



Everytown for Gun Safety Testimony on SB 1037

Melissa Pavlicek/Emily Walton

We're here to testify in favor of SB 1037. This legislation is very simple: it makes sure that state and local authorities are notified when someone who is not allowed to have a gun tries to buy one and fails a background check.

This bill will give law enforcement the tools they need to go after dangerous people before they arm themselves.

Specifically, this bill ensures that the permit issuing authority alerts all relevant law enforcement and prosecuting attorneys on the federal, state, and local levels each time a prohibited person applies for a purchase permit and fails the background check. In Hawaii, a permit is required to purchase a firearm. These permits are issued by the local chief of police.

Last year in Hawaii, 212 people were denied permits. This includes people who were previously convicted of domestic abuse, robbery, sexual assault, and even murder. It's currently a crime in Hawaii to provide false information when applying for a firearm purchase permit.

When dangerous people in Hawaii who are prohibited by law from buying guns – like felons, domestic abusers and people with severe mental illness – lie about their prohibited status and apply for a permit to purchase, that's a red flag, and it's also illegal.

But right now, there is no comprehensive system in place to ensure that when one of these dangerous people tries to get a gun illegally, all appropriate officials are notified, including prosecutors, courts, and probation and parole officers. Our local officials should alert law enforcement that these "denied and dangerous" people are trying to buy a gun and walking free in their community.

That's what SB 1037 does.

In addition, if the denied person is under an active restraining order for domestic abuse, the bill ensures that the court that issued the restraining order is notified. And under the bill if the denied person is on probation or parole, the probation or parole officer is notified.

Everytown is working around the country with state legislators and executives from both parties to give law enforcement the tools they need to investigate these potentially dangerous people when they try to buy guns. Enforcing existing gun laws is critical for public safety.

The proposed legislation will enforce Hawaii's current law and give law enforcement more opportunities to stop dangerous people before they can get a gun through other means.

This bill is about enforcing the law – plain and simple. It's exactly what the gun lobby says we should do to stop gun violence – enforce existing laws. We agree that we should enforce existing laws and this is how we are doing something about it.

Please vote yes on SB 1037. Thank you for your time today.

LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDL Testimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1037 on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 10:02:58 PM

SB1037

Submitted on: 2/28/2017

Testimony for JDL on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
amy agbayani	Hawai'i friends of civil rights	Support	No

Comments: Citizenscand community groups areworking around the country with state legislators and executives from both parties to give law enforcement the tools they need to investigate these dangerous people when they try to buy guns. Enforcing existing gun laws is critical for public safety. Please support SB 1037.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Cc:
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1037 on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM*
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 9:03:33 PM

SB1037

Submitted on: 2/28/2017

Testimony for JDL on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Doris Segal Matsunaga	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1037 on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 8:04:59 PM

SB1037

Submitted on: 2/28/2017

Testimony for JDL on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathy Shimata	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It's hard to believe that this notification does not exist. Close this oversight & protect the public.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1037 on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 11:07:43 PM

SB1037

Submitted on: 2/28/2017

Testimony for JDL on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My name is Lisa Kimura and I am a mother of three who resides in Honolulu. I strongly urge you to support and vote in favor of SB 1037. When dangerous people in Hawaii – like felons, domestic abusers and people with severe mental illness – try to buy a gun and are denied a permit to purchase, that should trigger a red flag. These individuals are prohibited from buying guns, and it is within the interest of public safety to keep it that way. State background check systems should alert appropriate law enforcement that these “denied and dangerous” people are trying to buy a gun and walking free in their community. Legislators and executives from both parties need to give law enforcement the tools they need to investigate these dangerous people when they try to buy guns. Enforcing existing gun laws is critical for public safety. Please support SB 1037. Thank you, Lisa Kimura Honolulu, HI

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1037 on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM*
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 2:51:28 PM

SB1037

Submitted on: 2/28/2017

Testimony for JDL on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robin Gaffney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony in favor of SB 1037.

My name is **Valerie Yontz** and I reside in Kailua, Hawai'i 96734. I strongly urge you to support and vote in favor of SB 1037. When dangerous people in Hawaii who are prohibited from buying guns – like felons, domestic abusers and people with severe mental illness – try to buy a gun and are denied a permit to purchase, that's a red flag, and it's also illegal.

State background check systems should alert appropriate law enforcement that these "denied and dangerous" people are trying to buy a gun and walking free in their community.

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America is working around the country with state legislators and executives from both parties to give law enforcement the tools they need to investigate these dangerous people when they try to buy guns. Enforcing existing gun laws is critical for public safety. Please support SB 1037.

Sincerely,

Valerie Yontz

LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1037 on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM
Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 9:56:19 AM

SB1037

Submitted on: 3/1/2017

Testimony for JDL on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Kingdon, MPH, Paramedic	Injury Prevention Advisory Committee	Support	No

Comments: The Injury Prevention Advisory Committee supports SB1037, relating to firearms. As written, the bill would ensure timely and accurate notification of necessary officials and agencies when a firearms permit is denied due to the application being prohibited for legal cause. By our reading, the bill would not negatively impact permit applicants and/or gun owners who are currently and legally entitled to that ownership. // Hawaii has one of the lowest firearm homicide rates in the nation, which is attributable to the comprehensive firearm laws enacted and enforced by the State of Hawaii. This bill would further strengthen that network of reasonable laws and regulations. // Established in 1990, the Injury Prevention Advisory Committee (IPAC) is an advocacy group committed to preventing and reducing injuries in Hawai'i. IPAC members include representatives from public and private agencies, healthcare providers and other professionals working together to address the eight leading areas of injury, including violence prevention.

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Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 10:16:07 AM

LATE TESTIMONY

SB1037

Submitted on: 3/1/2017

Testimony for JDL on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Horwath	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support doing common sense background checks before issuing permits to purchase guns. Individuals with criminal records and individuals with unstable mental issues should not be able to purchase guns. Every time a gun is to be issued there should be a new background check.

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