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CATHY L. TAKASE
ACTING DIRECTOR

To: House Committee on Judiciary

From: Cathy L. Takase, Acting Director

Hearing: Thursday, February 17, 2011, 3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 325

Re: Testimony on H.B. No. 781
Relating to Gaming

The Office of Information Practices (OIP) takes no position on the purpose of this bill, which is to grant a 10 year license for a casino and establish a gaming control commission. OIP does have concerns with two provisions concerning confidentiality of casino licensure records and recommends deletion of these two provisions for the reasons discussed below.

First, on page 45 of the bill, a proposed new section -8 provides that the commission must keep confidential all information supplied or used by the commission in reviewing or investigating an application for a casino license. OIP questions the overbroad and general confidentiality requirement proposed for just this one licensure process. For all other types of licensure, there is no such confidentiality requirement since the Uniform Information Practices Act (Modified), chapter 92F, HRS (UIPA) already provides exemptions from public disclosure that would apply, in large part, to the licensing application information that this bill seeks to protect. For example, the UIPA's "frustration of a legitimate government function" exception would protect a license applicant's confidential commercial and financial information as well as the commission staff's recommendations and notes about a license applicant.

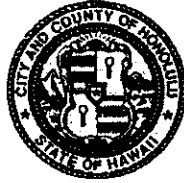
Second, on page 72-73 of the bill, a proposed new section -24 states that the commission's various records are subject to the UIPA except for records provided by another government agency, licensure application information, and information identified by the licensee as confidential. Again, OIP

questions the need for such overbroad and general exceptions when the UIPA's own exceptions already and consistently operate to exempt from public disclosure licensure information in government records that the Legislature, when establishing the UIPA, had already declared should be protected, such as a licensee's confidential commercial and financial information or confidential records from another agency. Notably, the UIPA's "frustration" exception would apply to protect a licensee's records where the records are found to be confidential commercial and financial information, and not merely when the licensee designates the information to be confidential as proposed by this bill. OIP recommends the deletion of the bill's two confidentiality provisions described above.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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OUR REFERENCE **JI-TA**

February 17, 2011

The Honorable Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
and Members
Committee on Judiciary
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 781, Relating to Gaming

I am Jerry Inouye, Captain of the Narcotics/Vice Division of the Honolulu Police Department.

The Honolulu Police Department opposes House Bill No. 781, Relating to Gaming.

In keeping with our vision of making Honolulu the safest city in the nation in which to live, work, and play, we are strongly opposed to all forms of gambling. We are convinced that gambling undermines community values and will have an overall negative effect on our economy and unique island lifestyle.

A study conducted by Professors Earl Grinols and David Mustard showed that having casinos increased the crime rate after a lag of three to four years. This study further indicated that 8 percent of property crime and 10 percent of violent crime in counties with casinos were due to the presence of a casino.

The socioeconomic costs include job loss, more people filing for unemployment benefits, welfare benefits, physical and mental health problems, theft, embezzlement, bankruptcy, suicide, child abuse and neglect, domestic abuse, divorce, incarceration, work absences, and homelessness.

The Honolulu Police Department would like to remind Hawaii's legislators that legalizing even one casino would simply open the floodgates for additional casinos and the multitude of criminal and social problems that accompany them.

Serving and Protecting With Aloha

The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
and Members
Page 2
February 17, 2011

The Honolulu Police Department urges you to oppose House Bill No. 781,
Relating to Gaming.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



JERRY INOUE, Captain
Narcotics/Vice Division

APPROVED:



for

LOUIS M. KEALOHA
Chief of Police

hawaii family forum

Email to: JUDTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Hearing on: Wednesday, February 17, 2011 @ 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room #325

DATE: February , 2011

TO: **House Committee on Judiciary**
Representative Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
Representative Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

FROM: Allen Cardines, Jr., Executive Director

RE: Strong Opposition to: HB 781 | Relating to Gaming
Strong Opposition to: HB 1225 | Relating to Bingo

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. I am Allen Cardines, **representing the Hawaii Family Forum.** Hawaii Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawaii, representing a network of various Christian Churches and denominations. We strongly oppose these bills that would open the door to gambling in Hawaii.

Hawaii is among only two States (Utah and Hawaii) in the nation where all forms of gambling remain illegal. Proponents of legalized gambling in Hawaii boast of its promise of economic revitalization and prosperity. There may well be an element of truth to their claims; however, greater scrutiny reveals a far different story. While it may be true that legalized gambling could potentially yield new jobs, the potential greater negative economic impact must also be considered. Not unlike the social costs associated with other addictive behaviors, compulsive gambling wreaks havoc on individuals, families, and communities.

The widespread proliferation of gambling on the mainland has produced very troubling consequences for the people and communities most closely associated with it. Those consequences include: increased violent crime, property crime, and drug-related crime; an increased influence of organized crime; increased addiction and family deterioration; a disproportionately adverse impact on youth and the poor; and, a net negative economic impact.

Gambling is often associated with crime. The relationship is easy to understand. Many types of gambling have been, indeed still are, illegal. Hence, by definition, criminals are the only operators of games. When gambling restrictions are relaxed, criminals are the first to open up legal gambling establishments.



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We should also point out the obvious. Lots of people in Hawaii travel to Las Vegas for fun and recreation. Those visits are 100% irrelevant to the simple issue at hand - should Hawaii become more like Las Vegas by legalizing gambling? To answer that question, we really should examine the data about what it is like to live in a place like Vegas.

This data should serve as a clarion call for all of us - a reminder of the compelling reasons the people of Hawaii and our elected representatives have consistently and steadfastly resisted the siren song of the big money gambling interests. It reminds us why "the Las Vegas effect" upon our islands would wreak havoc on our ohana based community and our aloha spirit.

How does Nevada rate in the nation? Nevada is number three in bankruptcies and abortions. Number four in rape, out of wedlock births and alcohol related death. Number five in crime, number six in prisoners locked up and number 50 in voter participation. This and other well-documented information is available through the Hawaii Coalition Against Legalized Gambling.

In response to this data, the Coalition's response seems appropriate: "Not in my Backyard." Shouldn't that be our collective community response?

It seems to me Hawaii is rather akamai for its continued rejection of legalized gambling. As we all know, Hawaii is special. This issue is no different - we are one of only three states in the nation that can boast of no legalized gambling. Let's work hard to keep it that way!

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII CATHOLIC CONFERENCE
6301 Pali Highway
Kaneohe, HI 96744-5224

Email to: JUDTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Hearing on: Thursday, February 17, 2011 @ 8:30 a.m.
Conference Room #325

DATE: February 15, 2011

TO: House Committee on Judiciary
Representative Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
Representative Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

FROM: Walter Yoshimitsu, Executive Director

RE: Strong Opposition to HB 781 RELATING TO GAMING

I am Walter Yoshimitsu, representing the Hawaii Catholic Conference. The Hawaii Catholic Conference is the public policy voice for the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii under the leadership of Bishop Larry Silva.

The Catholic Church holds that gambling becomes morally problematic when it interferes with an individual's other duties or responsibilities. Observing that "the passion for gambling risks becoming an enslavement," the Catechism of the Catholic Church highlights the need for moderation to avoid addictions and unhealthy behaviors.

In sharing the Catholic theological perspective on gambling, we are also aware of and very concerned about other important and related aspects of the issue that would serve to make specific pieces of gambling legislation morally unacceptable. We believe that the promotion of the common good of society and the protection of individual rights is always to be the primary goal of public policy. Accordingly, the potential negative consequences of an expanded "culture of gambling" needs to be carefully evaluated.

Please **OPPOSE** any legislation that would bring casino gambling to Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Radcliffe & Associates, LLC

222 South Vineyard Street, Suite 401, Honolulu, HI 96813-2453 Phone (808) 524-4459 Fax (808) 599-4340

February 15, 2011

Representative Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Representative Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 325

RE: HB781 Relating to Gaming

Dear Chairman Keith-Agaran, Vice Chairman Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

My name is John Radcliffe and I am an advocate of having legalized, regulated, gaming entertainment in Hawaii. Hawaii has a huge, illegal, unregulated, untaxed, gambling enterprise that easily runs into the hundreds of millions of dollars. And of course, we export somewhere between a billion dollars and half a billion after tax gaming dollars to legal gaming venues in other states. On February 3rd last year, in 2010, I testified on this same bill, and said then that "making gaming legal in Hawaii is the most intelligent thing that this Legislature could do this year." That is because a casino brings in more new money, more new taxes, and provides more new jobs. But the Legislature chose, instead—to cut government services to the point that nearly every governmental department is now between 40 and 60% below what is considered a minimum standard to operate those departments.

And today? Well, today conditions are worse. More people are out of work, there is more homelessness, there are fewer social services, and more workers lucky enough to still have jobs are working for less.

We need legalized gaming here for one reason only: it will enhance the quality of our lives by creating jobs and wealth which we can all share.

The Hawaii social service safety net is gone. The extensive array of benefits that our citizens used to enjoy, and that you and other government leaders in other states and at the federal level, worked so hard to provide is going or already gone.

As policy makers you have already cut out whole swathes of state government. Whether it is the Department of Agriculture, which can no longer satisfactorily safeguard agricultural products, or the various other departments that monitor imports, foodstuffs, or whatever—we are past the point of being able to adequately protect our citizens. Even the courts are closed on certain days.

In Hawaii when "revenue enhancement," is referred to, it means raising taxes—not creating more wealth. **Raising taxes is not really revenue enhancement.** Even if this legislature raises the GET a full one percent and lays off even more public employees, that won't solve the problem. Because the fact is, Hawaii needs, in essence, "to get another job" to bring in more money—and that extra job is casino gaming. Even if you take away benefits from retirees, you cannot close the budget gap. If you raise every tax we now have, and dream up a lot more taxes, you still will not be able to close that budget gap—but the economy could be destroyed.

Representative Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Representative Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary
February 15, 2011
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The point is, that we here in Hawaii can no longer depend on raising taxes and cutting services to achieve a just society.

I said last year, that we still had our very successful, but very tiny, Congressional delegation, to keep bringing in more and more federal dollars. But you saw what has just happened this year. The Congress and the President put the kibosh on federal earmarks—and so those days are over. That money is drying up.

We are on our own. We have to build a new destiny of our own. We need new enterprise, new industry.

Specifically we need casino gaming as an economic tool to bring in more and different tourists. Just because people have been coming here in recent years, too many in that industry and others, think that they always will. They won't, necessarily. We need to evolve our tourism products, add to them, build new things for people to see and do.

I am attaching to this testimony an executive summary of a 75 page economic impact analysis paper that we had commissioned at the end of 2000 that called for doing double what we are asking for now.

Times were tough eleven years ago too, but nothing like they are now. Then, it was thought, that Hawaii's economic future could have been protected with two casinos located on Oahu. The study was never refuted by anybody. We showed then that almost 20,000 new jobs would have been created by two casinos, and that taxes from: gaming revenue, GET, and new income, would have produced about \$143 million in new taxes per year—in 2000. **\$143 million a year over the past eleven years would have generated \$1.573 Billion in tax dollars.**

When I first began to argue for gaming eleven years ago, there were about 500 casinos in the United States and today there are nearly double that—nearly 1,000, and the number keeps growing. Forty eight states employ some form of gaming in order to gain more economic power and keep their governments and social services healthy. Thirty states already share at least 875 casinos. Forty two states permit slot machines. Hawaii stands alone with Utah on the issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,

John H. Radcliffe
President, Radcliffe & Associates, LLC

SINGLE CASINO—ISLAND OF OAHU—2010 SUMMARY ANALYSIS

SITUATION

Legislation is being considered in the Hawaiian legislature that would allow one casino to be built on the Island of Oahu. The purpose of this document is to summarize the findings of an analysis of the revenues the facility will likely realize as well as on-site and off-site patron spending, jobs, and other economic impacts that the facility will likely create. Prudent estimates and assumptions are used throughout. The summary figures represent hundreds of individual calculations based upon state data, and gaming markets and impacts elsewhere in North America and Asia.

The author, Jacob Miklojck, has analyzed casino markets and operations at over 60 sites involving the gaming markets of over one-half of the states, plus Canada and the Caribbean. He also possesses unique insight as a member of the management board of Greektown Casino in Detroit. This urban facility possesses many of the same sizing and market characteristics as the proposed Oahu facility. During his one year tenure on the Greektown Board, revenues and markets have increased substantially and market value increased over 50%.

Mr. Miklojck authored a study of gaming in Hawaii a decade ago—the key points regarding emerging competition and the difficulties in attracting Japanese tourists have emerged as accurate.

For all figures developed and factors use, additional detail and citations can be provided. The methodology utilizes has numerous facets, but follows similar steps that have been proven to be thorough an accurate in many other gaming and non-gaming market and impact studies:

1. Review the core market factors (including special circumstances of Hawaii):
 - 1.1. In-state demographics.
 - 1.2. Existing tourisms and trends, with particular emphasis on Japanese visitor statistics and surveys.
 - 1.3. Hawaiians traveling to Las Vegas and other venues for gaming related vacations.

2. Review gaming competition; existing and developing.
3. Develop patron and gaming revenues projections for an assumed site.
4. Compare projections to total market; refine.
5. Develop on-site non-gaming revenue estimates (no hotel).
6. Develop estimates of added off-site spending created/captured.
7. Differentiate new and retained spending from any shifted spending.
8. Review labor situation in Hawaii and typical staffing levels at casinos in other venues.
9. Develop from preceding calculations estimates for employment and wages.
10. Develop initial state revenue estimates.

As noted, the methodology and the results involve a variety of complexities. Yet it is very clear that a substantial market exists, one that will capture within the state dollars now flowing out of Hawaii or now bypassing the state. Benefits will most directly be derived in Oahu, but will stream throughout the state.

NOTES ON ECONOMIC TRENDS, GAMING COMPETITION, AND IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS

It is not necessary in this document to review the myriad of economic data that are troublesome to citizens and to the financial foundation of state government. Yet, several key bullet points are worthy of identification to provide context to the study. In addition, a series of additional aspects are identified because of their particular importance in appreciating the economic impacts.

Economy

- Rising unemployment creates a the double edge sword that state governments throughout the nation are facing---declining revenues occur at the same time that citizens needs are increasing.
- For Hawaii, the threats reach beyond the present recession, and may last far longer than in many other states due to competitive challenges to the main industry---tourism.
- A crucial element in the recreation and leisure sector of the economy, and for worldwide tourists, is gaming. Not only is gaming an enormous business factor in Nevada, but new resorts have emerged or are emerging in Asia and Mexico that aspire to attract tourists who once favored Hawaii.

- Fitch Ratings recently assigned a lower bond rating to State of Hawaii General Obligations bonds; beyond the extra borrowing costs this likely creates, the Fitch analysis included a very troublesome summation of the economic trends and challenges facing the state.
- Downward trends in tourism days continued in 2009.

Competition for tourists, particularly international

- A significant decline in international visitor days has been experienced (17.8% decline on Oahu; 17.6% decline statewide from 2000 to 2008).
- Air arrivals from Japan on Oahu declined over 34% from 2000 to 2008.
- Japanese visitor spending, even without adjusting for inflation; declined by 6.9% from 2001 to 2008 (inflation adjustments would put the actual decline at over 30%).
- Hawaii will forever be a location of incomparable natural beauty and wonderful waters. Yet, the reality is that other “sun and sand” options have emerged for world tourists and most have gaming options.
- There is a trend for tourists to prefer shorter, more entertainment intense vacations rather than the lengthy rest and relaxation vacations Hawaii has been renowned for.
- Examples of gaming expansion in competitive areas
 - California now has 58 casinos, by some reports more gaming dollars than the Las Vegas strip.
 - Mexico is formally legalizing casinos (in addition to the gray area facilities have operated for years).
 - Macao is enormous (although focuses on Chinese visitors).
 - Singapore recently opened a massive casino; another on the way.
 - Even expansions in distant states such as Ohio, Pennsylvania and Maryland may lure some disposable income that in previous decades would have flowed to Hawaii.
- This gaming expansion in new venues also means that Las Vegas will market even harder to Hawaiians and to the Japanese in order to recoup declines from other markets.

Leakage

- Hawaiians continue to visit Nevada thousands of times each year with hundreds of millions of dollars leaving the state economy; a casino on Oahu will not stop all the visits but will help retain a portion of this spending on the Island, meaning jobs and tax revenues.
- Residents *already* have many in-state wagering options—including Internet betting, private bets, and illegal gaming parlors and bookies.

Opportunity

- An Oahu casino will attract new tourist spending through higher visitor expenditures and longer stays, new visitors attracted by the gaming option, and capture dollars leaving the state.
- A robust majority of the spending is either “new” to Hawaii or “retained” dollars that would otherwise have left the state---thereby the jobs and other economic impacts are additive to the economy.
- Increased employment and wages has been shown to create many social benefits.
- Without the casino, not only will the opportunity be lost to gain benefits, but also the downward trends in winning a fair share of international tourism may continue---there is a cost in doing nothing.

KEY FINDINGS AND TABLES

Market capture

Prudent factors were utilized to derive a gaming revenue base for the Oahu facility. It is important to note that the casino does not intend to nor could it capture all gaming dollars. The factors used incorporate the reality that existing and new tourists will also select other gaming options in other states and countries, that a significant number of trips will continue to be taken by local residents to Las Vegas and other venues for the primary purpose of casino visitation, and that a certain level of illegal gaming will continue within the state. Even with those considerations, the figures do not represent only a modest estimate for the potential of the facility.

Each cell in the table below and in the following tables is the product of numerous calculations and other tables. A variety of additional tables and charts can be provided that further delineate the many calculations.

TABLE A GAMING REVENUE AND PATRON VISIT PROJECTIONS (First full year of full operation)		
Primary Market Category	Patrons visits	Gaming Revenues
“Existing visitor” base	2,108,210	\$178,810,718
Residents (census definition)	2,832,895	\$162,262,421
Occupants of recreational/ occasional housing units	304,488	\$24,359,020
New visitors added by casino availability	623,250	\$103,854,627
	5,868,843	\$469,286,787

Points and notes:

- “Existing visitor base” represents the present level of tourist days plus in some instances extended stays.
- Tourists are divided by domestic and international, by Oahu visitors including multiple island visitors, and a small number who do not visit Oahu now but will extend their visits to Oahu due to the casino.
- Resident visitation and spending is derived using casino utilization factors from numerous other venues adjusted for the income and unique travel time characteristics of Hawaii.
- The vast majority of the spending will be either “new” to Hawaii or “captured” from dollars now flowing out to gaming destination elsewhere.
- There is simply no reason to believe that one casino will adversely impact the enjoyment tourists will find at the more traditional Hawaiian attractions; one casino will use only a tiny portion of Oahu’s land area.

TOTAL ON-SITE ADJUSTED GROSS REVENUES

Numerous factors were utilized for the various sub-categories of patrons to derive a non-gaming revenue figure. Non-gaming is first calculated for full retail value in order to later produce job and wage projections needed to provide the goods and services. It is then necessary to adjust for goods and services provided via casino patron complimentarys and prizes, as well as any "free play" provided in promotions.

TABLE B TOTAL ON-SITE REVENUES (Adjusted for player complimentarys/promotions)	
Revenue Category	Total
Gaming	\$469,286,787
Non-gaming (retail value)	\$81,600,089
Adjustment for complimentarys/promotions to avoid double-counting	(\$28,157,207)
	\$522,729,668

Points and notes:

- Substantial figures, although various facilities in North America and now Asia realize larger revenues.
- Figures provide direction for facility sizing.
- Majority of non-gaming spending is from tourists.
- No hotel is planned for the facility.

OFF-SITE SPENDING

This is a fundamental category for Hawaii; significant economic benefits and public revenues will stem from the off-site spending of casino patrons. For simplicity, no dollars are included for off-site expenditures during trips to the casino by State residents. Yet, by deferring some gaming trips to Las Vegas and other gaming venue this allows the possibility of non-gaming expenditures to occur in Hawaii.

Regardless, the key off-site spending considerations involve tourists, particularly international tourists. Each patron category of tourist was analyzed for likely off-site spending brought about by the casino. A major spike will occur when tourists extend their stays by a day or more due to the presence of a casino, and even more dramatically when tourists are attracted to Hawaii who otherwise would go elsewhere if Oahu did not offer a gaming options.

TABLE C	
OFF-SITE SPENDING ON GOODS AND SERVICES	
By Casino Patron Category	Total
From existing domestic USA tourist base	\$25,428,959
From existing international tourist base	\$98,620,401
From new visits due to casino availability	\$186,975,045
	\$311,024,405

Points and notes:

- Includes extended stays from existing tourist base.
- Has the potential to be much greater as marketing extends and “new” visitors return again in future.
- No extra large retail expenditures (such as boats) are included in the estimates.
- As noted, no non-gaming spending by residents is included, although by capturing some gaming trips that otherwise would leave the state may mean additional non-gaming local spending.
- A year 2000 study discussed the possibility of a casino attracting more conventions; this is not specifically included in the analysis here although could emerge as a dynamic economic benefit.
- There will also be extensive contracts between the casino with local vendors and service providers; this equates to an additional \$71.6 million in local spending; the figure is utilized in estimating an important component of off-site job, wage, and public revenue impacts.

INITIAL ESTIMATE OF JOBS AND WAGES

Various factors from other gaming and non-gaming venues are utilized to develop an initial estimate of jobs and wages, based upon the revenues projected above and trends in state employment. The figures are based upon a wide variety of public data and experience and are viewed as noncontroversial given the revenues involved.

The individuals employed in the on-site jobs and the indirect off-site jobs make expenditures and pay taxes within the state thereby creating additional jobs, which in turn captures additional spending. These sequential rounds of spending are often referred to as the ripple effect of economic impacts. A very conservative factor of 0.5 is used here, representing one net ripple effect job created for each two direct and/or indirect jobs created. A much higher factor could have been chosen, thereby further expanding the job estimate.

TABLE D		
JOBS AND WAGES IMPACTS--DIRECT, INDIRECT, AND RIPPLE EFFECT		
By Employment Location Category	Jobs	Wages & benefits
On site	3,660	\$152,899,014
Off site first level local vendors/contractors	573	\$23,489,816
Off site from added visitor spending from existing tourist base	3,274	\$121,135,821
Off-site from new visits due to casino gaming	1,870	\$71,050,517
Subtotal	9,377	\$368,575,168
Ripple effect jobs/wages	4,688	\$164,093,600
Gross Job & Wage/Benefits Impacts	14,065	\$532,668,768

Points and notes:

- Jobs are “Full Time Equated” positions (or FTEs); one person full-year at 40 hours per week (use of over time and part-time workers will impact the actual number of individuals employed during the year).
- Totals do not include any additional job creation from resident spending that is retained rather than flowing to other gaming venues.
- Factors used are prudent, higher levels are certainly possible.
- Wages levels are simply placeholders from industry standards and local income data and are not representative of any negotiations.
- The vast majority of the jobs will not require a college degree and will involve relatively limited special training.

INITIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR PUBLIC REVENUES GAINED

The legislation was reviewed for the direct gaming tax rates being considered plus state income, sales, and excise tax rates were considered to develop initial estimates of additional tax revenues. The figures are conservative, and do not include state cost savings from reduced income maintenance and Medicaid pressures. Further analysis is needed to increase specificity, but the figures are viewed as representative of the base public revenue impacts.

TABLE E	
INITIAL SCENARIO--VARIOUS PUBLIC REVENUES ADDED ANNUALLY	
Category	Full year amount
From casino gaming fee	\$31.7 million
Income taxes from employee wages (direct, indirect, and ripple jobs)	\$29.5 million
Sales taxes from patron on-site and off-site spending	\$18.7 million
Sales taxes from added local income	\$6.4 million
Base total	\$86.2 million

Points and notes:

- Increases in gaming revenues and non-gaming spending increase the public revenues proportionately.
- Consistent with the methodology, the vast majority of the public revenues are derived from new or retained spending.
- There are other public revenues premature to enumerate, for example investment by businesses serving the casino and home enhancements by employees will translate into higher property tax revenues.

SIZING AND CONSTRUCTION NOTES

Refined sizing and design cannot occur until there is further specificity regarding the site and the ultimate legislative language. Below various initial points are provided for elaboration purposes, based upon the revenue figures above:

- Investment---\$300 million plus.
- Electronic games of chance (slots) ---3,343.
- Table games---101 (including poker).
- Casino construction jobs (person years of employment) ---1,667.
- There will be many other positive non-recurring impacts from the planning and construction; many beginning almost immediately upon enactment.

CONCLUDING COMMENTS

As noted, the estimates are viewed as prudent, more likely to be exceeded than unmet. This has proven the case in other venues. Readers may disagree with a certain factor or individual estimate, but there is little question that the revenues projected for the facility and the jobs fall within an evenhanded range by any standard given the market size and data from other gaming and tourism venues.

The facility is certainly not a panacea for all economic challenges facing Hawaii, and, indeed, for many will not even be noticed. The reality is that tourism is dependent on meeting the desires of the tourists---as perceived and determined by the tourists---not from wishful thinking. Millions of tourists enjoy having a casino option, which is why competing venues have added gaming. It is the reason why Hawaii should consider the reality and the option.

Testimony in Regard to HB781
House Committee on Judiciary
in Room 325 at 1500 on Thursday, 17 February 2011

Chair Kieth-Agaron and Respected Members of the Committee;

My name is Reg White. For the past 36 years I have been active in the Hawaii optional tour market, concentrating on maritime activities appealing to visitors and locals alike.

You must all be aware that gambling will not create money. That is to say, our visitors arrive with a finite amount of money that they have set aside for discretionary spending. They can spend it on gambling, or they can spend it into our optional tour market which employs thousands of people, supports hundreds of small businesses and contributes to our tax income through the triple ripple effect. This industry also charms the sox off of the average visitor and leaves them truly anxious to come back to Hawaii again as soon as possible. Note the present percentage of repeat visitors arriving at our gates: 79% of arrivals from the western states, 54% of those from the eastern states, and 55% of the arrivals from Japan are repeat visitors! If these people were making their trip to gamble, every one of them can do that for far less airfare and way cheaper hotel rooms much closer to home. This is true for both the west bound and the east bound travelers. If we authorize a casino in Waikiki we will keep these visitors from participating in our optional tour market. We will simply move the money from our optional tour market to the gaming business, at the cost of many long term local jobs in the optional tour industry. If, instead, we authorize a state lottery, they can purchase their scratch cards and lottery tickets at the 7-11 or ABC while waiting for the bus to go out on a tour to snorkel, see our culture, visit an attraction like PCC or the Hawaiian Water Park, or take a cruise of one sort or another. Our local enthusiasts can get in on this as well without taking time away from their daily duties to participate.

I have asked many of my local friends who regularly make trips to Las Vegas each year if they would stay home if we had legalized gambling here in Hawaii. Almost all said they would still miss the Las Vegas experience and would not change their habits.

We have a winner here and now with Hawaii, it's natural beauty, it's culture and the obvious spirit of aloha. Let's not do something greedy that will spoil this winning combination. Consider the lottery if you must, but please forget the rest!

Reg White
Vp, project development
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Hawai'i Coalition Against Legalized Gambling

1124 Fort Street Mall, Suite 209
Honolulu, HI 96813

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Thursday, February 17, 2011

3:00 p.m., Conference Room 325

Member Organizations

Advocates for Consumer Rights
Animal Rights Hawaii
Buddhist Peace Fellowship
Christian Voice of Hawaii
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Church of Perfect Liberty
Common Cause Hawaii
Disciples of Christ
Hale Kipa
Hawaii Assemblies of God
Hawaii Association of International Buddhists
Hawaii Christian Coalition
Hawaii Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
Hawaii Conference of the United Church of Christ (UCC)
Hawaii District United Methodist Church
Hawaii Family Forum
Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention
Hawaii Rainbow Coalition
Hawaii Religions for Peace
Hawaii Youth Services Network
Honolulu Friends Meeting (Quakers)
Honolulu Police Department
Institute for Religion and Social Change
Interfaith Alliance Hawaii
Kokua Council
League of Women Voters of Hawaii
Life of the Land (Hawaii)
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition Hawaii
Mestizo Association
Muslim Association & Islamic Center of Hawaii
Pacific Gateway Center
Presbytery of the Pacific
Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church
Small Business Hawaii
Soto Zen Mission of Hawaii
Temple Emanu-El
Windward Coalition of Churches
The Woman's Board of Missions for the Pacific Islands (UCC)

Cooperating Organizations

Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii
Catholic Diocese of Honolulu
Hawaii Bankers Association
Hawaii Business Roundtable
Hawaii State PTSA
Hawaiian Humane Society

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads, and members of the Judiciary Committee

Testimony on HB781 RELATING TO GAMING

My name is Tom Kay and I am speaking as a kamaaina attorney on behalf of the Hawaii Coalition Against Legalized Gambling. In reviewing HB781, a primary issue to be decided by the Judiciary Committee should be whether a stand alone casino in Waikiki would benefit the economy of the state.

I submit herein several quotes from Professor John Kindt's briefings to the Hawaii legislature in February 2009 which are most relevant to the issue of whether a stand alone casino would benefit the economy of our state.

"Basic economic principles dictate that casino-style gambling cannibalizes the consumer economy. . .

Each EGD/slot machine averages a \$100,000 per year net win to the gambling facility. Except for some state/local tax revenues and some local expenditures, most of these dollars leave the state and regional economies. With a typical consumer economic multiplier of 'three,' this \$100,000 translates into \$300,000 in lost consumer spending (or approximately one 'lost job' per EGD/slot machine.

This lost consumer spending also translates into concomitant losses in sales taxes and other consumer-oriented tax revenues. These consumer losses combined with the 3:1 cost/benefit for socioeconomic costs/revenue benefits has led jurisdictions (such as Canada) to own the casinos and thus retain all of the gambling dollars leaving the jurisdiction . . . It should be noted, however, that the socioeconomic costs to the public would still outweigh the overall new revenues."

This year HCALG invited Earl L. Grinols Distinguished Professor of Economics from Baylor University to discuss the costs and benefits of legalized gambling with legislators in Hawaii. I quote from his paper entitled "Gambling Economics: Summary of Facts, dated 2 February 2011:

Gambling is a public concern because it creates economic costs for society and taxpayers, including non-users. Most costs derive from problem & pathological gamblers (two groups).

- Crime: E.g. Aggr. asslt, rape, rob., larceny burglary, auto theft, embezzlement, fraud.
- Business and Employment Costs: Lost productivity, lost work time, unemployment-related employer costs.
- Bankruptcy
- Suicide

- Illness: E.g. Stress-related, cardiovascular, anxiety, depression, cognitive.
- Social Service Costs: Treatment, unemployment & other social services.
- Direct Regulatory Costs
- Family Costs: Divorce, separation, child abuse & neglect domestic violence.
- Abused dollars
- Social connection costs: Reduction in social capital (employer, family, friends)
- Political: concentration of power, disproportionate political influence (NH, May 10)

Gambling attracts clientele unequally

- 30% don't gamble at all; most gamble rarely, minority 10% account for 2/3-4/5ths of wagers.
- 30-50% of revenues derive from problem and pathological gamblers (e.g. 48.2% of gaming machine revenue), Aus. Inst for Gambling Research, 2001; 37% Montana keno machines; 58% machine revenue, Ontario Problem Gambling Research Center, 2004, 60% U. Lethbridge, 2004, other studies similar.)
- Convenience gambling draws from nearby (Example: IL, over 70% from less than 35 miles).
- Creates social costs nearby that must be taken account of.

Slot Machines, Electronic Gaming Devices (EGDs), video Lottery Terminals (VLTs)

- Most damaging and quickly addicting form of gambling (E.g. Breen and Zimmerman (2002) shorter times to addiction for those who 'got hooked' on video gambling. 1 year vs 3.5 for other forms.)
- 80 % of casino revenues, sometimes more, are from slot machines.
- Causation: Bridwell and Quinn (2002). Remove slot machines from SC. 6 months later Horry C. (Myrtle Beach) hotline calls fall from 200 to 0 per month. Number of Gambler Anonymous groups smaller by 2/3.
- Confirming evidence of causation is available in National Gambling Impact Study Commission research.

Crime: *Review of Economics and Statistics Study*

- Approximately 9% of total crime (FBI Index I) due to gambling in counties with Class III gambling.
- 8.6% of property crime; 12.6% of violent crime.
- E.g. For an average county with 100,000 population this implies 615 more larcenies, 325 more burglaries, 272 more auto thefts, 10 more rapes, 65 more robberies, and 199 more aggravated assaults.
- Other studies

From the above quotes it should be absolutely clear that when applying the cost/benefit ratio of \$3 to \$1, plus losses from EGD/slot machines, our Hawaii economy would not benefit from a casino but would suffer additional substantial losses from a stand alone casino.

I urge the House Judiciary Committee to hold HB781 and continue to pursue other measures to resolve our state's budget shortfall.

JUDtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 1:03 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: web@cartoonistforchrist.org
Subject: Testimony for HB781 on 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM HB781

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lee McIntosh
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: web@cartoonistforchrist.org
Submitted on: 2/16/2011

Comments:

Mr. Chair and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

Aloha, my name is Lee McIntosh. I live in Kau on the Big Island. I am not in favor of HB 781, which would allow a casino in Waikiki. Traditionally, Hawaii has resisted legalizing gambling in the past because of its ill effects on both our economy and families. The simple fact that this bill includes a provision to create a compulsive gambler program should be proof enough that gambling is not good for Hawaii's well-being. We should not turn a blind eye in hope that legalizing gambling will address the deficit. Consider the states that have already legalized gambling. They are facing deficits as well. Gambling is not the answer, but fiscal accountability. I believe that legalizing gambling will increase the deficit, due to the costs involved in regulating the industry. Gambling should not be considered as a solution to our deficit. I encourage the committee to thoroughly investigate the effects of legalizing gambling in Hawaii before making a decision. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 781.

JUDtestimony

From: Ernie Itoga [ldsitoga@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 9:09 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: testing

Why do we go through this every year. Gambling is not good for Hawaii. After all the examples where other States have tried gambling to help their budget shortfalls in their city and state gov't. have not worked for their betterment. What makes you think it will be different in Hawaii. Show me one example where gambling has improve the quality of life in their state and then I will be for it. If not then forget it and move on to something better for Hawaii and its people.

JUDtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 5:09 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: kiamanu@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for HB781 on 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM HB781

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: T. Merrill
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kiamanu@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 2/15/2011

Comments:

Please approve this. We need to stop being held hostage by the out-of-step anti-gambling folks. Make it legal. Make it another tax source. Weak argument that it will cause people to get addicted to gambling. Those people are ALREADY addicted to the prevalent illegal gambling in Hawaii. Let's finally bring gambling into the light!

JUDtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 9:31 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: konalajr@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB781 on 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM HB781

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Donald W. Baldwin Jr
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: konalajr@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/15/2011

Comments:

I firmly and absolutely oppose these bills and humbly urge each of you to do the same. Please ponder the grave and negative consequences that will affect us and our future ohana.

JUDtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 12:41 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: olindaaiwohi@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB781 on 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM HB781

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Olinda Aiwohi
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: olindaaiwohi@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/16/2011

Comments:

I strongly oppose any type of gambling. This bill should not pass it will only bring devastating results to our beautiful islands. I know firsthand the devastating effects gambling can do. Poverty, homelessness, crime, broken families and even death. As a child my siblings and I suffered most all of these sad situations because our parents gambled. Most of my siblings continue to suffer today, living through the abuse in their lives that some have been incarcerated, are homeless and need help. There are so many people who get caught up in gambling and end up owing money they don't have. Causing all kinds of problems. Please don't pass any bill allowing gambling. Thank you

JUDtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 12:55 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: olindaaiwohi@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB781 on 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM HB781

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mike Stone
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: olindaaiwohi@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/16/2011

Comments:

I oppose this bill and hope it is killed. I have lost so much because I became addicted to gambling. Guess who taught me how to o play cards, poker, black Jack more, my mother. I loved her dearly but I wish she herself had not been addicted. She played all the time and when she lost, she would have us do things illegal to raise money to pay the debt. Even in Vegas, she would sit at the table and borrow from the house, and end up oweing and then threats would come. Putting our whole family in jeopardy. This bill will only cause pain and suffering to thousands of children, I know cause legalized gaming of any sort is going to create victims like myself. Struggling to walk away from this vice which has caused me two divorces, jail time and more. Please don't let money stand in the way of doing what is best for the people of this state.

JUDtestimony

From: jkarbens@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 10:54 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Re: Testimony Against Gambling HB 781 and HB 1225

Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against HB 781 and HB 1225. I grew up in Cicero, Illinois under the umbrella of illegal gambling. I taught in Reno, Nevada under the disfunctional effects of legalized gambling. I have lived my adult life primarily in Hawaii and have moved here to get away from the crime, prostitution, money laundering of drug money, negative impacts on families, violent crime, pawn shops and other conditions related to gambling. There was strong testimony in recent years by members of Hawaiian Homes against gambling on Homestead lands.

Please keep Hawaii free of gambling.

Mahalo, John P. Karbens 735-6366 jkarbens@aol.com 3138 Waialae Avenue Apt. 1003, Honolulu, HI 96816

JUDtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 12:46 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: kaiwohi@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB781 on 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM HB781

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kanoelani Medeiros
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kaiwohi@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/16/2011

Comments:

Aloha,
I strongly oppose this bill. Gaming is not needed in Hawaii and the damages to native Hawaiians out weigh any benefits.
Mahalo

PRO-FAMILY HAWAII

P.O. Box 25158

Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

Phone and Fax: (808) 396-6569

Feb. 16, 2011

Judiciary Hearing
Testimony on HB781
3 p.m., Feb. 17, Room 325

Pro-Family Hawaii is totally opposed to casino gaming.

This will, if passed, lead to an increase in crime, as many people lose more than they can afford to. The compulsive gambler program would not help even 10% of the ones caught in the web of excessive losses. This will also lead to a deteriorating family life.

The bill should be held.

Sincerely in Christ,


Daniel P. McGivern, President

To: Legislative Committees addressing Gambling Bills, 2011 session
From: Rev. Bob Nakota, Chair 205-1316 2/9/11

Division of Church and Society
California-Pacific Annual Conference

The United Methodist Church

Re: The opposition of the worldwide United Methodist
Church to all forms of gambling.

Attached is a resolution repeatedly passed by
the General Conference of the United Methodist.
This body meets every 4 years, with well over
1,000 delegates from all over the world. It is
the only body that can speak for the entire United
Methodist Church.

The resolution expresses very strong opposition
to all forms of gambling, or games of chance.
Fundamental to its opposition is that gambling
relies on chance, not the steady disciplined
work ethic, to move ahead in life. It is especially
detrimental to addictive personalities
We ask that the legislature reject all bills
that promote gambling.

on both the general church and local church level in the following ways:

(1) We resolve to direct the appropriate agencies of the general church to lobby both our national government and multinational corporations, to do all they can to bring justice to the local producers, by lobbying for fair and equitable prices for goods and services produced.

(2) We resolve that the General, jurisdictional, annual conferences, and local churches encourage every pastor whose congregation is touched by these issues to invite caring laypersons to join her or him in making a personal visit to the home of every farm family in our parishes.

ADOPTED 2000

See Social Principles, ¶ 163H.

GAMBLING

203. Gambling

The Social Principles state that, "Gambling is a menace to society, deadly to the best interests of moral, social, economic, and spiritual life, and destructive of good government. As an act of faith and concern, Christians should abstain from gambling and should strive to minister to those victimized by the practice. Where gambling has become addictive, the church will encourage such individuals to receive therapeutic assistance so that the individual's energies may be redirected into positive and constructive ends. The church should promote standards and personal lifestyles that would make unnecessary and undesirable the resort to commercial gambling—including public lotteries—as a recreation, as an escape, or as a means of producing public revenue or funds for support of charities or government" (¶ 163G).

When asked which commandment is first of all, Jesus answered, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength" (Mark 12:29-30). Gambling feeds on human greed and invites persons to place their trust in pos-

sessions rather than in God. It represents a form of idolatry that contradicts the first commandment. Jesus continued: "The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself'" (Mark 12:31). In relating with compassion to our sisters and brothers, we are called to resist those practices and systems that exploit them and leave them impoverished and demeaned. The apostle Paul wrote in 1 Timothy 6:9-10a: "People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil."

Gambling, as a means of acquiring material gain by chance and at the neighbor's expense, is a menace to personal character and social morality. Gambling fosters greed and stimulates the fatalistic faith in chance. Organized and commercial gambling is a threat to business, breeds crime and poverty, and is destructive to the interests of good government. It encourages the belief that work is unimportant, that money can solve all our problems, and that greed is the norm for achievement. It serves as a "regressive tax" on those with lower income. In summary, gambling is bad economics; gambling is bad public policy; and gambling does not improve the quality of life.

We oppose the growing legalization and state promotion of gambling.

Dependence on gambling revenue has led many states to exploit the weakness of their own citizens, neglect the development of more equitable forms of taxation, and thereby further erode the citizens' confidence in government.

We oppose the legalization of pari-mutuel betting, for it has been the opening wedge in the legalization of other forms of gambling within the states and has stimulated illegal bookmaking. We deplore the establishment of state lotteries and their use as a means of raising public revenues. The constant promotion and the wide advertising of lotteries have encouraged large numbers of persons to gamble for the first time.

We express an even more serious concern for the increasing development of the casino enterprise in the United States, for it has taken captive entire communities and has infiltrated many levels of government with its fiscal and political power.

Public apathy and a lack of awareness that petty gambling feeds organized crime have opened the door to the spread of numerous forms of legal and illegal gambling.

support the strong enforcement of antigambling laws, the repeal of all laws that give gambling an acceptable and even advantageous place in our society, and the rehabilitation of compulsive gamblers.

The church has a key role in fostering responsible government and in developing health and moral maturity that free persons from dependence on damaging social customs. We urge national, tribal, state and local governments to read, analyze and implement the recommendations of the National Gambling Impact Study report released by the United States in 1999. It is expected that United Methodist churches abstain from the use of raffles, lotteries, bingo, door prizes, other drawing schemes, and games of chance for the purpose of gambling or fundraising. United Methodists should refrain from all forms of gambling practices carried on in our communities and should work to influence community organizations to develop forms of funding that do not depend upon gambling.

The General Board of Church and Society shall provide materials to local churches and annual conferences for study and action to combat gambling and to aid persons addicted to gambling. The General Board of Church and Society, annual conferences, and local churches shall work with the National Coalition Against Legalized Gambling and grassroots organizations opposing gambling to stop and reverse legalized gambling. The General Board of Church and Society shall report to the 2008 General Conference which stock market and securities practices might be considered forms of gambling. The Board shall consult with the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits and other agencies with investment portfolios in developing this report.

ADOPTED 1980
AMENDED AND READOPTED 1996
AMENDED AND READOPTED 2004

Social Principles, ¶ 163G.

204. Gambling Impact Report

WHEREAS, Congress charged nine persons to serve in the task of a broad and difficult-to-conduct comprehensive legal and factual

study of the social and economic implications of gambling in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, these commissioners, in dedicated service to the truest demonstration of democracy, did present for our good use an executive summary of their conclusions and recommendations, strongly suggested that the public follow as guidelines in evaluating the impact on which this phenomena—gambling—is sweeping the nation; and

WHEREAS, the recommendations are in place for all to see on the Web site www.ngisc.gov and in the hands of every congressperson,

Therefore, be it resolved, that every delegate of the 2000 General Conference be persuaded to obtain a copy from each one's respective representative, read it completely, and make the contents known to those they, in turn, represent at this conference so as to make their states more knowledgeable of the dangers of addiction, the precludes, and consequences and pledge leadership in using their knowledge, duly received as soon as possible.

ADOPTED 2000

See Social Principles, ¶ 163G.

GLOBAL ECONOMIC JUSTICE

205. The United Methodist Church, Justice, and World Hunger

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard (Isaiah 58:6-8, NRSV).

I. Introduction

In 1996, the World Food Summit held in Rome, Italy, reaffirmed "the right of everyone to have access to safe and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of

February 17, 2011

My Testimonial on Gambling in Hawaii...

My name is Gertrude Hara and I'm represent the Hawaii Coalition.

Last week Friday, the Hawaii Coalition had a session on Gambling in Hawaii. Was present in this and was very interesting to learn more about our gambling...if, we ever needed one. For me, would agree on Bingo type activity but against gambling casino.

The true meaning and a downfall would be on gambling are the following aspects economics gathered:

- < would be a corruption in Hawai'i**
- < costly**
- < crime**
- < business employment services**
- < social activities**
- < political**
- < influences**
- < lobbyists and**
- < casino visitors causes crime**

But along with this information would really like to have it on cruise ships and by having of course...some of our local visitors to travel and enjoy in Las Vegas.

Thank you very much!

JUDtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 3:06 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: sgd8@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for HB781 on 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 2/17/2011 3:00:00 PM HB781

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Susan Dursin
Organization: Hawai`i County League of Women Voters
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: sgd8@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 2/16/2011

Comments:
Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for reviewing my testimony.

The Hawai`i County League of Women Voters strongly opposes HB781. The establishment of any form of gambling carries social and infrastructure costs that are often not quantifiable. Nevertheless, studies show that gambling ventures, where they did not exist before, draw from existing businesses to the extent that revenue may not be positive. In 1997, the DBEDT prepared a lengthy study at the legislature's request. They observed that "the social costs of crime and pathological gambling that can be caused by legal gaming were not quantified and were not included in the measure of cost. Hence, the net economic and fiscal impacts derived from the report may be less or perhaps negative...." Two years later, the National Gambling Impact Study Commission, established by Congress, recommended no further expansion of gambling.

We are concerned that once gambling is legal in Hawai`i, that the considerable resources of the industry will come into play, affecting many aspects of life here. Their interests are narrowly focused, and they do not always go hand in hand with what is best for the people of this state.

There is no state in the U.S. where a gambling measure has been repealed.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Dursin
Co-president
Hawai`i County League of Women Voters

To: The Committee on Judiciary
Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

From: Claudine Kusano

Re: HB 781 Chapter, Casino Gaming

Position: Support

I support this bill in that it paves the way for legalized casino gaming in Hawaii. This means added revenue for the state, as many of our residents who now travel out of state to gamble will remain in state.

Respectfully submitted,
Claudine Kusano

Opposition without written testimony has been noted from the following:

Todd Hairgrove

Doralynn L. Baldwin

Kaleialii Baldwin

Katherine Book

Michell Fuller

Ceasar Book

Ashton Saifaloi

Dara Saifaloi

Winona Fuller