
HOUSE 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
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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
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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
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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
30 police departments of the respective counties are able to free



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1 up sworn officers by having non-law enforcement personnel
2 perform these functions; and

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4 WHEREAS, according to the Honolulu Police Department's
5 website, as of February 2016, the Firearms Unit now offers
6 permit applicants and registrants the option to access the
7 necessary forms online, then take completed forms to the
8 Firearms Unit to expedite the permit application and firearm
9 registration processes; and

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11 WHEREAS, while this change is laudable, and could make a
12 discernible difference if the vast majority of permit applicants
13 and firearm registrants were to utilize the online forms, this
14 change alone does not suffice, as there continues to be long
15 wait times at the Firearms Unit at the Main Police Station,
16 compounded by that office's limited hours of operation; and

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18 WHEREAS, according to data collected by the Department of
19 the Attorney General, there were over eleven thousand firearm
20 applications processed in the City and County of Honolulu in
21 2014, and based on this figure, it can be inferred that the
22 Firearms Unit must process, on average, around forty-four
23 applications per day; and

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25 WHEREAS, although the data does not indicate what
26 percentage of permit applicants and firearm registrants reside
27 on the leeward and windward portions of Oahu, it is reasonable
28 to assume that many of them do not live in the urban core; and

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30 WHEREAS, Oahu's only firearm permit application and
31 registration location is located twelve miles from Kaneohe and
32 twenty-three miles from Kapolei; and

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34 WHEREAS, separate and apart from the issue of long wait
35 times at the Firearms Unit of the Main Police Station, there are
36 many logistical challenges faced by Oahu residents who do not
37 live in the urban core; and

38
39 WHEREAS, Hawaii's "place to keep" laws require that when
40 transporting a firearm to complete the in-person registration



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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, that this body requests the Honolulu Police
14 Department to relieve the strain on the Main Police Station's
15 Firearms Unit as well as the burden on firearm owners residing
16 outside the urban core by opening satellite firearm permit
17 application and registration locations in Kapolei and Kaneohe;
18 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 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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