



PHOCUSED

PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

February 24, 2010

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TO: Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair

FROM: Alex Santiago
PHOCUSED (Protecting Hawai'i's Ohana, Children, UnderServed,
Elderly and Disabled)

RE: HB 2251, Relating to gaming

Chair Oshiro and members of the House Committee on Finance. I am Alex Santiago, the Executive Director of PHOCUSED, a coalition of health, housing, human service agencies and individual advocates voicing the needs of the marginalized and underserved in Hawaii. PHOCUSED is opposed to this measure.

As advocates for the Health and Human Services sector we believe that gaming is not the solution to our budget problems. We are concerned about the long-term negative social impacts gaming will have on our state and the people for whom we advocate. While we recognize the need to raise revenues, we feel strongly that this is not the best way to go about doing that.

PHOCUSED respectfully requests that this measure be held in committee.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

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