

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
WATER & LAND**

**Friday, February 10, 2017  
9:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 1589  
RELATING TO HUNTING SAFETY**

House Bill 1589 proposes to authorize civilians to use firearm noise suppressors while hunting. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) acknowledges the intent of the measure and offers the following comments.**

The stated purpose of the bill is to “improve the safety of hunters in Hawaii.” Current language in the bill identifies the risk of damage or hearing loss as a reason for allowing firearms noise suppressors to be used for hunting. The Department concurs that hunter safety is paramount and a worthwhile cause; however, suppressors may not be the most effective solution to preventing hearing loss.

Due to the various calibers and types of firearms, the reduction in noise levels with the use of suppressors is variable. A much more cost effective and user friendly solution is the use of conventional hearing protection such as earmuffs or ear plugs. Many products offer the added value of enhanced hearing via the use of battery powered technology. These are standard when using range facilities along with adequate eye protection. Traditional hearing devices have been used for many years without the need to train the individual on proper use and fit. The bill recognizes these items are readily available and help reduce exposure to the dangerous noise levels associated with gunshots.

The use of suppressors would require adherence to federal law and also require the tracking and registering of those devices. This may place additional burdens on local law enforcement or additional steps for the ethical hunter to remain in compliance.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**KEKOA W. KALUHIWA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**JEFFREY. T. PEARSON, P.E.**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
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POLICE DEPARTMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
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CHIEF

CARY OKIMOTO  
JERRY INOUE  
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE **DN-DNK**

February 10, 2017

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Water and Land  
House of Representatives  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Yamane and Members:

**SUBJECT: House Bill No. 1589, Relating to Hunting Safety**

I am David Nilsen, Acting Major of the Records and Identification Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD opposes House Bill No. 1589, Relating to Hunting Safety.

This bill proposes changes to various sections of Chapter 134 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes to allow the use of noise suppressors or silencers by hunters. This bill also authorizes the manufacture and sale of noise suppressors or silencers in the state of Hawaii. The HPD does not agree that the use of firearms in the act of hunting poses a threat to the hearing of the hunter. The number of rounds fired by a hunter while engaged in the hunt will not be significant enough to endanger the hunter's hearing. The HPD believes that allowing noise suppressors or silencers to be legally obtained in the state of Hawaii will only make their use in the commission of criminal acts more common. Having these dangerous items readily available will only potentially increase gun violence.

The HPD strongly urges you to oppose this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cary Okimoto", is written over a horizontal line.

Cary Okimoto  
Acting Chief of Police

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David P. Nilsen", is written above the typed name.

David P. Nilsen, Acting Major  
Records and Identification Division



**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 8:08 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** shyla.moon@ymail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shyla Moon	Hunting Farming and Fishing Association	Support	No

Comments: This will save people's hearing. Please support this.

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## Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawaii

Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Water and Land  
February 10, 2017 at 9:00am

Re: House Bill 1479 HD1 Relating to the Hilo Community Economic District

Representative Ryan Yamane Chairman of the House Water and Land Committee  
Hawaii State Capital Room 325  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Chairman Yamane, Vice Chair Kong and members of these committees,

My name is Audrey Takamine, committee chair for the Government Affairs committee with the Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawai'i (JCCIH). The Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawai'i has been incorporated since 1951 and represent 290 members of the business community. I would like to testify in **strong support of HB1479 HD1** which establishes the Hilo community economic district located in East Hawaii and places it under jurisdiction of the Hawaii community development authority. Establishes the Hilo community economic revolving fund. Requires all revenue, income, and receipts of HCDA for the district to be deposited in the Hilo community economic revolving fund, and a designated per cent to be transferred to the special land and development fund under the department of land and natural resources.

In 1976 the Legislature created the HCDA to revitalize urban areas that were underused and deteriorating. The establishment of the Hilo community economic district would serve to accomplish this very task in the Hilo area. We are faced with many challenges. Many of the resorts and improvements along Banyan Drive have fallen into disrepair which has created an unsafe atmosphere that is not the most conducive for visitors and members of the community. The Kanoiehua Industrial Area which is adjacent to the Hilo Airport and home to many small businesses has suffered the same fate due to the fact that many leases have less than 10 years left. We are sorely in need of an avenue to redevelop the Hilo area which will encourage new investment such as roadways, utilities, improvement of existing facilities and parks.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure. We urge the committee to strongly support this resolution which would greatly benefit the visitors and residents of Hawaii Island.

Sincerely,

Audrey N. Takamine  
Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawai'i  
GAC Chairperson



Written Testimony to the House Water and Land Committee  
House Bill 1589: Relating to Hunting Safety  
February 9, 2017

Chairman Yamane, Vice-Chair Kong, and members of the Committee:

My name is Knox Williams. I am the President and Executive Director of the American Suppressor Association, a non-profit trade association which represents the suppressor community. I am writing in regards to House Bill 1589, which seeks to legalize the possession of suppressors, and their use while hunting in Hawaii. Suppressors are currently legal to own in 42 states, 40 of which allow their use while hunting.

For most people, suppressors are known only as silencers, and the only time they have seen them in use is on the silver screen. Although entertaining, Hollywood's depiction of suppressors does not have any basis in reality, giving people an understandably false expectation for what suppressors actually do.

The terms "silencer" and "suppressor" refer to the same thing – a muffler for a firearm. In order to understand suppressors, it is important to note that nothing can actually silence the noise of a gunshot. Physics will simply not allow it. On average, suppressors reduce the noise of a gunshot by 20 – 35 decibels (dB), roughly the same sound reduction as earplugs or earmuffs. They work in the exact same way as mufflers on cars, which function by trapping the hot expanding gasses and allowing them to slowly cool, thereby reducing the noise to safer levels.

Even the most effective suppressors on the market, on the smallest and quietest calibers, like .22 LR, reduce the peak sound level of a gunshot to around 110 – 120 decibels. To put that in perspective, according to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), that is as loud as a jackhammer (110 dB) or an ambulance siren (120 dB).

In a 2011 study, entitled "Noise and Lead Exposures at an Outdoor Firing Range – California", the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) stated, "The only potentially effective noise control method to reduce students' or instructors' noise exposure from gunfire is through the use of noise suppressors that can be attached to the end of the gun barrel. However, some states do not permit civilians to use suppressors on firearms."

In a similar study from 2014 on noise exposure at shooting ranges, NIOSH recommended, "If feasible and legally permissible, attach noise suppressors to firearms to reduce peak sound pressure levels."



These studies recommend suppressor use at ranges, where people generally wear hearing protection. However, hunters almost never wear them, because traditional hearing protection devices hinder their ability to hear their surroundings. In the field, it can mean the difference between a successful and an unsuccessful hunt. The “it’s only one shot” mentality is exactly why most hunters ultimately have to wear hearing aids. By supporting this legislation, you are doing your part to give hunters in Hawaii the option to use suppressors, ensuring that future generations will no longer have to choose between their passion and their hearing. In addition to hearing protection, suppressors also mitigate noise complaints from those who live near shooting ranges and hunting lands.

In 2013, Montana Governor Steve Bullock held the common misconception that suppressors could silence a firearm, which led him to veto suppressor hunting legislation in his state. However, once he became properly educated on the issue, he reversed course and urged the Montana legislature to legalize their use in the field. In a letter to the Speaker of the House from March, 2015, he wrote:

“The public perception of suppressors as the same thing as silencers, where the assassin quietly dispatches his victim, no longer holds true. Suppressors mitigate the sound of a shot, but do not silence it. The use of suppressors for hunting, when hunters cannot wear ear protection because they need to be aware of their surroundings, can help protect against hearing loss. This is especially true for our younger hunters, even those who are not actually hunting but are accompanying their parent in the field.

I understand the concerns regarding the risks of increased poaching and do not take this lightly, but other states have not found this to be the case.”

Gov. Bullock’s change of opinion wasn’t ideological, it was educational. Should you be interested, we are happy to host a suppressor demonstration at the time and place of your choosing. Thank you for your time and consideration. On behalf of hunters and sportsmen and women in Hawaii, I respectfully urge you to vote in support of H.B. 1589.

Sincerely,

Knox Williams  
President & Executive Director  
American Suppressor Association

**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 3:14 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** ilojerry@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jerry Ilo	Babooze Bowstrings	Support	No

Comments: I very strongly support this Bill

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Testimony in Support of HB 1359

From: Keith Yap, Director of Administration & Treasurer

Gay & Robinson, Inc. (808)335-3133 ext. 222

Gay & Robinson currently hunts feral goats and pigs on its property as part of its eradication program to protect crops of its farming tenants from damage and loss. Both goats and pigs do enormous damage to the crops and proliferate due to the difficulty in targeting and eliminating these invasive pests. They come down from and retreat to the mountain which is difficult for our hunters to access due to the terrain. They also do damage to fauna and native plants in the mountain.

The use of a silencer will help to increase our kill ratio and create a higher success rate in eliminating these pests. The loud noise by a rifle will cause any of these animals nearby our first target to scatter and get away before multiple kills can be made. The use of the silencer will help us achieve multiple kills.

We also use a rifle for our slaughter operation at Makaweli Meat Company. Use of a silencer will allow us to keep the other animals in waiting from being spooked and creating adrenaline in the animal which degrades the quality of the meat. This will create a more humane treatment during the slaughter process. By eliminating the loud noise, it will also avoid hearing damage by our shooters in the slaughter process. The loud noise can also be somewhat unnerving to other employees nearby.



## NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS FOUNDATION, INC.

400 N. Capitol Street NW, Suite 490 • Washington, D.C. 20001 • Tel (202) 220-1340 • Fax (202) 220-1349

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**TREVOR SANTOS**  
DIRECTOR, GOVERNMENT  
RELATIONS/STATE AFFAIRS

TESTIMONY FROM TREVOR W. SANTOS  
DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS-STATE AFFAIRS  
NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS FOUNDATION

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2017, 9:00 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 325  
STATE CAPITOL  
415 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET

### **HOUSE BILL 1589 – SOUND SUPPRESSORS FOR HUNTING – SUPPORT**

As the trade association for America’s firearms, ammunition, hunting, and recreational shooting sports industry, the National Shooting Sports Foundation (“NSSF”) seeks to promote, protect, and preserve hunting and the shooting sports. NSSF has a membership of more than 12,000 manufacturers, distributors, firearms retailers, shooting ranges, and sportsmen's organizations. Our manufacturer members make the firearms used by law-abiding Hawaii sportsmen and women, the U.S. military, and law enforcement agencies throughout the state.

On behalf of NSSF, I would like to express our support for House Bill 1589 (“HB 1589”), a proposal to legalize the ownership, possession, and use of suppressors for hunting in The Aloha State.

Firearm suppressors, or “silencers” as they are sometimes called, are devices which help reduce the noise of gunfire to hearing safe levels when attached to the end of a firearm’s barrel. Suppressors are generally nothing more than containment systems with a series of baffles which help contain and re-direct the expanding gasses that exit the end of the firearm’s barrel when it is discharged. Using suppressors can make shooting safer, more enjoyable and also help make shooting ranges and hunting lands more neighborly.

The ownership and possession of firearm suppressors is currently legal in 42 states and 40 states allow suppressors to be used for hunting. Firearm suppressors have many practical benefits for civilians. One of the “ten commandments” of firearm safety is for shooters to wear eye and ear protection. A suppressor solves the need for ear protection for shooters who would normally be affected by the noise of the gun shot. This makes for more effective firearms training. Without ear plugs, all shooters will be able to communicate without shouting at each other and hear and comply with instructions and range safety commands easier. One of the most common problems for shooters is poor accuracy due to the shooter’s anticipation of the gun’s loud report and recoil. This anticipation causes shooters to “flinch” before the gun even goes off, to

experience slight tremors in the hand from nervousness, and even to close their eyes or blink right before they pull the trigger. All of these issues cause the gun to move from the intended target area. The use of suppressors will dramatically increase accuracy because of the reduced muzzle report, reduced recoil, and decreased muzzle flip, all making for a more ethical hunt.

Noise Induced Hearing Loss is a serious threat to our men and women in the military and law enforcement communities. The ability to hear is crucial to the performance of their duties. Many people have received medical retirement because of Noise Induced Hearing Loss. Much of this hearing loss occurs due to repeated exposure to gunfire, both operationally and in the training environment. According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), any exposure to noise over 140db causes immediate and irreparable hearing loss. Unsuppressed handguns and rifles generally create a muzzle report well above this threshold. Gunfire noise is a “preventable” occupational risk and an unnecessary liability. A suppressor can protect against hearing loss, allowing for a safer and more enjoyable shooting or hunting experience.

NSSF supports all efforts to remove restrictions on the use of suppressors for recreational use and hunting, and it is for these reasons NSSF supports HB 1589.

Sincerely,



Trevor W. Santos

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF HB 1589

For the use of silenced firearms in the harvesting of animals

Submitted by Bruce B. Robinson, Niihau Ranch Partner

To: Rep. Yamane Chairman, Water & Land

Niihau Ranch is currently engaged in the commercial harvesting of eland on the island of Niihau. Eland is the largest species of antelope with big bulls weighing up to two thousand pounds. The harvesting of these large animals requires a large caliber rifle using a magnum load to ensure a clean and humane taking of the animal.

On Niihau we use the Remington 700 Ultra Magnum in the .375 caliber which is very efficient and achieves the excellent results. Unfortunately, this rifle has a deafening muzzle blast which is very hard on the shooter's ears. This requires the use of ear protection by the shooter which is a safety issue as the shooter is prevented from hearing safety instructions or nearby animals. The use of a noise suppression device would mitigate this problem.

Furthermore, the loud muzzle blast of the rifles makes multiple takings very difficult as the first shot spooks the rest of the herd. When harvesting the animals for commercial use, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) inspectors who accompany the shooter require that all animals be harvested with a head shot. A silencer on a rifle with a loud muzzle blast improves accuracy.

Commercial harvesting of wild animals should be done as quietly as possible to eliminate the release of adrenaline into the animal's body which causes a gamey flavor in the meat. The less noise, the more humane the harvest and the tastier the meat.

The use of a silenced firearm will allow the shooter to better select the right animals to harvest as the herd will be calmer. The reduction of muzzle blast will also result in the most humane harvesting possible because the animals will not be agitated and will probably be harvested without foreknowledge.

This legislation should also be expanded to cover slaughter houses. The use of silenced firearms in slaughter facilities will reduce the level of agitation in the animals and result in a more humane operation.

The use of silenced firearms in commercial slaughter facilities will afford greater hearing protection for workers and less disturbance to any neighbors.

In summary, I urge passage of legislation for the use of silenced firearms in commercial slaughter operations for the following reasons:

1. Safety and health of workers
2. More humane harvesting of animals.
3. Better quality of meat harvested.
4. Improved herd health due to better controlled harvesting of animals.
5. More economical operation.
6. Improved accuracy of the shooter.
7. Improved community relations

Respectfully submitted,

  
Bruce B. Robinson

Partner, Niihau Ranch LLC





## Lessons In Firearms Education

P.O. Box 25271  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

**LATE**

February 8, 2017

RE: HB 1589

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice Chair Kong,

I am writing in support of HB 1589 and ask that you pass this very important bill.

Many long-time hunters suffer from hearing deficits caused by prolonged exposure to gunshots. The ability to use noise suppressors would greatly reduce this exposure and therefore the risk of premature hearing problems.

Contrary to popular belief, noise suppressors use in crime is virtually non-existent and currently they are legal in 42 states. Hawaii and California are the only two states west of the Mississippi where suppressors are illegal by state law.

Despite some concern over illegal hunting using suppressors, states that allow them during hunting have not reported any increase in these activities.

A recently released White paper from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, suggests taking suppressors off the controlled items list under the National Firearms Act of 1934. This fact alone should indicate how reasonable and important allowing suppressor use during hunting is for the health and safety of hunters.

I would humbly request that the inclusion of a threaded barrel that accepts the attachment of a suppressor be removed from the proposed definition of an "Assault pistol" because many handguns used for hunting are large and heavy. As such, a pistol weighing more than 50 ounces, or exceeded 12 inches in length that included said threaded barrel would therefore be classified as an "assault pistol" and thus illegal.

For these, and many other reasons, I strongly urge you to support and pass HB 1589.

Thank you.

Very kind regards,

Bill Richter, President  
Lessons in Firearms Education

**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 8:58 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** wekeis333@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tony Sylvester	Hawaii Sportsmen's Alliance	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Yamane, Vic Chair Satoru Kong and Committee Members, Hawaii Sportsmen's Alliance do strongly support this measure. Thank you for your consideration. Mahalo, Tony Sylvester

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**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2017 7:50 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** hoku725@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM



**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Clifford Goo	Hawaii Rifle Association	Support	No

Comments: Dear Committee Members, Please consider moving forward with this Bill regarding use of silencers for hunting purposes. As an avid hunter, I understand the concerns around hearing conservation. We are a responsible group of folks that just enjoy the outdoors, want to put food in the table, share with friends. We often hunt together, therefore making the use of a silencer safer as we spot game for one another. There is no time to put in hearing protection as game do not just sit and like waiting for you. Also in regards to walking through bush, rocky terrain, uneven ground, hearing protection limits you ability to hear sounds relating to game, but most of all it can impede balance, equilibrium in some folks, especially while trying to negotiate in rough terrain. I understand the concerns and negativity of the word silencer, maybe suppressors are more correct as it does not completely silence at all. Still for us hunters, is would be a great start to safer hunting and possibly more food on the table. Thankfully for your time and consideration. Aloha, Clifford Goo

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# Institute for Rational and Evidence-based Legislation

P. O. Box 41

Mountain View, Hawaii 96771

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Committee Chair, Vice Chair, and Members,

Please pass HB 1589 and help move Hawaii into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and join the 42 other states that already recognize the rational, logical, and evidence-based reasons and data and thus have legalized the ownership of firearm sound suppressors by citizens. There is no reason that Hawaii citizens should have to bear the negative consequences of using unsuppressed firearms for hunting.

Below I list some of the benefits of suppressors, as well as counter some of the myths about suppressors being used as crime tools. Hawaii citizens deserve the right to benefit from the use of suppressors while hunting.

In many European countries, which “gun control” groups... I mean “commonsense gun safety” groups... I mean “gun violence prevention” groups hold up as sparkling models of a well disarmed citizenry, NOT using a suppressor is considered “rude”. Some countries actually mandate that they be used, at least in certain vicinities that are relatively populated and would be “disturbed” by louder sounds.

Of course, suppressors are not “silencers”, as they are often portrayed to be in Hollywood movies. On average, suppressors reduce the noise of a gunshot by 20-35 decibels, roughly the same sound reduction as earplugs or earmuffs. A shot from a 9 mm pistol equipped with a silencer is about as loud as a thunderclap for the person firing the firearm. These tools do NOT allow for someone to discharge a firearm in total “stealth” mode unnoticed by people in the surrounding area, so there is no enhancement for criminal intent.

If the Occupational Safety and Health Administration had been around in the 1930s, firearms civil rights lawyer Stephen Halbrook quipped to *The Washington Post*, it probably **would have mandated** their use.\*

The one shortcoming of the bill that needs to be fixed via amendment is that the use of suppressors is limited to actual hunting and hunting areas. This use location limitation needs to be expanded to the use at ranges so that hunters can properly and accurately sight in their firearms, which are effected by the addition of a suppressor, as an accurate first shot is part of the practice of ethical, humane hunting.

I'd actually suggest a second amendment (to conform to the Second Amendment): expand the legality of suppressors beyond hunters to all Hawaii firearms owners. As with the national Hearing Protection Act at the federal level, all firearms owners deserve to have the benefits of sound suppression if they so choose.

## THE ROLE OF SUPPRESSORS

Suppressors, also known as silencers, are the hearing protection of the 21st century sportsman. Despite common misconceptions, suppressors are not silent. They are simply mufflers for firearms, which function by trapping the expanding gasses at the muzzle and allowing them to slowly cool.

### Benefits of Suppressors

#### HEARING PROTECTION

Noise induced hearing loss and tinnitus are two of the most common afflictions for recreational shooters and hunters. Everyone knows that gunfire is loud, but very few people understand the repercussions that shooting can have on their hearing until it's too late.

Suppressors reduce the noise of a gunshot by an average of 20 – 35 dB, which is roughly the same as earplugs or earmuffs. By decreasing the overall sound signature, suppressors help to preserve the hearing of recreational shooters, hunters, and hunting dogs around the world.

#### SAFER HUNTING

Most hunters do not wear hearing protection in the field because they want to hear their surroundings. The trouble is, exposure to even a single unsuppressed gunshot can, and often does, lead to permanent hearing damage. Suppressors allow hunters to maintain full situational awareness, while still protecting their hearing. The result is a safer hunting experience for the hunter, and for those nearby.

#### NOISE COMPLAINTS

As urban developments advance into rural areas, shooting ranges and hunting preserves across the country are being closed due to noise complaints. Although it can still be heard, suppressed gunfire helps mitigate noise complaints from those who live near shooting ranges and hunting land.

#### ACCURACY

One of the most common problems for shooters is decreased accuracy caused by flinching in anticipation of the firearms discharge and recoil. By containing the explosion of the gunpowder at the muzzle, suppressors reduce recoil, and help decrease muzzle flinch. These benefits lead to improved accuracy, better shot placement, and more humane hunts.

## MYTHS ABOUT SUPPRESSORS ENHANCING CRIMINAL ACTIVITY\*

[T]here are some 900,000 registered silencers in this country, and they are rarely used in crimes.

Chicago has a lot of bloodshed, including 762 homicides and more than 3,500 shootings last year, but silencers figure in little or any of it. Anthony Guglielmi, a spokesman for the Chicago Police Department, told me, "We seldom recover silencers. Sometimes you may get a gun with a makeshift silencer, but even that is rare."

A report last year by the VPC cites a handful of shootings in which silencers were used. But the paucity of examples confirms that they are not of great interest to criminals. An earlier study by Paul A. Clark published in the *Western Criminology Review* found **only two federal court cases involving the use of a silencer in a murder between 1995 and 2005.**



He also unearthed eight cases in which "a silencer was actively used during commission of a crime but not used to physically injure anyone." That works out to one serious silencer-related crime per year, in a country that in 2005 had 16,740 homicides and 417,000 robberies.

If silencers were truly valuable to ordinary criminals, there would undoubtedly be a thriving black market and plenty of crimes committed with them. But the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives traced only 125 silencers in 2015—not all of which were connected to crimes. As Clark notes, a minimally clever miscreant can get the same noise reduction by wrapping his gun in a towel or pillow.

Any useful technology can be put to villainous ends. But the existing rule on silencers is a major hassle for the law-abiding and an irrelevance to criminals.

thank you,

George Pace

\*From: Steve Chapman, The Surprising Truth About Gun Silencers, Jan. 16, 2017,  
<https://reason.com/archives/2017/01/16/the-surprising-truth-about-gun-silencers/print>



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION  
(916) 446-2455 voice ▪ (703) 267-3976 fax  
[www.nraila.org](http://www.nraila.org)

STATE & LOCAL AFFAIRS DIVISION  
DANIEL REID, HAWAII STATE LIAISON

February 9, 2017

The Honorable Ryan Yamane  
Chair, House Committee on Water and Land  
Sent Via Email

Re: House Bill 1589 – SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Yamane:

On behalf of the Hawaii members of the National Rifle Association, we strongly support House Bill 1589. HB 1589 would allow the use of sound suppressors on firearms while taking wildlife. Currently, 40 states allow the use of suppressors while hunting.

Sound suppressors attached to firearms (often referred to as “silencers”) are an additional tool available to help protect from hearing damage, increase accuracy and safety, and reduce noise complaints from surrounding residents. While suppressors do not eliminate the sound of a firearm, they do reduce the muzzle report of a firearm in much the same way a muffler works on a car.

Hearing damage is common among individuals who have been hunting for an extended period of time due to “unprotected shooting”. Hunters need to be totally aware of their surroundings and the environment in which they are operating. They must be able to hear ambient noise leaving many to forego hearing protection. HB 1589 provides an opportunity for hunters to acquire and use a suppressor on their firearm, allowing the hunter to stay completely engaged in their surroundings while protecting their hearing and anyone who may be part of the hunting party. Suppressors also provide some measure of reduction of felt recoil, beneficial to all shooters but, especially, younger shooters and female shooters by increasing accuracy and safety.

Thank you for your attention and I ask that you support this important measure.

Cordially,

Daniel S. Reid  
State Liaison

**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 3:35 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mrs\_howl@excite.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Pamela Miedtke-Wolf	Save An Animal	Oppose	No

Comments: Please appose this bill. There are many reasons to not have silencers on guns: such as it makes hunting in illegal places.... near houses, near people, hunting during off seasons easier... It makes it easier to use against people too! Hunters can wear ear protection! We need to know if someone is shooting a gun nearby! Please appose this bill!

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## kong2 - Crystal

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:30 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** hawaii hunting association@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tom Lodge	hawaii hunting association	Support	No

Comments: Legal to own in 42 states Legal to hunt with in 40 states California and Hawaii are the only two states west of the Mississippi river that prohibit suppressors Purpose: Hearing Protection 15,000 hunters in HI Virtually no hunters wear hearing protection because they want to hear their surroundings. Every time trigger is pulled, the noise contributes to permanent hearing damage. A significant number of hunters ultimately end up wearing hearing aids. Noise induced hearing loss and tinnitus are the two most common shooting related injuries. Suppressors or Moderators reduce noise, not eliminate it. Suppressors reduce the noise of a gunshot by 20 – 35 decibels (dB), about the same as a high quality headset. Suppressors and Moderators operate under the same general principles as a muffler for your car. Sound levels (Hearing safe = 140 decibels) Hunting rifles: 160 – 180 decibels Suppressed: 125 – 145 decibels Handguns: 160 – 175 decibels Suppressed: 130 – 145 decibels .22 Long Rifle: 135 – 150 decibels Suppressed: 110 -130 decibels. About the quietest possible for a firearm is 110 dB. Common noises: Jackhammer: 109 decibels Ambulance Siren: 120 decibels Thank you!

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## kong2 - Crystal

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 12:06 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM  
**Attachments:** HB1589 .pages

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Committee on Water and Land Rep. Ryan Yamane, Chair Friday, February 10, 2017 Room 325 Hawai'i State Capitol Re: HB1589 Position: Oppose Chair Yamane and Members of the Committee: We strongly oppose HB 1589 for the following reasons~ The use of silencers may lead to more hunting close to homes and other illegal practices, such as hunting out of season or outside legal hours. The public safety issue is a compelling one- currently it is illegal for people to own a silencer; allowing hunters to procure and use suppressors will make it possible for more people, perhaps with evil intent, to acquire these dangerous products. The possible damage to hunters' ears is hardly sufficient reason to endanger the lives of the public. It is their choice to engage in a potentially dangerous sport with firearms. Please do not pass this bill. Mahalo! Cathy Goeggel President

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 12:59 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** matt@inquiredesign.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Matthew King	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a hunter and have to wear hearing protection while hunting. There are times when I am unable to hear my hunting partner because I am wearing hearing protection. A suppressor from my rifle would allow me to protect my hearing along with allowing me to communicate with my hunting partner easily. It would benefit me and those that value their hearing, by allowing suppressors to be purchased.

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 12:45 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** onederful100@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gavin Lohmeier	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB1589. sound suppressors are helpful in cutting down the noise of a firearm being fired. it helps save the hearing of those that are close by. it does not make a firearm any more dangerous in any way. it only helps the hearing of the owner and those that are close by.

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 12:34 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** kyleekiyuna@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kylee Kiyuna	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing to show my support of HB1589. Hunting is an age old sport and has been in my family since I can remember. Hearing protection is MANDATORY when shooting at the range, but this is not possible while hunting. For safety reasons, you must be able to hear what is happening in your surroundings as well as communicate with your companions. The use of a suppressor will be greatly valuable because the gunshot noise will be reduced by about 20-35 decibels. This will help prevent hunters from developing hearing problems. 42 states currently allow the use of suppressors while hunting. Hawaii needs to be among these states. Hunting maintains a balance in our environment. Let's help keep our hunter's safe by allowing them to use suppressors while participating in a sport that they love. Thank you for your consideration.

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 2:01 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** itsmeksn@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kerry Nagai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill. Because the use of ear plugs reduces their ability to hear the game animals, hunters don't wear ear plugs when they hunt. The use of suppressors would help keep hunters from losing their hearing. Suppressors reduce the sound level, they do not make the firearm silent. The majority of states, 40, allow the use of suppressors while hunting. Please support HB 1589 for the health of Hawaii's hunters.

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To: State Representatives

Feb 8, 2017

Subject: Support for HB 1589 regarding the use of suppressors for hunting

I strongly urge state legislators to join the legislators of the other 40 States already permitting suppressors for hunting and may I suggest, extend to shooting ranges. Suppressors are the hearing protection of the 21st century sportsman. Hawaii is one of 10 State which have not joined the other 40 States in recognizing the misconceptions about the benefits of suppressors.

Despite common misconceptions, mainly from movies, suppressors are not silent. They are simply mufflers for firearms. There are many benefits to using a suppressor, including:

**HEARING PROTECTION:** Noise induced hearing loss and tinnitus is two of the most common afflictions for recreational shooters and hunters. Everyone knows that gunfire is loud, but very few people understand the repercussions that shooting can have on their hearing until it's too late. Suppressors reduce the noise of a gunshot by an average of 20 – 35 dB, which is roughly the same as earplugs or earmuffs. By decreasing the overall sound signature, suppressors help to preserve the hearing of recreational shooters, hunters, and hunting dogs around the world.

**SAFER HUNTING:** Most hunters do not wear hearing protection in the field because they want to hear their surroundings. The trouble is, exposure to even a single unsuppressed gunshot can, and often does, lead to permanent hearing damage. Suppressors allow hunters to maintain full situational awareness, while still protecting their hearing. The result is a safer hunting experience for the hunter, and for those nearby.

**NOISE COMPLAINTS:** A great example is Hawaii Kai and Koko Head shooting range and frequent noise complaints. Although it can still be heard, suppressed gunfire helps mitigate noise complaints from those who live near shooting ranges and hunting land.

**ACCURACY:** Suppressors reduce recoil, and help decrease muzzle flinch. These benefits lead to improved accuracy, better shot placement, and more humane hunts.

Sincerely,  
Thomas Garcia  
(808) 366-9220  
[Garcia.a.thomas@gmail.com](mailto:Garcia.a.thomas@gmail.com)

**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 2:42 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** pitahui@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Philip Pearson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of HB 1589. Sound suppressors attached to firearms are a tool to help protect hearing. They don't actually silence the firearm, just reduce the noise to a safer level. Hearing protection is still advised and the need for bulky headsets can be address with smaller earplugs. Suppressors also help reduce noise complaints from neighbors and other enjoying the outdoors. Noise complaints are frequently used as an excuse to close hunting lands and gun ranges throughout the country.

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 3:07 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** judyg@djspec.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Judy Goo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill to allow suppressors while we hunt. It will protect our hearing and especially make private land owners happy when we hunt on private land.

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HB 1589 – Relating to Hunting Safety

Firearms; Noise Suppressors; Hunting

To all concerned,

I have been an active participant in most shooting sports for the majority of life. In most of those years, I have always kept safety as the highest priority, for myself and for those around me. House Bill 1589 goes towards providing safety in terms of allowing the use of an additional device to lessen the impact of discharging a firearm for sporting use. I stress the words “sporting use,” in particular because this is the issue at hand. The use of a suppressor for sporting purposes will allow sportsman to discharge their rifles and not impact the environment. Now the suppressors in this discussion should not be mistaken for those items made famous by spy novels. Elimination of the noise on public and private lands for sporting purposes can lead to a collaborative environment between sportsman and non-shooting public.

Also, the health benefits from the low noise will greatly affect those people that shoot firearms on a weekly basis. Other benefits of the use of suppressors can be detailed in the inherent increase in accuracy of that particular firearm. I am an avid shooter and hope to pass on the skills to my son and to his son in the future. House Bill 1589 will greatly increase our ability to live free and support our rights and privileges of the US Constitution and especially the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment.

In closing, I would like to fully acknowledge my support for this bill and ask for your consideration in moving House Bill 1589 forward so that it may be passed into law.

Very Respectfully,

Carl Danao

Hawaii Resident

91-1041 Puwalu Street

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

808-391-8758

**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 2:54 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** dean.shima@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dean Shimabukuro	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in favor of passage of HB 1589. I believe noise suppressors help with the accuracy and safety in the use of firearms as well as reduce noise concerns of those in nearby areas.

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 3:04 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** dgoo@djspec.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dan Goo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB1589. My family and I do a lot of hunting and it will assist in protecting our hearing. The perception of a silencer that it complete silences a gun shot is not true and is inaccurate. Please support this common sense bill. Retired Honolulu Police Detective Dan Goo

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 7:12 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mendezj@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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As a hunter who participates in a pig eradication program, I'm all too familiar with the intense blast generated by hunting rifles and shotguns, and can very likely attribute a slight hearing deficit to that activity. While I always had earplugs available, and used them whenever possible, there were times when a shot had to be fired (a charging pig, for example) without enough time to get my hearing protection in place.

Because of this, I am in full support of HB 1589.

As this bill notes, these noise suppression devices will not actually silence a firearm but, instead, bring down the peak noise level to a much less harmful point. A shot will still be heard at a distance. But there is a greatly reduced risk of permanent hearing damage to the person firing the weapon.

A bill has already been introduced in Congress (H.R.3799 - Hearing Protection Act of 2015) seeking to eliminate the the \$200 Federal transfer tax on suppressors. It's apparent that there are other states who are beginning to better understand and appreciate the importance of these noise suppression devices.

Hawaii's bill, if it becomes law, would help protect the hearing of hunters who help feed their families and communities.

Thank you for giving this matter thoughtful consideration.

Aloha,  
Dean Sensui

February 7, 2017

To:

COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Rep. Sam Satoru Kong, Vice Chair

My name is Bryan Buckingham and I am a resident of Kaneohe. I am employed by the DLNR and deal primarily with invasive wildlife issues. One of my main jobs is eradicating the invasive ungulates in order to protect the watershed and other natural resources.

My position relating to HB1589 is in strong support of it becoming law. As an advocate for conservation as well as for sporting purposes, this bill will support our activities while having many other positive effects for citizens of Hawaii, including citizens that are not primarily be effected by the bill.

Another reason that I strongly support HB1589 is for it health benefits to hunters. My job for the DLNR often includes the use of firearms to control wildlife. I can tell you from a firsthand perspective that in the moment, hearing protection often takes the back seat during a hunt. There is rarely time to secure hearing protection devices after game is spotted. This often leads to taking the shot without protection which can have immediate and long term hearing ramifications. This bill will allow hunters and conservationists to use firearms that have suppressed report. Thereby HB1589 will assist in the hearing protection of thousands of sporting enthusiasts and professionals alike.

I would like to thank the committee on water and land for hearing my testimony, as I could not make this meeting in person. I strongly support HB1589 for reasons of watershed protection and hunter health benefits and I hope that you will pass this bill to the next committee and vote in favor of it if/when it finds a vote.

Sincerely,

Bryan W Buckingham

bbucking@my.hpu.edu

**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 10:01 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** scottp@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Scott Pae	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a registered voter in favor of this bill. This bill will simply help protect the hearing of the hunter but also reduce noise pollution. Also, when hunting for pest control it will aid in the effort as other pests will not be scared off buy the noise of the shot.

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 10:22 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** da808rock@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jake Hanawahine	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill. I am a hunter & hearing devices in the field limit your ability to listen carefully to your surroundings. Suppressors are legal for hunting and in other countries. I would like to add that a legal hunter with suppressor should be able to sight in at a public range.

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Aloha,

I am writing to voice my support of HB1589 relating to hunting safety. I am a hunter and am fully aware of the points being made within this bill. I along with many of my fellow hunters do opt to hunt without ear protection due to the fact that it reduces our sense of hearing reducing our capabilities which can lead to us missing opportunities and potentially unsafe situations. As a result we accept the ramification of taking a shot without ear protection which naturally is that it's loud. The ability to add a noise suppressor to my hunting rifle would be beneficial to myself and other hunters allowing us to better protect our hearing without reducing our own senses in the field. These devices are safe when used properly and difficult to be acquired by those who should not have them in the first place. Please realize that in addition to any stipulations you make to acquire them within our state they already do require a process due to federal regulations. They are still regulated as a NFA item requiring individuals such as myself to voluntarily submit to a federal background check by the BATF and pay a \$200 tax for every device I wish to purchase. This detail already ensures that only law abiding citizens will normally be capable of purchasing a noise suppressing device. This federal step does not go away regardless of our own state law making it the minimum requirement to purchase these devices before any additional state regulations are enacted in regards to owning within our state. I am not against state level regulations on noise suppressors such as registration with the police department since we already do that for all our firearms anyway. Besides myself I believe our island communities stand to benefit from the passing of this bill and ask for your consideration in the matter.

Mahalo,

Chris Redeker

I support Bill HB1589 Firearms; Noise Suppressors; Hunting.

I like the idea that it's quiet and peaceful. You aren't bothering the surroundings. There's a better feeling when you aren't bothering the peace. It's nice to have that in the mountains, ranch, or private property. When you hear a gun going off, BANG, it's not peaceful anymore. For myself I want to be considerate of my surrounds and possible neighbors by not disturbing the peace while hunting. If we give the opportunity for people who want to go hunt these animals and put food on the table, smoke meat are a big part of my lifestyle and the culture of local people. Suppressors would also help in eradicating evasive species especially animals that are in herds or groups.

Here are pictures of a previous hunt that fed my family and co-workers.







I am in favor of HB 1589 and I am a licensed hunter # HE003913 (2017-140661H).

Ken Miyamoto

Aiea HI.

Email: [djkenace@gmail.com](mailto:djkenace@gmail.com)

## **SB 1589**

\_\_\_SB 1589 online testimony submission:

My name is Ryan H. Hironaka, I AM IN FAVOR OF SB1589. When I hunt Ive Never seen a person with ear protection, & there are a few reasons for this. 1. for general awareness of targeted game & motor vehicles. 2. Pigs cause tremendous damage of the environment by rooting. This rooting causes loosening of soil, the runoff carries down steam & covers the reef effectively killing the reef & habitat for fishes causing a domino effect. . A gun shot is between 140db-190db (@ 165db avg.) depending on the caliber. According to the NIH (National institute of health) a sudden sound at or above 120db will damage hearing (85db prolonged exposure). Modern hearing protection reduced sound @ 24db reduction. As a result of I have permanent high frequency hearing loss. I know if there was reduction of exposure levels my loss of hearing would certainly be reduced. In closing the passing of this SB1589 will have 3 major benefits. 1- it will help the environment by reducing the # of invasive species of pigs/boars. 2- This bill will reduce the hearing loss of hunters & #3- save the reefs & oceans. Please vote in support of this bill.

Ryan H Hironaka  
268 Mahimahi pl.  
Hon, Hi 96821

Jacob Holcomb  
Kaimuki  
jake@mailbox.org

I'd like to support the use of suppressors, especially after traveling to New Zealand and seeing how they actually encourage hunters to use them. It's considered polite to nearby people, doesn't scare the game as much, and really helps avoid unnecessary hearing damage. What would be great is if we could also be able to sight our weapons in at Koko Head range, since adding a few inches on to a barrel typically changes the velocity and other dynamics.

**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:40 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** tt676@twc.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Trevor Tamura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. Please, do take note of the decibel levels as described by NIOSH where 110 dB is the equivalent of a jackhammer. Suppressed gunfire typically ranges from approximately 110 dB to 140+ dB. A gunshot that is not suppressed is typically 160+ dB. In addition, please note that 40 other states allow for hunting with a suppressor. Thank you.

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:36 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** stevisu@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Steven Yip	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing to support HB1589. Suppressors cut the noise from a gunshot about 20-35 dbs which is roughly the same as wearing ear plugs or ear muffs. Suppressors are attributed to safer hunting because hunters often do not wear hearing protection so they can hear their surroundings and safely communicate with other hunters. They also can protect a hunting dog's hearing. Currently, suppressors are legal in 42 states and the number is constantly increasing. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Steven Yip

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:58 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** macsak@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
steven a kumasaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments: please support noise suppressors are required for hunting in much of europe

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:03 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mickeyminobe@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mickey Minobe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As an avid hunter I can honestly say it would be greatly beneficial for hunters and for the population control of invasive animals for the state to allow suppressors for hunting. While common belief is that it completely makes it silent it does not. It just brings the decibel level down to a safe level where it won't damage a hunters hearing. I have been hunting and shot a couple of animals and I couldn't hear for about 2 and a half weeks. I was scared I finally did enough damage to be completely deaf. The use of suppressors although not completely silent will also make getting shots on multiple invasive animals easier as they can't usually tell where the shot comes from, leaving them confused long enough to take more shots. However the biggest pro about suppressors will always be hunters hearing. I know some elderly hunters that would've loved to be able to use suppressors maybe they wouldn't be as deaf as they are now.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:15 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** rgklapp@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ron Klapperich	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this Measure because it's helpful to the hunters by increasing accuracy and not alarming the other wildlife in the area. Current firearm laws only allow the firearms to be used in specific areas so there's no additional danger to the public.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:41 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** sgtlmj@mac.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lance Johnston	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The public perception of "silencers" has been largely distorted by Hollywood which has portrayed firearm suppressors as the tools of assassins that magically defy the law of physics by making a firearm discharging completely silent. In reality suppressors reduce the report to a more ear-safe level. The bullet is still traveling faster than the speed of sound (sonic crack), and the action and report of the rifle is merely reduced, and not at all silenced. It would seem that a populated chain of islands that encourages hunting, (especially of invasive species) would encourage the use suppressors in order to make the sport less intrusive upon the residents and visitors.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:09 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** changemyoil66@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marcus Tanaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill because the loud release of gas from a rifle scares away the animal if I were to miss. With a sound suppressor, the animal won't know. Also be aware that suppressors in the movies are different from actual hunting. So do not let the media influence your decision and make you afraid of suppressors. The 2nd amendment states that the right to bear arms shall not be infringed upon. This is why on the federal level, suppressors are LEGAL, so why does Hawaii ban them?

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:09 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** matt@cscpahi.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Matt Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I encourage support of this bill for health and safety reasons. Further I would encourage this even be allowed at licensed shooting ranges for the same health and safety reasons. Responsible firearm users will abide by the rules. Any opposition to this bill on the grounds that it would allow those who would commit acts overlooks the obvious point that those who would commit illegal acts would do so anyway whether this bill became law or not.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:45 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mkhokoana@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mitchell K Hokoana	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, As a volunteer with the Maui DLNR to assist in game management, we are always under a thick microscope about the amount and level of the report our rifles produce. Also, we depend heavily on our hearing to track game and hear for other hunters in the field. With ear protection in or around our ears we lose the to most important trait needed to hunt safely in the area we may be in. With this new bill, it will allow hunters to depend on their key sense of hearing to track animals and hear nearby hunters. And at the very least reduce the level on report our surrounding communities may hear.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:58 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mauiarms@maui.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mark Genovese	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is a well thought out bill, please pass this one out.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:18 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** palisadeskid@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kevin Kacatin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with the hopes of its passage. "Suppressors" serve a non-criminal purpose by reducing substantial noise levels, especially with hunting ammunition allowing hunters young and old to enjoy their craft and reducing hearing damage. Should this bill pass, the responsible firearm owners/hunters will prove that "suppressors" are merely a tool utilized by responsible and law-abiding firearm owners and are not a tool for "assault weapons" as inaccurately depicted by Hollywood and media.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:29 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** davebrilliant@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Brilliant	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:06 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** jonwebsterabbott@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jon Abbott	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, In the interest of helping increase public safety, I support the passing of this measure. It will enable hunters to reduce the risk of hearing loss associated with exposure to the noise generated by firearm use. It will also increase hunter safety in the ability of hunters to hear more of their surroundings by no longer needing hearing protection. I urge you to pass this measure forthwith. Best Regards, Jon Abbott

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:13 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** lee.barnes007@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM  
**Attachments:** Suppress LB1.pdf

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My contact information is Work (808) 477-7703 Mobile (808) 343-1800

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:22 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** jonagustine\_lim@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jonagustine Lim	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for hearing this bill. I strongly support this and it will help protect our hearing when hunting.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:27 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** morrissp@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Pat	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly recommend passage of this measure to facilitate safer, less intrusive, and more cooperative hunting on the islands of Hawaii.

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**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mimiface@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Orr	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this badly needed bill with the amendment that "suppressors may be used while at a shooting range or target practice". These items are safety equipment needed to protect firearms users from harmful load noises while shooting. Many States already allow suppressors, Hawaii should be one of them. Michael Orr, NRA Range Safety Officer, Lahaina, HI

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:51 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** kmchugh@kirc.hawaii.gov  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB620 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB620**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelly McHugh	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 12:20 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** tom1.galli@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tom Galli	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is a positive move for the hunting community; however, provision should be included that allows hunters to use noise suppressors at public ranges. Adding a suppressor to a rifle changes its point of aim. To allow for ethical and safe hunting, hunters need to sight in, and practice with, their modified rifles.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 12:23 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** oldmanbru@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bruce F Braun	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 9:32 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** kennyk@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kenny Kwan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hearing is one of those things that you will never regain when lost. Hearing is very important to protect.

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 9:28 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** jkongzu53@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
James Kong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I would like in the language of the Bill, the inclusion for the use of suppressors at rifle ranges to protect the hearing of shooters there too. Rifles and handguns need to be zeroed in, with all the equipment to be used, in place. Also, take away the approving authority from the County Police Departments. If this is left in place, the Chief's of Police, will continue to disapprove of the installation of these suppressors on firearms.

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I support HB 1589 and wish to expand the acquisition and use to more than just hunting. Sound suppressors attached to firearms (less accurately called "silencers") are an additional tool available to help protect hearing, increase accuracy and safety, and reduce noise complaints by surrounding residents. While suppressors do not eliminate the sound of a firearm, they do reduce the muzzle report of a firearm, reducing the risk hearing damage. Additionally, suppressors help increase accuracy by reducing felt recoil and shot "flinch." Suppressors also help reduce noise complaints from neighbors, which are frequently used as an excuse to close hunting lands throughout the country. They are useful tools for pest control and can be used around poultry to kill rats and mongooses without affecting egg production, disturbing other livestock, or pets. Currently, 40 states allow the use of suppressors while hunting.

Jerry Yuen

1702 Dole St.

Honolulu, HI 96822

[j\\_teichi\\_y@hotmail.com](mailto:j_teichi_y@hotmail.com)

808-388-0206

**From:** Robert F. Kay, 3663 Lilinoe Place, Honolulu, HI 96816

**Contact info:** [rkay@fijiiguide.com](mailto:rkay@fijiiguide.com) 808 779 5443

**Submitted on:** February 9, 2017

**Testimony in support of HB 1589 Relating to Hunting Safety  
Submitted to: The Senate Committee on Water and Land (WTL), Conference  
Room #325**

Aloha Chair Yamane and Members of the Committee,

I support SB 1589. There are some very good reasons for this bill.

1. **First and foremost is noise suppression.** A constant issue with the nearby residents is the noise emanating from the Kokohead range. This is understandable. The noise level will most certainly diminish with the legalization of suppressors. Firearms equipped with silencers make for happier neighbors. And happy neighbors harbor more good will toward guns and gun owners.
2. **Health--sustaining your hearing.** According to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, "15 percent of Americans between the ages of 20 and 69 (26 million people) have high-frequency hearing loss due to exposure to noise at work or during leisure activities." This includes tinnitus, or acute ringing in the ears. Silencers decrease the decibel level of a supersonic firearm by 14 to 45 dB which means Hawaii gun owners will not have to be subject to this risk.
3. **Silencers are very rarely used in crime,** and there's no evidence that indicates they would be used more frequently if their regulations were removed.
4. Hawaii would be joining 41 other states to allow silencers, with Vermont and Minnesota being the latest to legalize their use.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Kay

As a Second Amendment supporter in Hawaii, I urge you to please support House Bill 1589.

HB 1589 would allow the use of sound suppressors while hunting in the state of Hawaii.

Currently, 40 states allow the use of suppressors while hunting. Sound suppressors attached to firearms (less accurately called "silencers") are an additional tool available to help protect hearing, increase accuracy and safety, and reduce noise complaints by surrounding residents. While suppressors do not eliminate the sound of a firearm, they do reduce the muzzle report of a firearm, reducing the risk hearing damage. Additionally, suppressors help increase accuracy by reducing felt recoil and shot "flinch." Suppressors also help reduce noise complaints from neighbors, which are frequently used as an excuse to close hunting lands throughout the country.

Once again, I urge you to please support HB 1589. Thank you.

Mahalo,

Jason T Wolford

**waltestimony**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:34 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** MustangCWO@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lou Collazo	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: PLEASE SUPPORT HAWAII BILL ( HB 1589 ): SUPPRESSOR USAGE FOR HUNTERS  
I strongly support this bill to improve the health of Hawaii's 158,000 hunters. Hunters cannot wear ear plugs to protect their hearing because they must be able to hear the game animals to be effective hunters. Because of this many hunters suffer from moderate to severe hearing loss. Suppressors " DO NOT" make hunting rifles and pistols silent. They merely lower the peak noise pressure from as high as 180 decibels to a much safer level of around 145 decibels. For a comparison, a jackhammer chipping away at concrete produces approximately 109 decibels, so 145 decibels is anything but silent. There are now 40 states that authorize their citizens to use suppressors while hunting. It is the right thing to do for Hawaii's hunters and those exposed to the report of firearms in hunting areas. The use of suppressors in crime is statistically insignificant. Please support HB 1589 for the health of our hunters.

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:31 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** gcarvalho@mlraonline.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
George D. Carvalho	Individual	Support	No

Comments: it is about time New Zealand has had it forever and everybody benefits

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James Grell  
59-546 Waihona Pl.  
Kamuela, HI  
96743  
(808) 783-0132  
[jamesgrell@gmail.com](mailto:jamesgrell@gmail.com)

RE: HB1589

To whom it may concern,

I would like to provide testimony in support of the legalization of sound suppressors in the state of Hawaii. They are a basic safety device designed to protect the hearing of users as well as diminish the amount of noise pollution produced by the firing of ammunition. Not only are these tools available throughout most of the USA, they are mandatory in much of Europe. Depictions in movies are largely inaccurate and the minimal amount of gun crime in the state is hardly justification for putting people's hearing at risk. Please pass this legislation for the benefit of residents who both use and don't use firearms.

It should be noted that on the Big Island there have been delays with building a public shooting range due to noise concerns on the part of the nearby resorts. While some folks using suppressors wouldn't change that, it's indicative of the value of reduced noise.

Thank you for your time and attention,

James Grell  
02/09/2017

**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 10:40 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mauiyouthsports@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bruce Keahi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB1589.

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February 9, 2017

Testimony in support of HB1589

Thank you for allowing testimony. The Relating To Hunting Safety Bill HB1589.

My name is Heather Barton and I am a private citizen, a school teacher and a parent. I urge you to support NB1589 Sound suppressors attached to firearms (less accurately called "silencers") are an additional tool available to help protect hearing, increase accuracy and safety, and reduce noise complaints by surrounding residents. While suppressors do not eliminate the sound of a firearm, they do reduce the muzzle report of a firearm, reducing the risk hearing damage; for example, a sound suppressor can reduce the peak noise pressure from 180 db to a safer 145 db. Additionally, suppressors help increase accuracy by reducing felt recoil and shot "flinch." Suppressors also help reduce noise complaints from neighbors, which are frequently used as an excuse to close hunting lands throughout the country. Currently, 40 states allow the use of suppressors while hunting.

Thank you for allowing testimony.

Heather Barton

**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 9:52 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** rglivinghi@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ronald G Livingston	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 8:57 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** akjshefe@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
aaron shefte	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I require and expect your support of bill HB1589. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 8:36 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** HGHAWAII@GMAIL.COM  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Harvey Gerwig	Hawaii Rifle Association	Support	Yes

Comments: The Hawaii Rifle Association and its thousands of hunter members **STRONGLY SUPPORT** this measure increase the safety of our hunters and their hearing health. This bill will enhance the choices available to hunters for hearing protection. It is important to recognize that suppressors **DO NOT** silence a firearm, they merely lessen the peak pressure wave to a safer level, which does not damage a hunter's ear drums. Please help Hawaii join the other ( 36 ) states that already have suppressor hunting allowed. Several other states are currently working on legislation to join those already allowing suppressed firearms for hunting. Thank you, Harvey Gerwig, President, Hawaii Rifle Association.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 8:22 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** ceruti@earthlink.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dr Marion Ceruti	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is about time the legislature supported the use of safety equipment while hunting and at the range. No logical arguments against this bill exist. Currently, some people need two forms of hearing protection - internal and external - while shooting at the range. It is perfectly idiotic to keep illegal safety devices that could prevent hearing loss. Moreover, these devices have never been shown to cause crime. Please kokua, vote Yes on HB 1598

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 8:21 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mauidad89@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Frank Koskey	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I think this is a great idea. Hearing protection for the hunter and noise reduction for all in the surrounding area.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 3:53 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** dbagusto@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dierl	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**PLEASE SUPPORT HAWAII BILL (HB 1589): SUPPRESSOR USAGE FOR HUNTERS**

I strongly support this bill to improve the health of Hawaii's 158,000 hunters. Hunters cannot wear ear plugs to protect their hearing because they must be able to hear the game animals to be effective hunters. Because of this many hunters suffer from moderate to severe hearing loss. Suppressors do not make hunting rifles and pistols silent. They merely lower the peak noise pressure from as high as 180 decibels to a much safer level of around 145 decibels. For a comparison, a jackhammer chipping away at concrete produces approximately 109 decibels, so 145 decibels is anything but silent.

There are now 40 states that authorize their citizens to use suppressors while hunting. It is the right thing to do for Hawaii's hunters and those exposed to the report of firearms in hunting areas. The use of suppressors in crime is statistically insignificant. Please support HB 1589 for the health of our hunters.

Respectfully,

Normand A Cote

**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:22 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** kbushido@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM  
**Attachments:** HB 1589 testimony.pages

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keith Kikkawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:46 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** tenxhi@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Darryl Y.C. Choy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support this bill. Many hunters have poor hearing since sound suppressors are not allowed. A hunter can't use ear pugs since sound is a critical part of hunting. Allowing suppressors would save many from hearing loss. This is a health issue that will be cured by passing this law.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:46 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** paul.bueltmann@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Paul Bueltmann	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha I support the use of sound suppressing devices for protection of our hearing. We should be freely able to use them like many other states and other countries. Mahalo

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:53 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** cmannsworld@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
christopher mann	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in favor of HB 1589, please pass it. Chris Mann 44-140 Nanamoana street Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744 808-234-4343 Thank you very much.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 6:04 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** a\_roberts\_84@yahoo.co.uk  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrew Namiki Roberts	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My Name is Andrew Namiki Roberts and I have been a resident in the state of Hawaii now for 10 years. I am testifying today in Support of HB1589, as an avid shooter and Hunter I am very wary of damage that could be caused to my hearing. Use of suppressors is encouraged in many European countries and has little to no effect on crime,

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 6:06 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mcchun@juno.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mark Chun	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill which will make for suppressed range noise at our state rifle range, quieter hunting and safer gun enthusiasts since it will increase accuracy.

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I would like to show support for HB1589 in regards for Hunting Safety. As an avid hunter this would be of great benefit to help protect hunters hearing. I do wear hearing protection but they are only so effective. The suppressor in combination with hearing protection would be more effective when used together. I would urge the committee to also allow suppressors to be used at the gun range so hunters can effectively sight in their hunting rifles.

James Grell  
59-546 Waihona Pl.  
Kamuela, HI  
96743  
(808) 783-0132  
[jamesgrell@gmail.com](mailto:jamesgrell@gmail.com)

RE: HB1589

To whom it may concern,

I would like to provide testimony in support of the legalization of sound suppressors in the state of Hawaii. They are a basic safety device designed to protect the hearing of users as well as diminish the amount of noise pollution produced by the firing of ammunition. Not only are these tools available throughout most of the USA, they are mandatory in much of Europe. Depictions in movies are largely inaccurate and the minimal amount of gun crime in the state is hardly justification for putting people's hearing at risk. Please pass this legislation for the benefit of residents who both use and don't use firearms.

It should be noted that on the Big Island there have been delays with building a public shooting range due to noise concerns on the part of the nearby resorts. While some folks using suppressors wouldn't change that, it's indicative of the value of reduced noise.

Thank you for your time and attention,

James Grell  
02/09/2017

**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 6:31 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** schick.jason.a@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jason Schick	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I urge all my congressmen/congresswomen, counsel members, senators, and the governor to support this measure. It not only serves the public by limiting annoyances of loud noises, but would benefit the hunters. Less hearing damage... Thank you for your time, Jason Schick

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**To:** State Representatives; YAMANE, CREAGAN,  
DECOITE, HAR, ITO, KONG, MCKELVEY, OSHIRO, SAY, TOKIOKA

**Subject:** Senate Bill 1589

**Date:** February 8, 2017

**From:** Wayne Niide

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 1589.

Currently, 40 states allow the use of suppressors while hunting. Sound suppressors attached to firearms (less accurately called "silencers") should be considered a necessity to reduce hearing damage. While sound suppressors **do not** eliminate the sound of a firearm, they do reduce the muzzle noise of a firearm. Sound suppressors also reduce noise which may annoy our neighbors (reduces complaints) which is frequently used as argument close hunting lands and open air ranges throughout the country.

Sound suppressors will be a beneficial "win-win" for those who are using a sound suppressor on their firearm(s) as well as our surrounding community.

Per the aforementioned, please support passage of Senate Bill 1589.

**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 6:35 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** bieniajohn@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John F. Bienia	Individual	Support	No

Comments: HB1589 would allow the use of suppressors while hunting in Hawaii! I support this bill.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:07 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** orrm002@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marlene Orr	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:13 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mike@saltwatersigns.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
mike comstock	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Suppressors are safety equipment and should be required by all hunters! Please pass this bill!

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**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:07 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** buddah1076@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jesse Lamos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Feb., 8, 2017

Kind members of our Hawaii legislature,

I ask you to support HB1589. As I get older I cherish what faculties I have remaining not the least of which is my hearing. I am also concerned for my 12-year-old granddaughter who has taken a distinct liking to spending time at the firing range and now is asking to go hunting with me. I would not like to think of the possibility of her loss of hearing. So I ask that this measure which would allow the use of suppressors receive your support and be passed on and made law.

Respectfully submitted,

John Moriki, Jr.

43 Alana Pl.

Makawao, HI 96768email:

[jmoriki@msn.com](mailto:jmoriki@msn.com)

## kong2 - Crystal

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:25 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** geli.bean@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linda Castro	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a Second Amendment supporter in Hawaii, I urge you to support House Bill 1589. HB 1589 would allow the use of sound suppressors while hunting in the state of Hawaii. Currently, 40 states allow the use of suppressors while hunting. Sound suppressors attached to firearms are an additional tool available to help protect hearing, increase accuracy and safety, and reduce noise complaints by surrounding residents. While suppressors do not eliminate the sound from a firearm, they do reduce the muzzle report of a firearm, reducing the risk of hearing damage. Additionally, suppressors help increase accuracy by reducing felt recoil and help reduce noise complaints from neighbors, which are oftentimes used as an excuse to close hunting lands throughout the country. Therefore, I urge you to support HB1589. Thank you.

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 12:08 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mongeona001@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Albert C Mongeon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Ladies and Gentlemen, Please tally my Strong Support of House Bill 1589. Your interest and support are greatly appreciated. Respectfully submitted, Albert C. Mongeon 301 Kailua Rd, Kailua, HI 96734, 808-261-6588

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**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:31 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** dandeknis@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Frank D Deknis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I ask that HB1589 be supported and approved as it has benefits to the hunters as well as the general population as experienced in 40 other states. Thank you.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:42 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** bkulbis@reagan.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brett Kulbis	Individual	Support	No

#### Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:45 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** jvanrp@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeremy Van	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a hunter I strongly support this bill. Suppressors are a valuable tool to protect ones hearing and promote safer hunting practices. Suppressors reduce hearing damage, and allows hunters to focus on their surroundings with all of their senses maximized. The use of hearing protection reduces ones ability to hear clearly. The ability to hear clearly while hunting, ensures that hunters are given the best opportunity to prevent any accidents. Another benefit is less disturbance to nearby communities, which will reduce noise complaints.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:49 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** daniel.fishter@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daniel Fishter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 11:25 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mike.wee@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael A. Wee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support this bill. However, it should be modified to allow suppressor use while engaged in ANY lawful firearm activity, not only while hunting.

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# GAY & ROBINSON, INC.

P.O. BOX 156 KAUMAKANI, HI 96747-0156  
Main Office Telephone: 1-808-335-3133

To Rep. Yamane Chairman, Water & Land

February 9, 2017

My name is Alan Robinson and I am Vice President and Ranch Manager of Gay & Robinson. I am testifying in favor of HB1589. Our company allows our employees to hunt on our property with proper licensing and the required hunting safety class. The property that they are allowed to hunt on is also our cattle pastures. Our primary goal is to have our cattle living in a calm environment and gun shots do not contribute to this goal. Cattle are very sensitive to noise and being able to hunt more silently would be beneficial to our operation.

I also agree with the safety to the hunter themselves as far as hearing loss is concerned. We have some long time employees that have been hunters for a long time and their hearing is very bad to the point that it affects their job performance. Shooting large caliber guns with muzzle breaks on them I am sure has contributed to their deafness.

The passing of this bill would also increase the efficiency of our hunters. While these hunters are out to feed their families it also helps to keep the population of pigs down. These pigs are very destructive to our pastures. Currently after one shot all animals are long gone. Hunters can be more effective if they are silent and the animals do not know they are there.

For the above reasons I support this bill

Sincerely

Alan Robinson

**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:56 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** rudi@rudikingdesign.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rudi King	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:00 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** ematias@me.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Matias Ezcurra	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I believe this will help preserve the hearing of hunters as well as preserve the peace while conducting pest control in the night time. Especially when use by licensed trained individuals.

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 10:10 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** davidnorris@me.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Norris	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in major support of HB1589. I am a NRA Certified Instructor and I teach a pistol safety class and also run an free outdoors club for teenagers to learn gun safety. These activities along with the regularly firearm hunting I do would greatly benefit from the ability to use sound suppressors. When huntinginf it is hard to always have time to put on hearing protection in time as animals regularly surprise me and I have to shoot quickly. I am worried that over time my hearing will start to be effected by all the shooting I do for work and to help my family have food on the table

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:02 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** dlucero5@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
dennis lucero	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:13 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** aaronkondo@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Aaron Kondo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:16 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** travis.barut@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
travis barut	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 10:06 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** heatherwalker8@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Heather Walker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As hunters out in the wilderness, it is essential to be able to hear our surrounding environment and respond to any potential dangers to ourselves or others. This also protects hearing and makes for less noise disturbance. Please pass this bill as this is legal in many other states.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:21 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** nealhorimoto@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Neal Horimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I'm not a hunter but have friends who are and would definitely benefit from this bill. In hunting, hearing your game is just as important as seeing it. Thank you

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:40 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** ryana@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ryan Arakawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill. Suggest expanding bill to allow suppressor use for target shooting at public ranges. Mahalo.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:41 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** refrey2001@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Richard Frey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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## Support Testimony for HB1589

To: COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Rep. Sam Satoru Kong, Vice Chair

Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Rep. Cindy Evans, Rep. Calvin K.Y. Say, Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Rep. Beth Fukumoto, Rep. Chris Lee, Committee Members

From: Dirck Sielken

92-709 Noho pono Street

Kapolei, HI 96707

Subject: Support of HB1589 RELATING TO HUNTING SAFETY

I fully support House Bill 1589 allowing the use of sound suppressor for firearms while hunting. This not only helps hunters but other wildlife that is not the intended game being hunted.

I would recommend this to also include "TARGET SHOOTING". This is mainly for humane reasons. While adding a sound suppressor adds length to the barrel which can increase its accuracy, it can change the impact location from a firearm that has been sighted at a target range without the sound suppressor. This could lead to a shot not hitting the direct intended spot for a humane kill of an animal, thus causing undue suffering. Allowing sound suppressors to be permitted at a range, this will allow hunters the ability to properly sight in a firearm and increasing the success of a on target shot for a quick humane kill of the animal.

Mahalo,



Dirck Sielken

## kong2 - Crystal

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:41 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** felinitous@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary James	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This will make it much harder for hikers and others to know where there is hunting going on so they can avoid the areas.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:56 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** louisprescott2@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Louis Prescott II	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, My name is Louis Prescott II and I support HB1589. Why would you want to own a suppressor for hunting? Some shooters fear the recoil and/or the noise of their firearms. A suppressor can cut down on flinching, or even stop the bad habit of closing your eyes before taking a shot. Another reason to use a suppressor is for hearing protection. How many hunters do you know who actually wear any hearing protection when they're hunting? As hunters out in the wilderness, it is essential to be able to hear our surrounding environment and respond to any potential dangers to ourselves or others. A suppressor also reduces the muzzle rise and recoil, and that means you can get back on target faster if you need to take another shot. Of course, suppressors work to your advantage if you're hunting or shooting in or near noise-sensitive areas. It's for these reasons that I am in favor of and support HB1589. Mahalo, Louis Prescott II 56-330 Olauniu Place Kahuku, HI 96731

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:59 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** donalddias@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Donald Dias	Individual	Support	No

Comments: A single gunshot averages between 140 and 190 dB. Hearing loss occurs above 85 dB, so a gunshot is roughly double that. Avid hunters in Hawaii exposed to multiple gunshots over time will inevitably suffer from accelerated hearing loss. Please support this bill. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 8:09 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mauka873@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Yvette Makahanaloa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My husband would love this, he love to go hunting.

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 8:06 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mauka873@msn.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brad Pocock	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a hunter is would be great. T Y

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**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:04 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** ramironoguerol@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ramiro Noguerol	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 8:05 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** sip@maui.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jamie Arnold	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. Suppressors are a safety device and should be used by hunters. They do not disturb adjacent properties Please pass this bill.

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**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:53 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** gadgetman28@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ryan nelson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I believe it is our right as American citizens not to have our second amendment rights limited. Including this one and not limited to open carry as well. As far as I'm concerned, we as Americans shouldn't be limited on these items as long as we are law abiding citizens. We put mufflers on cars to reduce noise pollution, why not on guns.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:55 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** alohacrawla@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
justin bajadali	Individual	Support	No

#### Comments:

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Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Representative Sam Kong, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water & Land

Todd Yukutake  
(808) 255-3066  
toddyukutake@gmail.com

February 8, 2017

#### Support HB No. 1589 Relating to Hunting Safety

I am a firearm enthusiast and a new hunter. Using a suppressor for hunting is a great idea and is commonly used in other states and countries. 42 States allow the possession of suppressors. 40 States allow them to be used for hunting. Suppressors do protect hearing as hunters do not wear hearing protection (ear muffs, ear plugs, etc) so they can listen for sounds from animals.

As a retired military servicemember, I deal with tinnitus (permanent ringing in the ears) daily due to past use of firearms and explosives during training where ear protection is not practical. I believe suppressors will help hunters avoid hearing loss and will also promote more hunting and conservation.

Todd Yukutake

**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:22 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** sawamotom001@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael W Sawamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: A number of European countries - including England - allow the use of silencers while shooting. To not use a silencer is often considered impolite as the noise of gunfire can be a disturbance to other people. I urge you to support this bill.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:34 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** kabel.g@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
kabel gebeke	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**waltestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 7:13 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** theoneandonlycanon@juno.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
canon mcgarry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill would make a dramatic positive significance in hunting on Maui. The state hunting land here is few and far between and on top of that the game animals "know" to avoid it, due to all the muzzle blast. With the use of sound suppressors while hunting it will help significantly with the game animals staying in the legal hunting areas. This will help Maui in several ways, first it will help feed families (such as mine). Second it will help keep the "pest" population down, as Maui's game animals are destroying lots of crops and land. Third, being able to use a sound suppressor while hunting will allow hunters to hunt without hearing protection in our ears. Hunting with earplugs in eliminates one of our senses, thus we don't do it. And then when we see a game animal, often times we don't have the luxury of time to put in hearing protection. Thus we fire without and you can guess how that goes. There are other ways that this would positively affect Maui such as less nuisance to hikers/people enjoying the land/other hunters. Much less nuisance to neighbors who live on the edge of the state hunting land. Please approve this bill for vote, I believe around 40 other states already have a similar type of law.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:45 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** shreda58@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Aaron Asuncion	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:47 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** nhtakara@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nicholas H Takara	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Honorable Gentlemen and Ladies, I support this bill 100%. I have shot in other states that have allowed the use of sound suppressors and let me say that the difference is like night and day. I understand the concern about the potential issues that Hollywood movies have instilled in the general public, but I'd like to state that the difference in the amount of sound produced by the firearm does not get completely eradicated. It will help out our hunters by conserving their hearing tremendously, which could potentially be costly over time, versus a preventative device that they can use now. Please vote in favor of passing this bill. R/S N H Takara

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**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 1:02 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** kaneohegs@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daniel Oshima	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill HB1589; hunting with suppressors - it preserves vital hearing of hunters by reducing noise levels of hunting rifles and handguns. Sound suppressors lower decibels of firearms but do not make them silent.

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**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 6:49 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** Packman96793@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Skylar Decker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the use of suppressors for hunting.

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## waltestimony

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**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** campodpi@hawaiiintel.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gary Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support House Bill 1589, sponsored by Representative Ryan Yamane (D-37). This legislation would allow the use of sound suppressors while hunting in the state of Hawaii. Currently, 40 states allow the use of suppressors while hunting. Sound suppressors attached to firearms (less accurately called "silencers") are an additional tool available to help protect hearing, increase accuracy and safety, and reduce noise complaints by surrounding residents. While suppressors do not eliminate the sound of a firearm, they do reduce the muzzle report of a firearm, reducing the risk hearing damage. Additionally, suppressors help increase accuracy by reducing felt recoil and shot "flinch." Suppressors also help reduce noise complaints from neighbors, which are frequently used as an excuse to close hunting lands throughout the country. Please support this bill for Hawaiian hunters. Thank you Sincerely Gary Smith

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To: State Representatives

Feb 8, 2017

Subject: Support for HB 1589 regarding the use of suppressors for hunting

I strongly urge state legislators to join the legislators of the other 40 States already permitting suppressors for hunting and may I suggest, extend to shooting ranges. Suppressors are the hearing protection of the 21st century sportsman. Hawaii is one of 10 State which have not joined the other 40 States in recognizing the misconceptions about the benefits of suppressors.

Despite common misconceptions, mainly from movies, suppressors are not silent. They are simply mufflers for firearms. There are many benefits to using a suppressor, including:

**HEARING PROTECTION:** Noise induced hearing loss and tinnitus is two of the most common afflictions for recreational shooters and hunters. Everyone knows that gunfire is loud, but very few people understand the repercussions that shooting can have on their hearing until it's too late. Suppressors reduce the noise of a gunshot by an average of 20 – 35 dB, which is roughly the same as earplugs or earmuffs. By decreasing the overall sound signature, suppressors help to preserve the hearing of recreational shooters, hunters, and hunting dogs around the world.

**SAFER HUNTING:** Most hunters do not wear hearing protection in the field because they want to hear their surroundings. The trouble is, exposure to even a single unsuppressed gunshot can, and often does, lead to permanent hearing damage. Suppressors allow hunters to maintain full situational awareness, while still protecting their hearing. The result is a safer hunting experience for the hunter, and for those nearby.

**NOISE COMPLAINTS:** A great example is Hawaii Kai and Koko Head shooting range and frequent noise complaints. Although it can still be heard, suppressed gunfire helps mitigate noise complaints from those who live near shooting ranges and hunting land.

**ACCURACY:** Suppressors reduce recoil, and help decrease muzzle flinch. These benefits lead to improved accuracy, better shot placement, and more humane hunts.

Sincerely,

Kurt F. Taguma

## waltestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 2:38 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** austin@cwcvegas.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### HB1589

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Austin White	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Senators, Forty-two other states allow private citizens to own suppressors and forty states allow the use of suppressors while hunting and there is no legitimate reason for limiting their use in Hawaii. Many states throughout the 1940's and 1950's banned or made suppressors illegal, with no legitimate justification, except that, at the time, Hollywood movies made suppressors, also called "silencers," synonymous with "machine guns," assassins and alcohol prohibition days. While they do not eliminate or silence the sound of a firearm, suppressors do reduce the muzzle report of the gun much in the same way that a muffler reduces exhaust noise from a car or truck. There are numerous benefits associated with the use of suppressors, including reduced noise pollution, increased accuracy due to reduced recoil and muzzle blast, and protection from hearing damage. From the American Suppressor Association: "HEARING PROTECTION Noise induced hearing loss and tinnitus are two of the most common afflictions for recreational shooters and hunters. Everyone knows that gunfire is loud, but very few people understand the repercussions that shooting can have on their hearing until it's too late. Suppressors reduce the noise of a gunshot by an average of 20 – 35 dB, which is roughly the same as earplugs or earmuffs. By decreasing the overall sound signature, suppressors help to preserve the hearing of recreational shooters, hunters, and hunting dogs around the world. SAFER HUNTING Most hunters do not wear hearing protection in the field because they want to hear their surroundings. The trouble is, exposure to even a single unsuppressed gunshot can, and often does, lead to permanent hearing damage. Suppressors allow hunters to maintain full situational awareness, while still protecting their hearing. The result is a safer hunting experience for the hunter, and for those nearby. NOISE COMPLAINTS As urban developments advance into rural areas, shooting ranges and hunting preserves across the country are being closed due to noise complaints. Although it can still be heard, suppressed gunfire helps mitigate noise complaints from those who live near shooting ranges and hunting land. ACCURACY One of the most common problems for shooters is decreased accuracy caused by flinching in anticipation of the firearms discharge and recoil. By containing the explosion of the gunpowder at the muzzle, suppressors reduce recoil, and help decrease muzzle flinch. These benefits lead to improved accuracy, better shot placement, and more humane hunts." As of 2014, there were no known poaching incidents using a firearm suppressor that is registered under the National Firearms Act (NFA) of 1934, which is a branch of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE). Those who claim that hunters who use suppressors to lower the sound will somehow become poachers or violate game limits are only exposing their bias and lack of understanding of the issue. Again, the majority of states allow hunting with suppressors and poaching with registered sound-suppressing devices simply doesn't happen. I am compelled to question the ethics of any hunter or hunting groups who disparage



the character of other law-abiding hunters by using such arguments — since most hunters would never contemplate such illegal activity. Do these same opponents of suppressors claim that allowing archers to hunt with bows enables or facilitates poaching or the taking of illegal limits? After all, arrows are much more quiet than a suppressed firearm. In fact, arrows are virtually silent while suppressors are not. Just as opponents of compound bows and crossbows tried to paint them as tools of evil intent, time has proven them just as wrong as they are now about suppressors. Increased use of suppressors will help to eliminate noise complaints, which have been used more frequently as an excuse to close shooting ranges, informal shooting areas and hunting lands throughout the country. And using firearm suppressors to lower noise is not only logical but it is effective in protecting hunters' hearing and increasing accuracy. It is an appropriate use of technology. I support the use of firearm suppressors for hunting. I urge your support in removing this ban on hunting with suppressors from the outdated regulation. Sincerely, Austin White

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HB1589

Got this from a friend

PLEASE SUPPORT HAWAII BILL ( HB 1589 ): SUPPRESSOR USAGE FOR HUNTERS

I strongly support this bill to improve the health of Hawaii's 158,000 hunters.

Hunters cannot wear ear plugs to protect their hearing because they must be able to hear the game animals to be effective hunters. Because of this many hunters suffer from moderate to severe hearing loss.

Suppressors " DO NOT" make hunting rifles and pistols silent. They merely lower the peak noise pressure from as high as 180 decibels to a much safer level of around 145 decibels. For a comparison, a jackhammer chipping away at concrete produces approximately 109 decibels, so 145 decibels is anything but silent.

There are now 40 states that authorize their citizens to use suppressors while hunting. It is the right thing to do for Hawaii's hunters and those exposed to the report of firearms in hunting areas.

The use of suppressors in crime is statistically insignificant.

Please support HB 1589 for the health of our hunters.

I myself am not a hunter, but who used to go out to Kokohead Shooting Complex on Sundays would hope this bill extends beyond just for hunting. Because of the gunshots can be heard from from Kokohead to places like Hanuama Bay and surrounding areas.

Furthermore its not easily to acquire a suppressor(unless that change) as it require a \$200 deposit tax stamp and registered for each suppressor through the ATF. Also a waiting period of 6 months to a years for each suppressor. Very strict standards and any individual do not follow those guidelines face severe federal penalties.

thank u tony huynh

Shari H. Ishii  
94-208 Anapau Place  
Waipahu, HI 96797

February 9, 2017

House of Representatives; 29<sup>th</sup> Legislature  
Regular Session of 2017

Dear Sirs & Madams,

I am writing to present testimony on House Bill 1589. As a DLNR Hunter's Education graduate, certified NRA handgun instructor & Range Safety Officer, member of the National Rifle Association, Hawaii Rifle Association, and United States Practical Shooting Association/IPSC, I feel it is vital for this bill to pass.

Although I have only been involved in the shooting community for the past 3 years, I have documented a 40% hearing loss in one year and about 20% in the other. Whether I am involved in a competition, instruction or practice, my safety equipment always consists of: eye protection, a billed cap, long sleeve shirt, long pants, boots, in-ear sonic protectors and ear-muffs. I cannot afford to lose any more hearing loss. I am 49 years old, teach sixth grade and manage a spa part-time. I need to be able to hear what the students, parents, staff and clients are saying without having to constantly ask, "I'm sorry, can you please repeat that?!" as I lean in with my better ear.

Also, as a recent graduate of DLNR's Hunter's Education class, valuable insight was gained as to the minute sounds the hunter must be aware of to warrant a safe hunt for all involved. The cracks of twigs, various calls/whistles, warning sounds and animal footsteps are a few that would alert hunters as to activity in the area. If a hunter is wearing ear protection, these faint sounds could be missed and may prove to be detrimental.

The use of firearm noise suppressors will ensure that the hearing health/ability of hunters, competitors, instructors and range safety officers would be just that, Healthy. I may be of the, "Older" end of the spectrum, but I am very active and plan to be that way. I would like to keep the level of hearing that I currently have (although diminished). By passing House Bill 1589, the quality of hearing life I could enjoy would surely be prolonged!

Thank you for your time, attention and support in this matter! I urge you to support the passing of House Bill 1589!

Sincerely,

Shari H. Ishii

Testimony on HB1589

In Support

WAL on Friday, 02-10-17 9:00AM in House conference room 325.

Hon. Chair, Vice Chair, Members,

Suppressors are commonly used in Europe, sometimes required, and shooting without one is considered rude.

The plastic corrugated eyebrow extended over the firing line at Koko Head rifle range, placed by the City to discourage pointing guns over Koko Head Crater rim, reflects sound behind the line such that hearing protection is now necessary in the parking lot. Earmuffs over ear plugs are required and still the noise level when the range is in use is quite high. Would you consider an amendment allowing suppressors at shooting ranges?

Suppressors significantly alter the impact point of rifle bullets. It's unethical to take shots at game animals unless your rifle is properly sighted before your hunt.

All Hawaii hunting licenses expire annually June 30. I don't renew mine until I start planning my next hunt, and I think most hunters do the same. Could the bill be amended to allow possession of a current license to acquire, transport, sell, or use a suppressor, but a lapsed hunting license would suffice for storing one lawfully?

To: State Representatives

Feb 8, 2017

Subject: Support for HB 1589 regarding the use of suppressors for hunting

I strongly urge state legislators to join the legislators of the other 40 States already permitting suppressors for hunting and may I suggest, extend to shooting ranges. Suppressors are the hearing protection of the 21st century sportsman. Hawaii is one of 10 State which have not joined the other 40 States in recognizing the misconceptions about the benefits of suppressors.

Despite common misconceptions, mainly from movies, suppressors are not silent. They are simply mufflers for firearms. There are many benefits to using a suppressor, including:

**HEARING PROTECTION:** Noise induced hearing loss and tinnitus is two of the most common afflictions for recreational shooters and hunters. Everyone knows that gunfire is loud, but very few people understand the repercussions that shooting can have on their hearing until it's too late. Suppressors reduce the noise of a gunshot by an average of 20 – 35 dB, which is roughly the same as earplugs or earmuffs. By decreasing the overall sound signature, suppressors help to preserve the hearing of recreational shooters, hunters, and hunting dogs around the world.

**SAFER HUNTING:** Most hunters do not wear hearing protection in the field because they want to hear their surroundings. The trouble is, exposure to even a single unsuppressed gunshot can, and often does, lead to permanent hearing damage. Suppressors allow hunters to maintain full situational awareness, while still protecting their hearing. The result is a safer hunting experience for the hunter, and for those nearby.

**NOISE COMPLAINTS:** A great example is Hawaii Kai and Koko Head shooting range and frequent noise complaints. Although it can still be heard, suppressed gunfire helps mitigate noise complaints from those who live near shooting ranges and hunting land.

**ACCURACY:** Suppressors reduce recoil, and help decrease muzzle flinch. These benefits lead to improved accuracy, better shot placement, and more humane hunts.

Sincerely,



To: State Representatives

Feb 8, 2017

Subject: Support for HB 1589 regarding the use of suppressors for hunting

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**SAFER HUNTING:** Most hunters do not wear hearing protection in the field because they want to hear their surroundings. The trouble is, exposure to even a single unsuppressed gunshot can, and often does, lead to permanent hearing damage. Suppressors allow hunters to maintain full situational awareness, while still protecting their hearing. The result is a safer hunting experience for the hunter, and for those nearby.

**NOISE COMPLAINTS:** A great example is Hawaii Kai and Koko Head shooting range and frequent noise complaints. Although it can still be heard, suppressed gunfire helps mitigate noise complaints from those who live near shooting ranges and hunting land.

**ACCURACY:** Suppressors reduce recoil, and help decrease muzzle flinch. These benefits lead to improved accuracy, better shot placement, and more humane hunts.

Sincerely,

Sheldon Miyakado

## kong2 - Crystal

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:09 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** b.leong1851@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brandon Allen Kainoa Leong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. I am writing today to support HB 1589. As an avid hunter and shooter hearing protection is a big concern for us. While hunting most hunters will forego hearing protection in order to be able to hear the game animals when they are in close proximity to them. What a suppressor will do is drop the 145+ dB level that is created when a gun is fired down to a level that is more acceptable according to OSHA standards. The suppressor will drop the dB level by 15-45 dB making the levels to about 100-115 dB. At the 115 dB level that is similar to the dB levels of a chain saw or rock concert. What a suppressor will not do is completely remove the sound of the gunfire as depicted in movies. If HB 1589 is passed I would suggest that you add a provision to give the hunter the opportunity to use the suppressor while at the public shooting range in order to sight in his gun. Reason for this is that in the market today there are many ammunition manufacturers as well as firearms manufacturers. Every gun and cartridge are different and when you add a suppressor to the mix you add another variable to the equation. Some rifles prefer ammunition from different manufacturers over others and will print on the target dramatically from manufacturer to manufacturer. When you add a suppressor to the mix it changes the pressures created by the action of firing the gun. This will also change how the bullet prints on the target and must be verified before going out to the field to hunt. Thank you for your time, Brandon Leong

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## kong2 - Crystal

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:20 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** yg8xp67b@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
William Carroll	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hi, i am in support of allowing firearms suppressors for hunting purposes. this protects the ears' hearing, and helps prevent the onset of tinnitus, permanent hearing damage. it also reduces noise pollution for those living in rural areas. many states on the mainland already allow this, and it has not resulted in a crime wave of assassins using silencers, as Hollywood would have you believe. please support this bill. sincerely, William Carroll

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:27 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** mamalukino@msn.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Riley	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Currently, 40 states allow the use of suppressors while hunting. Sound suppressors attached to firearms (less accurately called "silencers") are an additional tool available to help protect hearing, increase accuracy and safety, and reduce noise complaints by surrounding residents. While suppressors do not eliminate the sound of a firearm, they do reduce the muzzle report of a firearm, reducing the risk hearing damage. Additionally, suppressors help increase accuracy by reducing felt recoil and shot "flinch." Suppressors also help reduce noise complaints from neighbors, which are frequently used as an excuse to close hunting lands throughout the country. Suppressors are virtually unrestricted in many countries that have more restrictive gun laws than the US due to the fact that suppressors add a safety and health factor to the shooting sports, both to shooter and observer.

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**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** thebowen@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bowen Dickinson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This law will benefit hunters and others within hearing range, not criminals, and should be passed.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 2:07 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** gregf@haleakalaranch.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gregory Friel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: State Representatives

Feb 8, 2017

Subject: Support for HB 1589 regarding the use of suppressors for hunting

I strongly urge state legislators to join the legislators of the other 40 States already permitting suppressors for hunting and may I suggest, extend to shooting ranges. Suppressors are the hearing protection of the 21st century sportsman. Hawaii is one of 10 State which have not joined the other 40 States in recognizing the misconceptions about the benefits of suppressors.

Despite common misconceptions, mainly from movies, suppressors are not silent. They are simply mufflers for firearms. There are many benefits to using a suppressor, including:

**HEARING PROTECTION:** Noise induced hearing loss and tinnitus are two of the most common afflictions for recreational shooters and hunters. Everyone knows that gunfire is loud, but very few people understand the repercussions that shooting can have on their hearing until it's too late. Suppressors reduce the noise of a gunshot by an average of 20 – 35 dB, which is roughly the same as earplugs or earmuffs. By decreasing the overall sound signature, suppressors help to preserve the hearing of recreational shooters, hunters, and hunting dogs around the world.

**SAFER HUNTING:** Most hunters do not wear hearing protection in the field because they want to hear their surroundings. The trouble is, exposure to even a single unsuppressed gunshot can, and often does, lead to permanent hearing damage. Suppressors allow hunters to maintain full situational awareness, while still protecting their hearing. The result is a safer hunting experience for the hunter, and for those nearby.

**NOISE COMPLAINTS:** A great example is Hawaii Kai and Koko Head shooting range and frequent noise complaints. Although it can still be heard, suppressed gunfire helps mitigate noise complaints from those who live near shooting ranges and hunting land.

**ACCURACY:** Suppressors reduce recoil, and help decrease muzzle flinch. These benefits lead to improved accuracy, better shot placement, and more humane hunts.

Sincerely,



Dan Masumoto  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744  
Email: DMasumoto@juno.com

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:07 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** bisaacso@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian Isaacson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The prohibition on silencers is based on a fantasy and keeps hunters and shooters from taking a significant precaution to protect their hearing. This bill should be amended to make silencers legal for any lawful use in Hawaii, not just for hunters, in line with the national trend for silencer (actually suppressor) legalization.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:51 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** kimo501999@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
James Revells	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am strongly in favor of HB1589

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 8:52 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** kegiraud@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keanu Giraud	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a responsible and law-abiding hunter and gun owner, I fully support HB1589 as it not only protects myself from hearing damage caused by firearms but others around me. As said in HB1589 suppressors do not "silence" a firearm but rather reduce the decibels to a more manageable level. Thank you.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 10:52 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** jjhan808@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

### **HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jacob Han	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Yamane and members of the Committee on Water and Land, I am in strong support of HB1589. It is a well written Bill. As a lifelong hunter I feel that allowing the use of noise suppressors is a common sense health and safety issue. Discharging a firearm just once, particularly larger caliber hunting rifles, can result in lifelong hearing loss. However, using hearing protection while hunting is impractical as it reduces the ability to hear game and other noises that are critical. There is really no logical reason to completely restrict the use of noise suppressors as it simply reduces dangerous levels of noise. Contrary to what some people think, they do not completely eliminate noise as seen in movies. Discharging a firearm will still be clearly heard, just at much safer and reasonable sound levels. I would also suggest that the bill be slightly revised do include noise suppressor use at shooting ranges. Not only would that make shooting ranges safer, but it would also allow hunters to test and "sight in" their equipment in a controlled environment prior to actually engaging in hunting activities. Once again, I humbly urge you to support this bill. Thank you, Jacob Han

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 4:48 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** ccm808@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christin Matsushige	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Legislators: Please oppose this bill which would allow hunters to use silencers or noise suppression devices on their firearms. People or lost pets could accidentally be in harms way because they have not heard firearm sounds that would alert them to potential danger in an area. Thank you for opposing this bill.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2017 4:28 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** stdecker@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Silas Decker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the use of suppressors for hunting.

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**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2017 4:27 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** ehkaneshiro@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/10/2017  
Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eric Kaneshiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 10:18 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** greenroom.o@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jacob Sprenger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 9:56 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** cvaldez001@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cory Lee Valdez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 9:52 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** apolonio.dulatre@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Apolonio Dulatre	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 9:47 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** csharuki@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
CRAIG HARUKI	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Members of the House Water and Land Committee, I would like to express my support in favor of HB1589. As a life long responsible citizen and sportsman hunter, this bill will allow us to hunt with minimum damage to our hearing and minimal impact to others around us. It is already allowed in 40 states. Hawaii laws on many things reference what is already accepted in the mainland in decision making and this bill should be no exception. Thank you, Craig Haruki

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**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** dctactical@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dwayne Lim	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill to prevent noise-induced hearing loss secondary to recreational firearm noise exposure.

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**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 9:08 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** surfgeorge@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM  
**Attachments:** .~lock.letterhead testimony HB 1589 V2 BATFE whitepaper excerpt suppressors hunting 02 09 17 .odt#

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
George Pace	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 8:39 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** heaviescc@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM



**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brendon Heal	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. Firearm suppressors should be considered a safety item and not be illegal, just as ear and eye protection is a safety item. I recommend that suppressors be legalized for all aspects of the shooting sports and hunting. One must be able to zero a firearm with a suppressor attached for humane harvest of animals, as they will change the point of impact on the firearm. Firearm suppressors do not "silence" a firearm, the device only bring the report of the firearm down to a safer level. Therefore, the law of this state, that outright ban suppressors, is not reasonable in use or effect. Thank you for your consideration. Please support this bill with the additions of applying the use of suppressors to all aspects of the shooting sports and hunting. Brendon Heal

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2017 6:26 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** koryohly@outlook.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kory Ohly	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this bill which will give hunters the option of using a suppressor to reduce the loudness of their firearms. The loud report of a firearm can damage your hearing, which is why people wear earplugs or similar hearing protection devices when shooting. But in order to hear their fellow hunters, as well as listen for sounds of game, hunters sometimes choose not to wear ear plugs, or they wear ear plugs with a lower noise reduction level. It would be great to have the option of using a suppressor to protect their hearing and make hunting more comfortable. Using a suppressor would also make the gunfire less bothersome to other people within hearing range. Thank-you!

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House Bill 1589

I'm in support for this bill for the following reasons. This state prides itself in being progressive however we are behind of the curve in the matter of hearing protection. OSHA has already stated, employers must protect their employees of noise levels above 85 dB (decibels). At 85 dB hearing lost is permanent. A normal human conversational speech is 76 dB and a person speaking loudly is at 82 dB. Any noise over 140 dB is the threshold of pain. A gun shot is measured around 167 dB which is almost twice the level causing permanent hearing lost.

According to NIOSH (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) A Pregnant women's fetus are very susceptible to loud noise.

- Increased noise levels can cause stress. This can cause changes in a pregnant woman's body that can affect her developing baby.
- Sound can travel through your body and reach your baby. Although this sound will be muffled in the womb, very loud noises may still be able to damage your baby's hearing.
- Hearing protectors (ear plugs or earmuffs) can protect your hearing, but if you're pregnant the only way to protect your baby's hearing is to stay away from the loud noise as much as possible.

I live 3 miles from the Kokohead Shooting complex (which is our only public shooting range) and one can hear the gunfire during the week days, weekends and nights (when the police are doing night shoots). Firearms with suppressors used at the range would go a long way in reducing noise to the neighborhood residents and making it a healthy environment.

As shooters we can use ear muffs and ear plugs to protect ourselves. However the noise we generate radiates from our firearm and harms others who are not protected. The use of suppressor on a firearm would lower the noise level to a safe level. It will not make a firearm Hollywood silent. There still will be a report but like a car/motorcycle muffler it reduces the exhaust noise to a safe level for everyone

There would be no cost to the State of Hawaii and local government by passing this Bill as they do not need to put any resources (manpower and money) into control and management of the sale and ownership of suppressors.

This because, Suppressors are controlled by the Federal BATF (Bureau of Tobacco and Firearms) The NFA (National Firearms Act ) Branch is responsible for collecting fingerprints, taxes, background check and either granting or declining the applications for a suppressor.

Technology in the use of noise suppressors can help us preserve hearing for Hawaii's future generations, It's a little late for me, being retired LEO, a hunter and competition shooter over 48 years. We should embrace the technology to protect improve our hearing health.

V/r

Michael M. Fujioka

Email: [mice@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:mice@hawaiiantel.net)

Ph: 808-389-5677

**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 7:33 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** yomau808@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**LATE**

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Yolanda Mau-Harding	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 7:23 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** carlo.barbasa@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carlo Barbasa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 7:02 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** hksacher@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*

**LATE**

**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Heiko Sacher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 6:56 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** Clearview808@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM\*



**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stuart Beechel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**kong2 - Crystal**

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**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 6:13 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** carl\_jellings@yahoo.com  
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**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carl Matthew Jellings	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Anyone who has fired a rifle knows the large amount of decibels it creates, using a suppressor would be incredibly beneficial to all in the hunting/shooting community

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**LATE**

Eric Davis  
P.O. Box 6709  
Ocean View Hawaii 96737

I support HB1589 because having the ability to utilize suppressors for hunting has many benefits.

Hunters will be able to save their hearing that can possibly be damaged because they cannot afford custom made hearing protection. The use of a suppressor also makes the hunter a better neighbor to others because the sound of a discharged firearm does not travel for miles, disturbing people enjoying different areas of the wilderness.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Eric Davis

**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2017 7:08 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** limd002@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1589 on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM



**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelly Lim	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill to prevent noise-induced hearing loss secondary to recreational firearm noise exposure.

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**kong2 - Crystal**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2017 7:35 AM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** dylanarm@hawaii.edu  
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**HB1589**

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for WAL on Feb 10, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dylan Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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