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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT TO OPEN TWO ADDITIONAL  
FIREARM PERMIT APPLICATION AND REGISTRATION LOCATIONS IN  
KAPOLEI AND KANEOHE.

1           WHEREAS, under section 134-2 of the Hawaii Revised  
2 Statutes, all persons who wish to acquire ownership of a firearm  
3 must first obtain a permit to acquire from the chief of police;  
4 and

5  
6           WHEREAS, under section 134-3 of the Hawaii Revised  
7 Statutes, all persons who bring a firearm into the State, or who  
8 acquire a firearm pursuant to section 134-2 of the Hawaii  
9 Revised Statutes, must register the firearm in person within  
10 five days of arrival or purchase; and

11  
12           WHEREAS, in order to comply with these statutes, Oahu  
13 residents must make three separate trips to the Honolulu Police  
14 Department's Firearms Unit, located at the Main Police Station  
15 in downtown Honolulu three times: first to apply for the permit,  
16 then to pick up the permit, and finally to register the firearm  
17 with permit in hand; and

18  
19           WHEREAS, due to high demand and the time-consuming nature  
20 of the procedures involved, firearm owners encounter long lines  
21 at the Firearms Unit, and must sometimes wait up to nine hours  
22 in order to comply with the requirements of the above statutes,  
23 forcing them to take multiple leaves of absence from work and  
24 suffer from the resulting income loss; and

25  
26           WHEREAS, while the Honolulu Police Department uses sworn  
27 law enforcement officers to perform the tasks of firearm permit  
28 application processing and firearm registration, thus removing  
29 officers who could otherwise be patrolling our communities, the



1 police departments of the respective counties are able to free  
2 up sworn officers by having non-law enforcement personnel  
3 perform these functions; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, according to the Honolulu Police Department's  
6 website, as of February 2016, the Firearms Unit now offers  
7 permit applicants and registrants the option to access the  
8 necessary forms online, then take completed forms to the  
9 Firearms Unit to expedite the permit application and firearm  
10 registration processes; and  
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12 WHEREAS, while this change is laudable, and could make a  
13 discernible difference if the vast majority of permit applicants  
14 and firearm registrants were to utilize the online forms, this  
15 change alone does not suffice, as there continues to be long  
16 wait times at the Firearms Unit at the Main Police Station,  
17 compounded by that office's limited hours of operation; and  
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19 WHEREAS, according to data collected by the Department of  
20 the Attorney General, there were over eleven thousand firearm  
21 applications processed in the City and County of Honolulu in  
22 2014, and based on this figure, it can be inferred that the  
23 Firearms Unit must process, on average, around forty-four  
24 applications per day; and  
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26 WHEREAS, although the data does not indicate what  
27 percentage of permit applicants and firearm registrants reside  
28 on the leeward and windward portions of Oahu, it is reasonable  
29 to assume that many of them do not live in the urban core; and  
30

31 WHEREAS, Oahu's only firearm permit application and  
32 registration location is located twelve miles from Kaneohe and  
33 twenty-three miles from Kapolei; and  
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35 WHEREAS, separate and apart from the issue of long wait  
36 times at the Firearms Unit of the Main Police Station, there are  
37 many logistical challenges faced by Oahu residents who do not  
38 live in the urban core; and  
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40 WHEREAS, Hawaii's "place to keep" laws require that when  
41 transporting a firearm to complete the in-person registration



1 process, the owner must travel directly from home to the police  
2 station and back, with no stops or errands in between; and  
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4 WHEREAS, the travel time into downtown Honolulu from other  
5 parts of the island, coupled with the difficulty of finding  
6 parking near the Main Police Station during weekday business  
7 hours, only lengthens the amount of time this process already  
8 takes for firearm owners who do not live in the urban core; now,  
9 therefore,  
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11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
12 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
13 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that this body requests  
14 the Honolulu Police Department to relieve the strain on the Main  
15 Police Station's Firearms Unit as well as the burden on firearm  
16 owners residing outside the urban core by opening satellite  
17 firearm permit application and registration locations in Kapolei  
18 and Kaneohe; and  
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honolulu Police Department  
21 is requested to consider using non-law enforcement personnel to  
22 process firearm permit applications and/or firearm registrations  
23 at both the Main Police Station and the Kapolei and Kaneohe  
24 satellite locations, in order to free up sworn law enforcement  
25 officers to perform enforcement duties; and  
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City and County of  
28 Honolulu is requested to provide the Honolulu Police Department  
29 with any and all additional funding necessary to carry out the  
30 requested changes to the present system; and  
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the members of Hawaii's  
34 Congressional Delegation in the United States Senate and House  
35 of Representatives, the Mayor of the City and County of  
36 Honolulu, the Chief of the Honolulu Police Department, the  
37 President of the National Rifle Association, and the President  
38 of the Hawaii Rifle Association.  
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# H.C.R. NO. 147

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