



**SOLOMON ISLANDS NATIONAL PARLIAMENT**

**BILLS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**REPORT**

**ON**

**THE GAMING AND LOTTERIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 2004**

**National Parliament Paper No. 18 of 2004**

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1. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

To examine and report to Parliament the Committee's observations and recommendations on:-

**“The Gaming and Lotteries (Amendment) Bill 2004”**

2. **FUNCTIONS**

The Bills and Legislation Committee is vested with additional functions in Standing Order 71, besides the provisions specified in Orders 50 and 55, to:-

- (a) examine such matters as may be referred to it by Parliament or the Government;
- (b) review all draft legislation prepared for introduction into Parliament;
- (c) examine all subsidiary legislation made under any Act so as to ensure compliance with the Acts under which they are made;
- (d) monitor all motions adopted by Parliament which require legislative action;
- (e) review current or proposed legislative measures to the extent it deems necessary;
- (f) examine such other matters in relation to legislation that, in the opinion of the Committee require examination; and
- (g) make a written report to each Meeting of Parliament containing the observations and recommendations arising from the Committee's deliberations.

3. **MEMBERSHIP**

The Membership of the Bills & Legislation Committee comprises of four members however, only the following have been able to avail themselves for deliberation on the Bill:-

Hon. E. Huniehu	-	Chairman
Hon. Dr. S. Aumanu	-	Member
Hon. M. Sogavare	-	“

Apology was received from Hon. A. Hairiu.

In attendance to the Committee was the Legal Draftsman.

4. **OBSERVATIONS**

The Committee deliberated on the Bill clause by clause with its new amendments with the assistance of the Legal Draftsman.

The present Act does not provide for the control of casino gambling to certain places or localities. With this new amendment, the Bill provides for the restriction of commercial gaming and to confine to hotel-casino complexes only. This restriction would stop the general public from engaging in commercial gaming in the public and also prevent the ordinary general public from having access to public casinos.

This implies that one has to be a member or approved person before entering and participating in commercial gaming.

It also seeks to allow the Board exercise tighter supervision and control over commercial gaming and also the restriction of the number of casinos operating in the city of Honiara to only two. Which means there will not be any casinos outside of Honiara other than the two in the Honiara city.

The excess number of only two casinos would also discourage new hotel complex developments.

5. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee has no difficulty in the Bill, and it was recommended that **“The Gaming and Lotteries (Amendment) Bill 2004”** be presented and debated on in Parliament.

**Hon. Edward J. Huniehu**  
**Chairman**  
**Bills & Legislation Committee**

**13 December 2004**