



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**  
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI  
A HO'OMĀKA'IKĀ'I

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
LT. GOVERNOR

**JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA**  
DIRECTOR

**DANE K. WICKER**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804  
Web site: [dbedt.hawaii.gov](http://dbedt.hawaii.gov)

Telephone: (808) 586-2355  
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of  
**JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA**  
Director  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Friday, March 22, 2024  
11:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 423

In consideration of  
**HR94 / HCR113**  
**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
AND TOURISM TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THE  
FEASIBILITY OF A STATE LOTTERY.**

Chair Holt, Vice Chair Lamosao, and members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) appreciates the intent and offers comments regarding HR94 / HCR113, which requests DBEDT to convene a working group to examine the feasibility of a state lottery.

DBEDT is aware of the state's economic condition and state revenue growth projections. For the project to be completed at the scope and timeline as requested in the resolution, we would need \$200,000 state funds to hire a research company to prepare the study.

We have vacancies for our economist positions. We would recommend extending the deadline to 20 days before the legislative session of 2026, and we will conduct the study in-house with the hope that we will fill the economist positions in the next few months.

We are following a number of other bills and resolutions that require DBEDT to do studies, and we will cooperate as long as our primary functions and responsibilities are not impacted.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**HCR-113**

Submitted on: 3/18/2024 5:05:11 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/22/2024 11:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

About time! Please support. Mahalo.