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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE LIABILITY OF A FIREARM OWNER.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 663-9.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "§663-9.5 Liability of firearm owners. The owner of a  
4 firearm, if the discharge of the firearm proximately causes  
5 either personal injury or property damage to any person, shall  
6 be absolutely liable for such damage. It shall be an  
7 affirmative defense to such absolute liability that the firearm  
8 was not in the possession of the owner and was taken from the  
9 owner's possession without the owner's permission and the owner  
10 either had reported the theft to the police prior to the  
11 discharge or, despite the exercise of reasonable care, had not  
12 discovered the theft prior to the discharge or was not  
13 reasonably able to report the theft to the police prior to the  
14 discharge. This section shall not apply when the discharge of  
15 the firearm was legally justified. "Owner" as used in this  
16 section, shall not include government entities."

17 SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

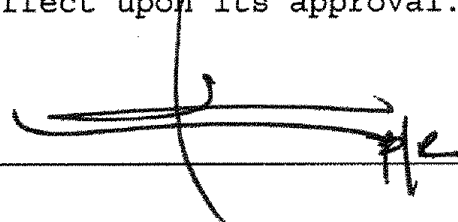


# S.B. NO. 2183

1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

  
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**Report Title:**

Hawaii County Package; Liability of Firearm Owners

**Description:**

Removes government entities from definition of firearm owner for purpose of establishing liability.

