the difference. Most other realtors will tell you it will discourage people from moving here, however, in reality it would not.

With aloha,

Dawn Soderquist Okano
Sent from my iPhone

From:
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2021 7:56 AM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: FW: Kalaheo Ward - HI Gambling Legislation (HB359, SB1321)
Attachments: GamblingBillLetter-ToHawaiiAdultMembers.pdf; ATT00001.htm; HB359-SB1321.pdf; ATT00002.htm

FYI below and attached

From:
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 5:45 AM
To:

Subject: Fwd: Kalaheo Ward - HI Gambling Legislation (HB359, SB1321)

Attached position of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on Gambling issue in Hawaii. I received this email early this morning from my Bishop. Please be aware that every member in the state of Hawaii received this email.

Mahalo,

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From:
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 1:49:26 AM
To:
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Kalaheo Ward - HI Gambling Legislation (HB359, SB1321)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Aloha Brothers and Sisters,

In the General Handbook 38.8.22, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is very clear concerning gambling and lotteries. As stated in the Handbook, "The Church opposes gambling in any form, including government-sponsored lotteries". In Gospel Topics it states "Gambling is motivated by a desire to get something for nothing. This desire is spiritually destructive. It leads participants away from the Savior's teachings of love and service and toward the selfishness of the adversary. It undermines the virtues of work and thrift and the desire to give honest effort in all we do".

Again, we read in Gospel Topics "Those who participate in gambling soon discover the deception in the idea that they can give little or nothing and receive something of value in return. They find that they give up large amounts of money, their own honor, and the respect of family members and friends. Deceived and addicted, they often gamble with funds they should use for other purposes, such as meeting the basic needs of their families. Gamblers sometimes become so enslaved and so desperate to pay gambling debts that they turn to stealing, giving up their good name".

Currently, the Hawaii legislature is considering two bills that address legalizing gambling in the State. These bills are HB359 in the House and SB1321 in the Senate. Although, HB359 was presented and deferred on the February 5th hearing, SB1321 is scheduled to be heard on Thursday, February 11th.

I encourage our members to consider the negative impact gambling will have on the people of Hawai'i, our communities, and our families. Then take the appropriate action to let your voice be heard. Communicating with your elected state legislators is a good first step. You could either call or submit a written testimony to your legislators. This is an opportunity to let your voices be heard.

The attached flyer (as sent via email) has more information.

Mahalo!

Elder Voi R. Taelalii
Area Seventy

The Stake Presidency has requested your attention to the attached letter from Elder Voi R. Tæoalii of the Area Seventy regarding gambling bills under consideration by the Hawaii state legislature. Elder Tæoalii provides counsel that has been given on gambling and encourages members, "to consider the negative impact gambling will have on the people of Hawai'i, our communities, and our families...then take the appropriate action to let your voice be heard."

Additional legislative details have also been attached. Mahalo for your consideration of this time-sensitive issue.

Aloha,

Bishop Shipley

You received this email because you made your email address available to your local Church leaders. It was sent by Michael Shipley, whose calling is Bishop.

House Bill 359

Report Title: Limited Casino Gaming; Single Integrated Resort; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Grants forty-year gaming license for a single integrated resort property on Hawaiian home lands designated for commercial use on the island of Oahu excluding lands west of Ko Olina. Establishes Hawaii Gaming Commission. Imposes wagering tax on gross gaming revenue. Creates State Gaming Fund. Appropriates funds.

Companion Bill: [SB1321](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: ECD, JHA/CPC, FIN

Introducer(s): SAIKI (Introduced by request of another party)

STATUS: on February 5th the House committee on Economic Development DEFERRED the Measure.

Subject Matter Committees:

- 1. Economic Development
Economic Development
(ECD)**
Sean Quinlan, Chair
Daniel Holt, Vice Chair
Della Au Belatti
Dale T. Kobayashi
Richard H.K. Onishi
Jackson D. Sayama
Gregg Takayama
Val Okimoto (R)

If it passes Economic Development it will head to:

- 2. Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs/Consumer Protection and Commerce (Joint Committee Hearing)**

Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs (JHA)

Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair
Linda Ichiyama
Dale T. Kobayashi
Matthew S. LoPresti
Nicole E. Lowen
Angus L.K. McKelvey
Nadine K. Nakamura
Roy M. Takumi
Chris Todd
James Kunane Tokioka
Gene Ward (R)

Consumer Protection & Commerce (CPC)

Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
Henry J.C. Aquino
Sharon E. Har
Mark J. Hashem
Sam Satoru Kong
John M. Mizuno
Dee Morikawa
Richard H.K. Onishi
David A. Tarnas
Lauren Matsumoto (R)

If it passes Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs/Consumer Protection and Commerce it will head to:

3. Finance

Finance (FIN)

Sylvia Luke, Chair

Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

Patrick Pihana Branco

Stacelynn K.M. Eli

Daniel Holt

Greggor Ilagan

Bertrand Kobayashi

Lisa Marten

Scott Y. Nishimoto

Amy A. Perruso

Jackson D. Sayama

Adrian K. Tam

Tina Wildberger

Kyle T. Yamashita

Bob McDermott (R)

If the measure has not made it to the Finance committee by February 19th (a.k.a. First Lateral) the bill is dead.

If the bill somehow makes it through all four committees on time, it will cross over to the Senate. The first crossover of measures (House → Senate and House ← Senate) will occur on March 11

Senate Bill 1321

Measure Title: RELATING TO GAMING.

Report Title: Limited Casino Gaming; Single Integrated Resort; Appropriation

Description: Grants forty-year gaming license for a single integrated resort property on Hawaiian home lands designated for commercial use on the island of Oahu excluding lands west of Ko Olina. Establishes Hawaii Gaming Commission. Imposes wagering tax on gross gaming revenue. Creates State Gaming Fund. Appropriates funds.

Companion: [HB359](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: HWN, JDC/WAM

Introducer(s): KOUCHI (Introduced by request of another party), CHANG, KEOHOKALOLE, San Buenaventura, Shimabukuro

STATUS: The measure will be heard in the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs on Thursday, February 11th at 1:00 pm.

Subject Matter Committees:

1. Hawaiian Affairs

HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS (HWN)

Shimabukuro, Maile S.L. (Chair)
Keohokalole, Jarrett (Vice Chair)
Acasio, Laura
Ihara, Jr., Les
Fevella, Kurt

If it passes Hawaiian Affairs it will head to:

2. Judiciary/Ways and Means (Joint Committee Hearing)

JUDICIARY (JDC)

Rhoads, Karl (Chair)
Keohokalole, Jarrett (Vice Chair)
Acasio, Laura
Gabbard, Mike
Kim, Donna Mercado
Lee, Chris
Fevella, Kurt

WAYS AND MEANS (WAM)

Dela Cruz, Donovan M. (Chair)
Keith-Agaran, Gilbert S.C. (Vice Chair)
English, J. Kalani
Inouye, Lorraine R.
Kanuha, Dru Mamo
Kidani, Michelle N.
Moriwaki, Sharon Y.
Shimabukuro, Maile S.L.
Taniguchi, Brian T.
Wakai, Glenn
Fevella, Kurt

If the measure has not made it to the Judiciary/Ways and Means committee by February 19th (a.k.a. First Lateral) the bill is dead.

If the bill somehow makes it through all four committees on time, it will cross over to the Senate. The first crossover of measures (House → Senate and House ← Senate) will occur on March 11

From: [Tina Taniguchi](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kapolei Casino testimony
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 3:01:07 PM

Aloha DHHL planning, I am native Hawaiian I do not however qualify under your description to be Hawaiian. My grandparents may meet your blood quantum but they chose to work hard and to live where they were born and raised not where you choose to create a homestead and place people. I feel very discriminated, left out and voiceless because I do not meet your blood quantum. It is frustrating to be Hawaiian to live Hawaiian but to have no say on our Hawaiian Homelands... because I am not a "beneficiary". Maybe I do have a say.. I don't know... I do want to voice my say on the proposed casino in Kapolei, anywhere in Hawaii for that matter. I am against a casino here in Hawaii because of the lifestyle it represents and draws in. Many people who live where gambling is legal, or casinos are nearby suffer from gambling addictions! Drugs in Hawaii is a struggle enough! From just one casino a lifestyle will develop and grow outside of that casino, on to our streets in our homes.. where will it end? From one "successful" casino, beneficiaries (not all Hawaiian) will push for another casino, and another.. The Vegas nickname of 9th island has never felt good to me. It portrays a playground type of getaway location. Hawaii should be more about sustainability and preservation not a hit and go, or stay and play locale. So please don't just look at quick income, but the long term effects and change just one casino will bring. Mahalo!

From: [Justin Tanoue](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:35:13 PM

I am strongly in favor of your proposal to build a single casino on Oahu. People say crimes will go up, however, last time I checked Hawaii has more crimes per capita such as burglary, robbery, etc... than Nevada. I haven't checked recent numbers, but maybe you can take a look and compare.

Illegal gambling causes criminal activity and cheating. Having a regulated establishment would not only benefit the Native Hawaiian community, but also job seekers, small business, taxpayers, and the players. Everyone wins.

In a free county people should have a choice whether they want to patronize a casino. Local government leaders and lobbyists are trying to block this option for their own special interests and self gain.

Justin Tanoue
Kaneohe, Oahu

From: [Esperanza Tapiz](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 8:47:45 AM

I am in support to build the casino. The reason is because this will create job opportunities, small business can build around the casino and create revenue.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Eskkorpija
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 5:00 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed casino

I think a casino is a wonderful idea, however it is completely asinine and discriminatory to allow gambling in only one tiny fraction of Hawaii!!! It should be allowed everywhere as people can't just hop on a plane real quick and fly over if they live on another island!!that would turn it into an expensive planned vacation which not many can afford! So essentially, once again as with most Hawaiian luxuries, a casino on Oahu would only be enjoyed by those in certain income brackets while the rest of the state spread out amongst the islands will never get a chance to enjoy it at all or even have to e chance at any employment opportunity it will create. Make gambling legal across the state -dont exclude other islands....Oahu ISNT more important, higher priority, or any better than the other Islands, so don't create any legislation that would reflect that or could be construed as such!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Erin K. Taylor

From: [Tenjoma Lyle](#)
To: [DHHH.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] proposed casino
Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 5:46:23 AM

I certainly OPPOSE this casino anywhere, anytime.

Lyle T. Tenjoma DDS.MSD

From: [Eric Terashima](#)
To: [DHHL, Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Better ideas?
Date: Sunday, January 24, 2021 2:31:46 PM

All the powers that be are against the casino. But no one has come up with a better suggestion to raise needed funds.
Eric Terashima

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Mona Tokujio](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino comment
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 7:52:26 AM

It is felt that increasing capital through gambling casinos is not what should be done. You are welcoming and opening Hawaii to miscreants/unethical and undesirable people as well as those who may have existing monetary problems. They might end up homeless and increase our already high homeless population which our tax dollars will have to be used to help them. Though you think you might add more money to your coffers, it will also increase the already existing economic problems and homelessness. I say no to having casinos in Hawaii!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Aida Turcsik](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 9:21:32 AM

I'm not in favor of having any type of casino. The island is so pristine and beautiful with our beaches and our plants. The place will be tainted if you have gambling and whatever comes with it. The financial gain or income does not equate to the harm and possible crime associated with having a casino.

Tourists come to our island because of the weather, clean beaches and the variety of food that we offer. We should think on how to improve these. People do not come to gamble.

Pls listen to us.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Uehara 'Ohana](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casino proposal
Date: Thursday, January 28, 2021 7:16:15 AM

Aloha,

I wanted to share my mana'o about the proposal to create a casino as a way to generate revenues. I think it is a terrible terrible idea. It would not benefit the native Hawaiian community it will only cause more harm to them please take a look at all the native American casinos built on tribal lands, and then take a look at the population it is supposed to be benefiting. No one wins when casinos are built it only invites more other related problems, and destroys families. And the people who will be spending their money there are the ones who can least afford to. Gambling has absolutely no benefits to the working class citizen. Leave it in Las Vegas where it belongs do not bring that to Hawaii, and especially on native lands. How do you think our Ali'i would feel about this? Tourist donot come to Hawaii for casinos, so your only revenue would come from the backs of the working class. A'ole, this is not a good idea, do not do this to our people. Do not introduce another western vice that will hurt our people.

Respectfully submitted by,
Toby Uehara

Na ke Akua pū

From: [Richard Vierra](#)
To: [DHHL Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Monday's Info Session
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:12:20 PM

Aloha,

Happy New Year, and thank you for the very informative session tonight. Regarding tonight's presentation and format, you may be on to something – given covid, the weather and I think, the overall inability of many curious Hawaiians and wait-listers to attend or access information, this was great. My mom is 93 ½ and has been on the waitlist for about 30+ years and so she received the postcard about the session tonight and watched with some skepticism about a casino on DHHL lands. I joined her and watched and listened with an open mind, and think most people are concerned, not about the income a casino could produce but the reality (perceived or real) that the money left in a casino here will come out of the pockets of the Hawaiians and other locals the casino is trying to help. That said, I know tonight's presentation shared facts, many of which I know nothing about, i.e., the amount of DHHL land, the amount of land suitable for development, and the history of perceived mismanagement of OHA, DHHL and the State of Hawaii relative to the HH Commission Act. All that aside, I did have a few observations and questions:

1. Observation: Given that there are 28,000 people on the waitlist and IF you were to house each person on a 6,000sf lot, you would need about 3,800 acres and if it cost \$150,000/house to develop infrastructure, you'd need about \$4 billion.

Question: Is the \$150,000/lot accurate? Is this the Cadillac or VW version of infrastructure? Are there any options? Are there any government grants available to lower these costs? Perhaps BWS or HECO has something? \$150,000/lot may be accurate but are there alternative options or contractors who can build for less?

2. Observation: It was mentioned that a casino would net about 36% of its revenue to the DHHL. But no mention was made to what the 36% was based on, as 36% of \$100 is a lot less than 36% of \$100,000. The point being that if the basis to build a casino is to anticipate a large windfall of revenue to fund infrastructure, it would seem imperative to me that percentages be translated to dollars long before anything was built.

Question: Is there an estimate on potential net dollars in addition to net percentages? And if so, upon what is it based? Comparing it to other states is dangerous – see my next comment for an explanation.

3. Observation: When developmental costs and revenue streams are established based on similar casinos in other states, I'm always skeptical about the analysis because although casinos are effectively the same, states and casino-goers are not. I've lived and worked in Las Vegas, NV and Lake Havasu, AZ as a general manager for several small (300 rooms) hotels and casinos for 6 years and use that as my basis for understanding and expressing my concerns. For instance:

- a. The majority of major casinos are patronized by their own hotel guests or guests from nearby hotels so that hotel guests limit their transportation costs hence the large number

of rooms and the deep discounts on rooms, food, beverages and play tokens.

A standalone casino in Kapolei being 35+ minutes and 25 miles from the central tourist area of Waikiki makes it seem unlikely that a significant number of tourists and in particular parents on vacation here would have to find child care (no minors are allowed in casinos) then spend an hour+ driving assuming there is no traffic and the rented a car, to play in a casino and then return to their hotel to continue their vacation. I'm guessing that most families won't do that and if they do, they'd just do it only once while they are here. And with only two(?) small hotels in Kapolei, the pool of casino-goers in proximity is very small and not likely to fill a large casino (which it will have to be to address the economies of scale needed to ensure ongoing profitability).

Question: Has consideration been given or have studies been conducted to verify patronage of a standalone hotel an hour from a tourist base?

b. Casinos are typically open 24 hours/day to capitalize on tourist traffic in the hotel.

With two small hotels in Kapolei and the tourist center 25 miles away, the pool of immediate casino goers is limited. Add to that, that I believe that casino attractions are not the primary draw of Hawaii, but rather beaches, sun, attractions (Arizona, Missouri, Polynesian Culture Center, Diamond Head, surf lessons, eco-tours and other attractions). Given that HVB reports that the average length of stay for tourists is between 5 and 12 days and is dropping annually, it would seem that relying on tourists to be the main source of casino-goers 24 hours/day/365 days/year is not wise.

Question: Has consideration been given or have studies been conducted to confirm an ongoing interest and determination of the potential number of arriving casino-goers?

c. Casino employment is primarily service-oriented.

While the potential for jobs for a 24 hour casino is great, the largest employment sector will be security and gaming staff (housekeeping too, if a large hotel were added). Yes there will be a need for management and IT staff, but most management is typically hired by the casino and hires are trust-based and have been with the hotel a long time, which it not likely to occur here since the developer is not going to be from here. So employment will ultimately be heavily in the service/hourly wage area.

Question: Has a casino developer been involved to provide input on employment in non-security and gaming employment?

d. A part of the casino attraction is the discounted food and beverage offerings.

As we know from our own experiences, food and beverages are extremely discounted or free in casinos for the purpose of keeping people at the machines or tables. When I lived in Las Vegas it was cheaper to eat out than to cook at home. It would seem obvious to me that the large working class population of Oahu, and particularly on the West side, will see this as a huge dining room and walk in, not to necessarily play, but to drink and eat. Of course they will play a little BUT this is the same population

base that you are trying to help yet they will be the ones dropping money into machines and drinking away their income. It won't be very long before casino management realizes that the already high costs of goods here are being given away. The result of which will be limitations on service (which is never a good thing in a casino) or discounts and freebies will end (and with it would go a major draw of a casino).

Question: Has consideration been given or have casino developers been contacted to determine interest and financial viability given the cost of doing business here?

e. Next to Housekeeping, the largest department of any hotel/casino is Security.

There is a reason for this and it is internal theft, in addition to of course, customer control. So to suggest that crime is not increased by casinos is inaccurate as those types of crimes go largely unreported. For PR purposes, theft and violence in a casino are major PR issues to future casino-goers so they are kept under wraps. Also, what do you really think will happen when a group of locals walk in for the free drinks after work on a Friday afternoon and after a few drinks and putting quarters in the machines and tourists on the next machine gets on their nerves?

Question: Is Oahu really aware of this and is Oahu ready for the potential of failure in the tourist market from a PR standpoint to the world?

Ultimately, I think that concluding that a casino is the single most revenue generating development with the least amount of investment by DHHL is sound and accurate. However, I think the basis for that conclusion and the elements that get you there are not, or least were not described or expressed this evening. If there is a way to validate the observation above and answer questions, I believe it will help ease the concerns of many Hawaiians. I believe is that it is always best to fully understand and vet conclusions before they turn into commitments and actions which, in this case, could have a long-term impact on the DHHL and the Hawaiian community at large which cannot be reversed. My 2 cents....

With respect and aloha, Richard

Richard Vierra,

From: [Dave Wacker](#)
Cc: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Supporting Casinos
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 10:11:15 AM

Aloha Joy, I am writing to you as a friend and as my senator. The subject of gambling has risen in the state again. As a former Wisconsinite, I am speaking from experience. I saw the introduction of gambling in Wisconsin and was totally against it coming to our state. First it was lottery scratch off tickets, race track betting, large lotteries and finally numerous casinos. As a business owner and teacher, I supported all groups that were fighting against any form of gambling. We all feared crime bosses of Chicago would come to our state and take over the casinos. Boy was I wrong! Let's jump ahead about 30 years, now casinos are numerous in Wisconsin with most Indian tribes having built casinos on tribal lands. For example, in Green Bay, the Oneida tribe has a large Casino and with it have become the largest employer in all of Brown County. They have built not only a casino, but also tribal clinics, senior citizen homes, drug and alcohol treatment centers, and aided and supplied the schools with better education facilities. The tribes have provided opportunities for students to study the arts, poetry and history during summer periods abroad. Athletes are helped by being given necessary equipment, new shoes and uniforms and even provide schools trips for things like ski weekends. One thing that helped our family's photography studio, was when they determined that every student graduating should have senior portraits for the school yearbook. They sent them to us with coupons to see that each student would be pictured in their yearbook. Early on, we were hesitant to visit the reservation ourselves, because of rumors that non-Indians would not be welcome. As we participated more and more with work for the tribes, we found they were just as insecure coming to our small town. As time progressed, we both gained confidence working with each other and these relationships grew into new friendships. When Ada Deer, a member of a local tribe, was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Interior and head of the BIA, she chose to be inaugurated for office in her own tribal community rather than Washington DC. She requested that we be the official government photographers of the event in Keshena, Wisconsin. It was a great experience meeting many new friends and even having the Secret Service carry our equipment. As time progressed, we got to be more and more a part of the local tribes activities. This work included doing ads for the casino, covering school sports, covering local festivals and special powwows. We were invited as honored guests to all of their important events.

At this time, the State of Wisconsin decided to publish a book titled 24 hours in Wisconsin. Every county was to be photographed for 24 consecutive hours by a photographer and written about by a reporter. We were requested to cover Menominee County and Shawano County for the book. No doors were closed to us, all events, rituals, buildings and ceremonies were opened to us.

When we first started working with the Native American tribes, they shared a common characteristic: poverty and the social problems of drugs, alcoholism, domestic abuse, theft

etc. associated with it. When gambling was initiated we saw a return towards prosperity. No longer were the reservations pleading to the state and county for aid, but were becoming more and more self-providing. They could afford a modern police force, child care, clinics and drug rehabilitation. The sawmill became profitable and began hiring again. The most successful tribe was the Green Bay Oneida Tribe. They began buying back former Indian Land, building businesses, and forming large farms that provided food for not only the tribe but also the local population. As a result, the tribe is the largest employer in Brown County. The Oneida and Menomonie Tribes are no longer the recipients of aid, but are now suppliers and taxpayers to the community.

The Chicago crime bosses did not move to Wisconsin, rather cultural events and arts are enjoyed by the community. This is true because the casinos have brought money from Illinois into Wisconsin, rather than lose it to Chicago. This has helped improve the environment and productivity in Wisconsin. Wisconsin has become a sought after fun tourism site. The system is not perfect; it is a great improvement from what it was in the past. I wish more of the People of Hawaii could see the changes I have seen. Money for poor roads, healthcare and education might bring a better future to Hawaii. I hope you will share this information with your colleagues. I know there are a large number of people who fear the introduction of gambling in Hawaii. I can understand that. I felt that way myself many years ago. My feelings have changed 100%, and I would strongly support forms of gambling in Hawaii because it would help our economy greatly.

Thank you,
Dave Wacker,
Keaau, HI

From:
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] public comment - Proposed Kapolei Casino
Date: Monday, February 01, 2021 7:55:10 PM
Attachments: [Wendt - DHHL Kapolei Casino.docx](#)

Aloha,

My comments are attached.

Mahalo,

Mahealani Wendt

February 1, 2021

Mahealani Wendt

RE: DHHL Proposal to Build a Casino in Kapolei

Aloha. My name is Mahealani Wendt and I am in strong support of legalizing gaming in Hawai'i and specifically, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' proposal to build a casino in Kapolei.

I served as Executive Director of the Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation for 32 years and in my retirement, continue my work as a volunteer community advocate East Maui community where I currently reside. In my community the people are traditional practitioners and still farm taro, fish, hunt and gather as a daily way of life. In 2018, after many decades of sustained effort, they were successful in achieving the largest water restoration in Hawai'i's history.

During my tenure as Executive Director of the Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation, one-third of our cases were on behalf of individuals who were eligible beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Home Lands trust. We represented beneficiaries whose efforts resulted in the historic \$600 million settlement during Governor Waihe'e's administration. The settlement also included a prospective right to sue for breaches of the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust, repatriation of 16,000 acres of land that had been illegally transferred out of the trust by Governor's Executive Order, and the establishment of the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust Individual Claims process to resolve individual claims. On a personal note, my mother died on the waiting list. A residential lot had been set aside for her but she passed away before construction of the residence in Kewalo was completed. Although my siblings and I would have qualified as successors, none of us met the 50% criteria to apply for a lease and the opportunity for home ownership was forever lost with her passing. Therefore I am well-familiar, on both a professional and personal level, of the impact of DHHL's chronic and long-standing lack of adequate funding.

I have served on many boards and commissions and was the first Native Hawaiian member of the Native American Rights Fund (NARF). NARF was incorporated in 1970 and its leaders mentored NHLC's founders in the latter's nascent years. NARF is a national litigation public interest lawfirm which represents tribes throughout the U.S. in matters involving traditional and customary rights, natural resources and self-determination and similar issues.

With respect to self-determination, it represented many tribes in their efforts to achieve federal recognition as well as establish gaming on their reservations. Our board members met four times a year and conducted site visits to the various reservations.

In this regard, I personally witnessed the transformation of the Pequot-Mashantucket tribe of Connecticut, from a very impoverished, destitute people to a people who were able to house their families, provide college educations and employment for every member, build schools, health care facilities, and make substantial contributions to the state's highway and other infrastructure. The tribe had a small membership of several hundred; once its gaming enterprise, the Foxwoods, became operational, they were able to provide jobs to far more non-members than their own tribal members; the surrounding community thrived and the state of Connecticut was well-satisfied with the revenue share it received for the license. At the time it was built and for many years thereafter, the Foxwoods was the largest casino in the U.S.

The tribe had the foresight to hire an attorney who was the former attorney general of the state of Nevada to oversee legal aspects of the Foxwoods, to guard against criminal elements and activities. Every tribal member received a per capita share of the gaming proceeds. Young adults were guaranteed a college education or employment with the tribe. It was their choice.

To quote the late John Radcliffe in his testimony before the Legislature's Committee on Tourism in 2012, "Hawai'i is the only major tourist destination in the world that prohibits gaming and each year, we export over \$1 billion to Nevada. This prohibition of that which is legal nearly everywhere else costs us \$1 billion each year in outgoing dollars and returns—none."

My husband and I, our siblings and many relatives, our classmates, our Association of Hawaiian Civic Club members at convention, many of our friends and neighbors -- all regularly visit Las Vegas. The phenomenon of Hawaii residents visiting Las Vegas has been well-established for many decades. It should not be a given that vice and criminal enterprise will inevitably follow; the Pequot-Mashantucket tribe serves as a stellar example of what is possible if done right.

It doesn't make economic sense to export a billion dollars to Nevada, especially now that the state of Hawai'i is facing unprecedented economic budget shortfalls. That is why we are in strong support of DHHL's proposal to build a casino in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on behalf of myself, my husband, our large extended families and network of friends.

####

From: [Robyn M](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gaming on DHHL
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:28:49 AM

Aloha mai kakou,

I cannot believe you are wasting time entertaining this idea of building and operating Casino's on Hawaiian Homelands. I find It appalling. This is a horrible proposal. Get Hawaiians in Hawaiian homes on the 'Aina. (Please excuse the lack of the grammatical errors on the Hawaiian words, my keyboard does not have the capability.) If you cannot find eligible Hawaiians then educate them on buying homes. Educate them on building credit and lowering debt! Empower them!

This will have so many negative effects on Hawaiians.

Robyn Williams

From: WORLD CONNECTION HAWAII
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2021 7:14 PM
To: DHHL.Planning; DHHL ICRO
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Our Hawaiian people support legalize gambling

Our Hawaiian people support legalize gambling, that is the way to boost the economic development in Hawaiian land and hawaii people

We support you Tyler lokepa Gomes

From: [Gilroy Yorkman](#)
To: [DHHL.Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Casinos
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 2:14:48 PM

My name is Gilroy Yorkman. I am 74 years old and have been on the pastoral waitlist for Puu O Pae since the early seventies. I am also on the residential list. We have been taken advantage of by the State and Federal governments who use our lands without adequate restitution. We need to be proactive in generating our own revenue. This is a baby step but if successful it may be a stepping stone for larger ventures. We are tired of hearing that there are no funds for infrastructure so lands cannot be awarded. I do not like that the State will be the fiduciary partner. We will have another OHA. Please get approval and plan well. We are counting on your wisdom and sincere desire to further the Hawaiian people.

Aloha

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From: John
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2021 2:03 PM
To: DHHL.Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] DHLL's Proposal for Limited Casino Gaming

Aloha Good People,

As a resident of Hawaii for 42 wonderful years I ain't exactly a malihini. My wife and I have enjoyed decades of growing up and fostering careers on Oahu. If there's one thing that clearly defines this place is that change, any change is slow to come by. Getting a second political party to establish a foothold here has been a struggle. Building a reliable mass transit system in a timely manner hasn't been easy. Getting half of local people to realize building a few casinos around the state isn't going to open a pandora's box has been an uphill battle. The other half are cool with it.

We're all aware how people feel about fireworks on New Year's Eve despite the ban on fireworks. Folks want to see the night lit up at midnight despite what the law says. The law also says there is no gaming of any kind allowed in our state but come Super Bowl Sunday there will be lots and lots of bets made and illegal money exchanged. It sure would be nice to see 80 percent collected from this to go towards the proposed state tax on gross gaming revenue.

I understand this complex being considered isn't just about a casino. Building a modern aquarium, a theme park that would rival Disney World, and a sports complex all would make for a great family oriented experience. But to focus on hard working Kimo and his even harder working wife Pualani for a moment, let's take a look at them. It's a Friday or Saturday night, the couple have arranged to get a sitter for the kids and both can get all duded up, throw their hair back, and enjoy a few hours of excitement at the crap table instead of having to spend the night out at Zippy's. If this plan evolves as proposed most of the patrons to the casino will be our tourists - probably a well-heeled traveler with the kind of discretionary income we want to see more of in our state who would sustain such a venture. Hawaii would be in a position to entice folks we don't normally see because they'd prefer spending their money in Macao or Monaco.

If the DHHL is going to be successful in this endeavor I suggest y'all solicit the support of one the biggest beneficiaries of this proposal - the airlines - who will enjoy heavier flight loads to Honolulu. Get them to support package deals DHLL would want to fill the hotel(s) on your premises.

Good Luck Guys - Roll That 7 or 11,

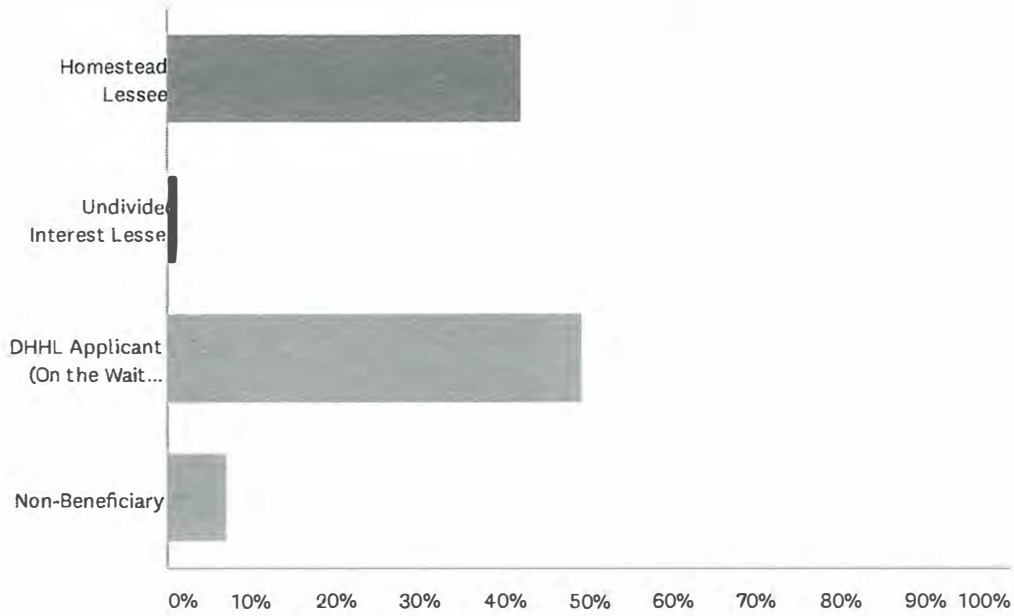
John Young

Exhibit G

SURVEY RESULTS

Q1 Are you a:

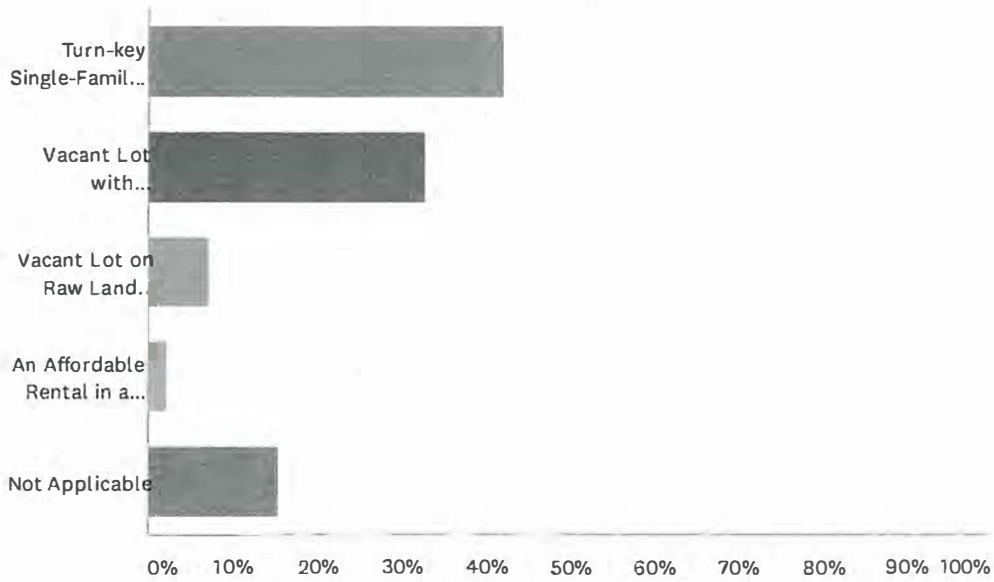
Answered: 85 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Homestead Lessee	42.35%	36
Undivided Interest Lessee	1.18%	1
DHHL Applicant (On the Waiting List)	49.41%	42
Non-Beneficiary	7.06%	6
TOTAL		85

Q2 What would you prefer to be offered from DHHL?

Answered: 85 Skipped: 0



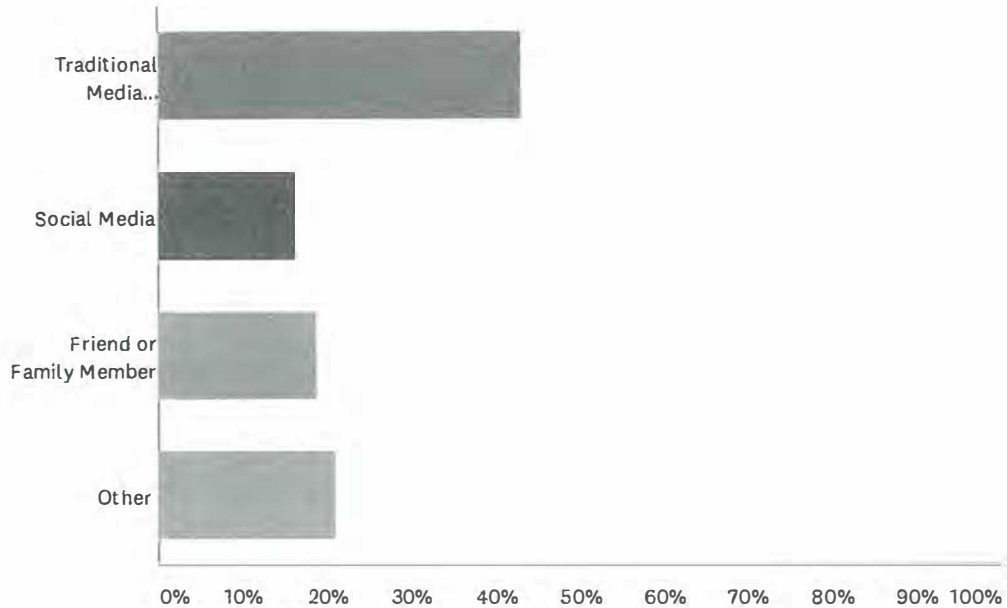
ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

Turn-key Single-Family Home	42.35%	36
Vacant Lot with Infrastructure - With Utilities (Water, Sewer, Electricity, etc.), County Standard Roads	32.94%	28
Vacant Lot on Raw Land Without Infrastructure - No Utilities (Water, Sewer, Electricity, etc.), No Road or Rural Quality Road	7.06%	6
An Affordable Rental in a High-Rise Building	2.35%	2
Not Applicable	15.29%	13
TOTAL		85

Q3 How did you first hear about the proposed draft Legislative Proposal to Authorize Limited Casino Gaming on Hawaiian Home Lands, already designated for commercial use?

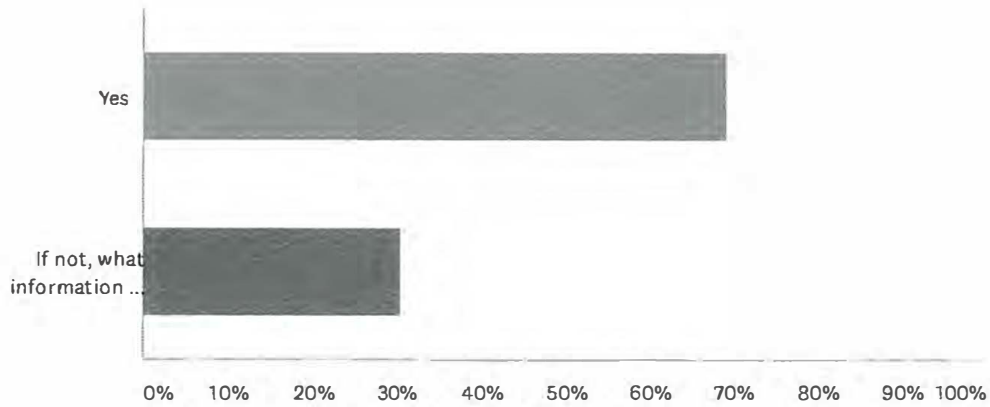
Answered: 85 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Traditional Media (Television News, Newspaper, Etc.)	43.53%	37
Social Media	16.47%	14
Friend or Family Member	18.82%	16
Other	21.18%	18
TOTAL		85

Q4 Do you feel like the presentation provided enough information about the proposed legislation?

Answered: 85 Skipped: 0



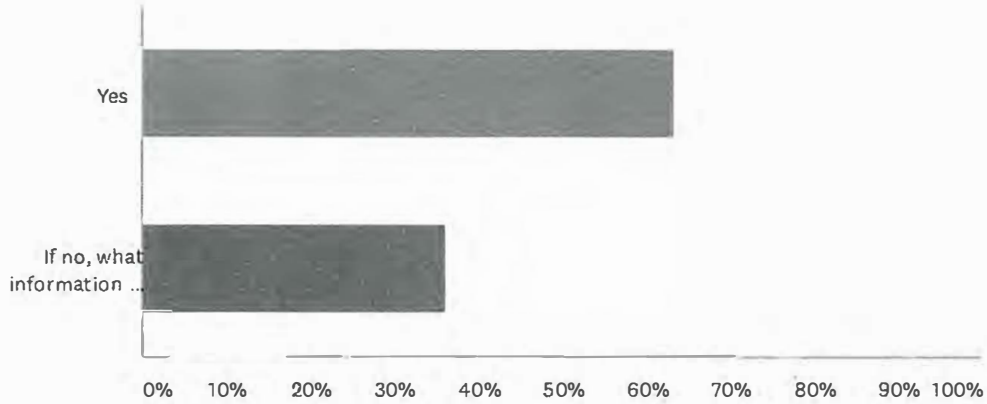
ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

Yes	69.41%	59
If not, what information do you feel is missing?	30.59%	26
TOTAL		85

Q5 Do you feel like the presentation provided enough information about the Department's need for funding to create homestead lots for Waiting List applicants?

Answered: 85 Skipped: 0



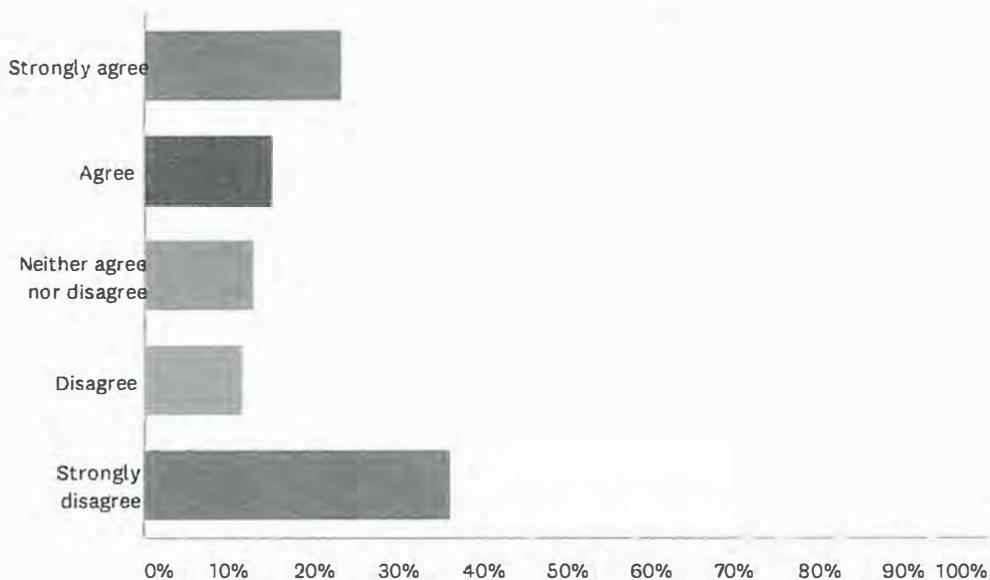
ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	63.53%	54
If no, what information do you feel is missing?	36.47%	31
TOTAL		85

Q6 With the information provided today do you support the idea of limited casino gaming in the form of a single integrated resort as a means to aid the Department's funding deficit?

Answered: 85 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	23.53%	20
Agree	15.29%	13
Neither agree nor disagree	12.94%	11
Disagree	11.76%	10
Strongly disagree	36.47%	31
TOTAL		85

Beneficiary Consultation: Draft Legislative Proposal (Limited Gaming)

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	There are 3 bills that are being introduced this year which better address & remedy the problem better than a casino would. You should listen to the people	1/29/2021 4:17 PM
2	It appears to me that much time, planning and working on the presentation. Unfortunately, not enough time was allowed to the beneficiaries to discuss this. I felt insulted when I heard it on the news that the commission voted 5-4 without consultation first. Not acceptable. The presentation did not satisfy my taste for a hotel/casino on homestead lands and I do believe there are other ways to get DHHL out of debt.	1/21/2021 5:13 PM
3	Legislation is only as good and sustaining as the legislators in office. I have grave concerns about what may pass a reasonable and sound legislation to support Native Hawaiians will be corrupted and abused by other in future legislatures.	1/20/2021 7:55 PM
4	Allow lease to pay for infrastructure before acquiring lease and option to live on vacant lot with water and power mandatory sewer accommodations and grey water	1/19/2021 6:17 PM
5	Put the Hawaiians back on their lands and not waste money making the state more rich	1/19/2021 6:08 PM
6	We need to cultivate sustainable industries outside of tourism. Casino gaming is a low vibrational industry that would invite and promote corruption and denigrate our community. The Game Commission should have a representative that reflects our Hawaiian spiritual culture not just be a Native Hawaiian. I hope DHHL can find other means for generating revenue that allows us to maintain our dignity and culture. I am grateful to have the opportunity to comment when this goes to the Legislation and has so much more to vet before it would be approved. Your presentation was provocative.	1/19/2021 2:06 PM
7	Hawaiians need to be in homes, not in casinos!	1/19/2021 2:03 PM
8	Q2 should include all options w/their respective costs & application criteria. Q6 - more info & discussion needed. Still concerned that we don't have enough control and may get less then presented. Hawaiian Homes should get 80% and share 20% of the revenues.	1/18/2021 10:54 PM
9	Make Sure the Casino is a full on Casino no Special Restrictions!	1/18/2021 10:25 PM
10	I am seriously concerned about who ultimately makes the decisions impacting us as beneficiaries because DHHL is a state agency. I am not convinced given this presentation that approving one casino will not open doors to another casino coming to Hawaii. I am not convinced that there is no clear link between casinos and increase in crime/trouble to the people of Hawaii. It would be helpful to 1) have a name tag in front of each speaker, 2) have the person that read the questions and comments do it verbatim. Also the microphone for the deputy was off near the end of the Q&A portion so we couldn't hear anything he said or anyone else that was speaking. In regards to the presentation piece related to no clear link to casinos causing problems, were any of those research papers done by indigenous peoples about the impact of having a casino in their communities? Please list the resources.	1/18/2021 8:32 PM
11	I would like to see the gaming gross revenue increase over time with a 80% base revenue from state tax payments per year. I don't want the state to less this percentage over time. What is DHHL position if the state legislators plan to reduce this percentage? How is the department going to prepare for a reduction once the project is making money for the state of Hawaii. Also, what is the projective plan for this potential revenue?	1/18/2021 8:22 PM
12	No I just saw representatives of Hawaiian beneficiaries dictate what will happen with our land raw or not people are dying on this list people would be pleased to even just get that beneficiaries don't need to wait but this casino needs to this wrong on all levels your jobs are not to create revenue so don't make it your priority make the priority the real deal make it your responsibility to get us on our land I strongly oppose this casino it is wrong on all levels the fact that we the beneficiaries were not consulted about something that would affect us 100 years from now no this is wrong	1/18/2021 8:21 PM
13	As a 4th generation homesteader in Nanakuli - (both sets of Mother's grandparents were original homesteaders) this proposal idea is way overdue. Perhaps now, given timing of social/economic strains on our communities, as well as time tested gaming samples nationwide, we can do this with successful efficiency the first time. I appreciate Deputy Gomes's articulation of this gaming proposal. Presentation and answers to Q&A session were clear, concise and optimistic. Clearly, based on some of the questions posed, we as beneficiaries need to be more engaged as topics were repetitive. Going forward should this	1/18/2021 8:19 PM

Beneficiary Consultation: Draft Legislative Proposal (Limited Gaming)

proposal advance, and further discussion is brought before BC in as transparent a format as this meeting was. Mahalo for the hard work and patience! Jan Burns

14	I feel like there is already currently A LOT of mistrust from beneficiaries towards the department...as a new beneficiary I've seen it at meetings that beneficiaries will SHUT DOWN a meeting with past problems and not bring any solutions to the table... which I think whoever the deputy is kinda alluded to at the end of the meeting (which I feel is right) sometimes you're just gonna have to do what you can (in righteousness) until "your worth" is recognized as being "for the beneficiaries"... till then... IDK... Still kind of on the fence about this casino.... but if we don't do it.. I'm pretty sure another entity will jump on it and we will be sitting as the shoulda, coulda woulda but we never take that opportunity! Looking forward to more meetings like this... except I would like to see something actually being done instead of talk talk talk... (sorry) In regards to question #2 as a lessee I would like to see single family home, as a wait lister I would like to just get a lease even if it has no infrastrucuter (I know not everyone wants that) so again GOTTA BE CLEAR in what's available to beneficiaries! MAHALO NUI FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK IN PROBLEM SOLVING AND BRINGING SOLUTIONS FOR ALL BENEFICIARIES	1/18/2021 8:17 PM
15	Mahalo piha for your time. Will send additional feedback and thoughts via email provided at the end of the presentation. I know you all are trying and I hope our participation shows you we're trying to and we care.	1/18/2021 8:15 PM
16	Lots of info. Good value. Thank you for taking time and bringing idea's to the table.	1/18/2021 8:15 PM
17	The fact that DHHL hasn't been working with OHA and DLNR in Symphony to coordinate Local Hemp and other self sustaining Home Building Material, Food Water, and life giving provisions to provide affordable and environmental housing solutions 20 years ago is pathetic, so get to it, your only 10-15 years behind from working on those beneficiary provided ideas that force the Kingdom to be in control of enough land and assets to separate from the State which isn't providing their share of expenses agreed upon. We have already lost the Medical Cannabis market to non Hawaiian corporate interests, we cannot afford to keep giving these things away.	1/18/2021 8:11 PM
18	Mahalo Deputy Director for the presentation and Q&A that followed. This meeting has nudged me a little into the agree section but, not enough to say that I'm in full agreement. I appreciate the out of the box/forward thinking in generating funds. I too worry about the state taking a chunk of revenue and screwing us like they have for so long. I look forward to more information and hopefully there will be other opportunities to have more meetings like this. Chat is perfect...Mahalo nui kakou!	1/18/2021 8:09 PM
19	Some of the casinos in Northern CA are making sooo much money, yet the tribes that allowed it are being EXPLOITED with touristy kinds of items being sold to benefit the person who owns the gift shop/store in the casino. IT DOESN'T BENEFIT THE GROUP THAT IT'S SUPPOSED TO!!! EXPLOITATION IS NOT AN ANSWER!!!	1/18/2021 8:08 PM
20	I'd like to see other possible proposals/options for beneficiaries such as looking into the hemp, or medical marijuana (recreational?), food resiliency. These may not bring in the \$\$\$ that 1 proposal (casino) may bring in, however these ideas I share with you will be around even during times similar to what the world is facing .	1/18/2021 8:06 PM
21	The dept and the commission need to speak with Gov. and legislatures on the Hawaii Constitution and their kuleana to fund the dept.	1/18/2021 8:04 PM
22	It could be a start to something great but is it really? Will our native people be given the opportunity before others to be employed? If they have no experience will they be trained to be given the opportunity? It's not just about the money but about the people and means to provide in all aspects of life.	1/18/2021 8:04 PM
23	You have not asked Native Hawaiians involved for solutions to funding. I have heard many questions that were valid and the answer to them was one sided discussion. This should have been a more interactive platform for discussion. It's obvious that you have already made your decisions.	1/18/2021 8:04 PM
24	I just have a hard time understanding why it is important to pull financial concepts from outside versus tapping into the talent we have in our native community.	1/18/2021 8:03 PM
25	My name is Kauai Kalama Akana. I am from a family of 11 brothers and sisters who have been raised in Kailua all of our lives. My parents Charles and Elizabeth Lani Kalama never made it on this list when they were alive because of mishaps caused by your organization. First from	1/18/2021 8:03 PM

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missing files, then a fire which supposedly caused the lost of many files. When we the children started to apply on our parent's behalf then our Hawaiian quantum was questioned although her sisters and brothers were on the list already As well as many other Kalama families from all over this island. My father has been gone for 30 years and my mother 22 years. With a lot of hard work and proving our blood line everything finally got cleared in 2018. This is how long it took to get on this list at no fault of ours but of yours for the mishandling of our parents paperwork way in the 60's or even earlier. You state you want input regarding the building of a single casino hotel which will bring in money to take care of us Hawaiians that have not been able to get land or housing. This is not what will happen. Although there our people that like to gamble. They go to Las Vegas. Las Vegas is where it should stay. This will not help us Hawaiians. This will create more homelessness from the people that will take the last money they have or their whole paycheck to try for that dream of hitting it big. We should not be in this situation. If you follow the agreement, the state should have been and should be paying 20% of the leasehold income for all of our seeded lands. Example: Kaneohe Marine Base, Bellows, the airport also sand island. There is millions of millions of dollars owed to us. You can say there was an agreement that was settled. Some things were taken cared of but not this. Where is the money? I know thru the grapevine, you folks have not received any of this nor are trying to go after it. We would not be in this situation if you do your job that you were commissioned for. This money would not just take care of the people that does not have homestead but it would help those that can't afford building their home once given land because your structure right now only takes care of 1/2 of a construction loan. If you want to start solving this problem, go and get the money that we are due. Go and get the money that was promised in exchange for leasing our land. If not start taking back land so that all Hawaiians can be placed. As long as you are on the list, it is you folks to figure out how to put us Hawaiians in homes that should be built by Hawaiian Homelands also. I speak on behalf of the Kalama Ohana from Kailua do what is right, don't create a bigger problem for our island.

26	Keep the monies in Hawaii. If the state is not helpful they won't change . Our children need a future and you are on the right track. Thanks for the efforts and ideas. It's hard enough to get the let alone getting the facts together. Don't give up!	1/18/2021 8:03 PM
27	Work on getting us Hawaiians back on our land.	1/18/2021 8:01 PM
28	It's not an easy thing to come up with alternative options for raising usable income. I do agree that this idea will generate more income than conventional sources. I appreciate what you do for our kanaka/beneficiaries.	1/18/2021 8:01 PM
29	Invest monies in holding State financially accountable. (Sue) and let them build the Casino. NOT on Hawaiian Lands.	1/18/2021 8:01 PM
30	I appreciate all that you do. I am from the mainland-born and raised. I am on the waitlist. I am 75% Hawaiian. I believe and love my Hawaiian people. However, coming from the mainland, I appreciate what you do. I know that there are more compliants than support. However, I have to be proud of my people that the way in which we preserve our land is not the haole way. However, we do need more creative ways of generating funding especially with covid AND we need want to be mindful NOT to forget who are! Great presentation but from what I heard in the comments the beneficiaries don't sound very supportive. Maybe find the energy to bring people in to help DHHL in small ways and build from that. Use college internship and volunteers to help with a program from charitable gifts, scholarships, etc. Build this program...it gives a buy in. Just a suggestion	1/18/2021 8:00 PM
31	n/a	1/18/2021 8:00 PM
32	As a means of a funding mechanism ... enforcement of the thounds of acres of awarded ag land NOT BEING USED... is a tangible first step to reform or give alternative for a lessee to use or lose... the Act already says that...follow it	1/18/2021 7:59 PM
33	I'll be back tomorrow night to listen in, thank you.	1/18/2021 7:58 PM
34	Information on how to influence our lawmakers would be helpful - letters, phone calls, petitions, etc.	1/18/2021 7:58 PM
35	I think the Department should think about other ideas to generate income, and of the department can not come up with ideas them maybe its time for the Department to consult community! I think the Department forgets who they represent.	1/18/2021 7:58 PM
36	Although its an idea to generate money, it also puts more of a tourist strain on the islands.	1/18/2021 7:57 PM

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37	Very informative, Mahalo for all the good work you do!	1/18/2021 7:57 PM
38	Geothermal creates more revenue and less damage plus it's an essential sustainability	1/18/2021 7:56 PM
39	More information on the breakdown of the revenue of the casino.	1/18/2021 7:56 PM
40	I enjoyed the spirit of your staff with "knowing" comfortably how, where & Why? Awesome job you folks!	1/18/2021 7:54 PM
41	DHHL is moving in the right direction can't wait for State Of Hawaii and Federal Government HELP	1 /18/20217:54 PM
42	Mahalo nui loa for conducting this session,	1/18/2021 7:52 PM
43	The presentation was done very well and after participating , I strongly agree that we should move forward with the casino. The presentation addressed and planned for the challenges brought up by the community and demonstrated the need for a funding source that can provide for more housing and get people off of the list. Thank you for doing a great job on this. Mahalo	1/14/2021 8:53 AM
44	I trust that the Lord will guide your efforts. Thank you for thinking outside the box and having the courage to do this.	1/13/2021 10:18 PM
45	Explaining that no one is coming to save us, including the state, was key in changing my mind.	1/13/2021 8:58 PM
46	We are very appreciative of the work that your hui has put into brainstorming solutions to current problems so that our keiki can have a better tomorrow. With all change or proposed change, there are worries, but you did a great job citing facts and presenting hard data to help ease some of the worries.	1/13/2021 8:55 PM
47	I will see my legislature	1/13/2021 8:49 PM
48	Is it possible to revisit the idea of Marijuana Dispensary since the legalization in 13 more states. Is it a possibility that beneficiaries can receive a stipend just as native Americans do?	1/13/2021 8:47 PM
49	Need more information to understand impacts to communities.	1/13/2021 8:46 PM
50	New to Hawaii & Kapolei & a little shocked but webinar ver informative. Not against but not sure I'm for it as a Resident of Kapolei.	1/13/2021 8:45 PM
51	To make the casino everything must be Hawaiian!..workers, gambling commission...to make sure the money flows back to DHHL to support the beneficiaries and leasee	1/13/2021 8:43 PM
52	Great job Deputy, Cedric, Andrew, Lehua, and Chair	1/13/2021 8:43 PM
53	Main concern is social impact.	1/13/2021 8:42 PM
54	I support the idea of a limited casino gaming. However, I would like the negotiation with State to be transparent. I strongly agree with 75% going to HHL and no less.	1/13/2021 8:42 PM
55	Excellent presentation	1/13/2021 8:41 PM
56	Mahalo!	1/13/2021 8:40 PM