

HB 888 HD1

RELATING TO FIREARMS

Makes it a petty misdemeanor for a person to recklessly possess a loaded firearms while the person is intoxicated. (HB888 HD1)

PSM/JDL, WAM

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:06 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: macooper.1941@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB888 on Mar 18, 2015 09:30AM

HB888

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for PSM/JDL on Mar 18, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Max Cooper	Hawaii Rifle Association	Comments Only	Yes

Comments: See attachment

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Lessons In Firearms Education

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March 16, 2015

Testimony offering COMMENTS ON HB888, HD1
Before PSM/JDL, Rm 016, 3/18/2015, 9:30am

Hon. Chair, Co-Chair, and Members,

As a firearms training organization, Lessons in Firearms Education (LIFE) endorses the NRA rules for safe gun handling, including:

“Never use alcohol or over-the-counter, prescription or other drugs before or while shooting.”

Alcohol, as well as any other substance likely to impair normal mental or physical bodily functions, should not be used before or while handling or shooting guns.

However, statutory language pertaining to the carry of firearms while under the influence of any intoxicant should be more precise and have reasonable and objective limits. It is our opinion that the language of this HD1 corrects serious language flaws in the original draft and addresses our aforementioned concerns. LIFE has no serious objection to the current HD1, unamended. We would object to any amendment specifying consequences for refusing an alcohol level examination. There are valid legal reasons to decline.

We do question the need for this bill as it appears to be more a solution in search of a problem rather than address any legitimate need since the legal carry of firearms by private citizens is virtually non-existent. Carrying a firearm illegally, even if completely sober, already carries a felony charge. Under these circumstances you must ask yourselves what deterrent effect this will have. We believe it will have none.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of LIFE.

Bill Richter
President, Lessons in Firearms Education