Harry Kim
Mayor

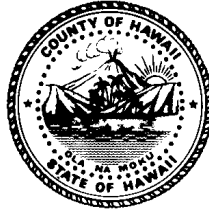**Wil Okabe**
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawaiʻi
Office of the Mayor

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March 25, 2019

Representative Chris Lee, Chair
Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and Committee Members:

RE: **SB 600, HD1 Relating to Firearms**

SB 600, HD1, would provide that no person under 21 years of age can bring a firearm into the State of Hawaiʻi. This would match the age requirement for a permit to acquire a firearm, and would seem to be a common sense provision—why would a person in Hawaiʻi be held to a higher standard than a person (resident or non-resident) traveling to Hawaiʻi?

An issue has been raised that such a requirement would be an unconstitutional restriction on the right to bear arms. But even President Trump has called for raising the legal age to buy a gun to 21. If purchases can be limited by age, then so can registration, and so can transport into the State.

I urge favorable action on SB 600, HD1, with an effective date "upon approval."

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Kim
MAYOR

LATE

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR

SUSAN BALLARD
CHIEF

JOHN D. McCARTHY
JONATHON GREMS
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE DN-EA

March 25, 2019

The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair
  and Members
Committee on Judiciary
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 325
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Lee and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 600, HD1, Relating to Firearms

I am Elgin Arquero, Lieutenant of the Records and Identification Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports Senate Bill No. 600, HD1, Relating to Firearms.

Raising the legal age for a person to bring a firearm into the State of Hawaii to 21 will clarify a loophole in our firearms laws, as the legal age to obtain a permit to acquire a firearm is 21. Aligning both of the respective Hawaii Revised Statute sections will allow for a clear understanding and easier enforcement of the statute.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Elgin Arquero, Lieutenant
Records and Identification Division

APPROVED:

Susan Ballard
Chief of Police

Serving and Protecting With Aloha

Chris Lee, Chair
Joy A San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

State Capitol, Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

HEARING: Monday, March 25, 2019 at 2pm

RE: SB600 Relating to Firearms

Aloha Members of the House Committee,

The Hawaii Firearms Coalition OPPOSES SB600.

The Hawaii Firearms Coalition believes the 2nd Amendment's "…right to keep and bear arms…" applies to persons under the age of 21 and therefore this bill is unconstitutional. A person under the age of 21 can join the military and die for their country, drive a car, and be an adult making life decisions. However those supporting this bill do not believe these good people deserve the constitutional right to keep and bear arms. People may say that we routinely have age restrictions on things like driving a car, smoking, and purchasing alcohol but these are not rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

This bill would affect military servicemembers and family members under the age of 21 transferring to Hawaii with their firearms. The firearms they use to practice marksmanship which could one day save lives. This also affects civilians who move to Hawaii, competitive shooters flying in for an event, and hunters traveling to Hawaii for an adventure.

This bills intention is to standardize Hawaii's HRS to make 21 years as the minimum age of firearms ownership. HIFICO believes that setting the age at 21 is unconstitutional. A report by the Legislative Reference Bureau dated May 3, 2018 states that HRS 134-3 does not specify a minimum age to register a rifle under HRS 134-3. HIFICO believes not stating a minimum age was intentional on creation of the firearms registration law to accommodate people transferring from the mainland, such as military members. Otherwise firearms would be confiscated which is currently being done at the Honolulu Police Department illegally even though there is no statute that allows it. HRS 134-5 also contradicts this bill in that persons at least 16 years old can possess a rifle or shotgun for the purposes of target shooting and hunting and transportation to/from without adult supervision. Good responsible juniors and young adults can be trusted.

The rights in the "Bill of Rights" treat adults the same. For example the 4th and 5th amendments provide due process, protection from self-incrimination, lengthy and costly appeals, and defend against unjust

search and seizure regardless if a person is 18 or 21. We value the rights and freedoms of the innocent and prevent them from going to prison against the risk that some criminals may go free.

Under this bill, SB600, good people under 21 are treated worse than criminals and have their rights removed for the only crime of being too young. There is no trial. There are no appeals. Do not remove the 2nd Amendment rights from law abiding and responsible young adults. For these reasons the Hawaii Firearms Coalition Opposes SB600. Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo

Todd Yukutake
Director, Hawaii Firearms Coalition
PH. (808) 255-3066
Email: todd@hifico.org

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi
Director

Shawn K. Nakama
First Assistant

Research   (808) 587-0666
 Revisor   (808) 587-0670
    Fax   (808) 587-0681

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 446
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

May 3, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Sam Satoru Kong
             Representative, 33rd District

FROM: Rina C.Y. Chung
             Research Attorney

SUBJECT: Minimum Age for Registration of Firearm with County Police Department

You requested this office to confirm that section 134-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), does not specify that a person registering a firearm be of a certain minimum age. In your request, you indicated that a twenty-year-old constituent had been informed by the Honolulu Police Department that he must be at least twenty-one years of age to register a rifle that he plans to bring to Hawaii from Texas.

While the Bureau does not issue formal legal opinions or provide legal advice, we have reviewed the applicable statutes and offer the following information for your review and consideration.

The HRS does not appear to specifically address the type of situation described in your request. For this reason, the applicable law with respect to registration of the rifle in question may be subject to different interpretations. For informational purposes, the remainder of this memorandum discusses age-related provisions presently found in part I of Chapter 134, HRS.

We note that section 134-3, HRS, relating to *registering* a firearm does not contain any specific age requirement.

However, section 134-2, HRS, which addresses *permits to acquire* firearms, does specify minimum age requirements. Section 134-2(a), HRS, provides in relevant part: "No person shall acquire the ownership of a firearm . . . whether procured in the State or imported by mail, express, freight, or otherwise, *until the person has first procured . . . a permit to acquire the ownership of a firearm as prescribed in this section.*" (Emphasis added.) Section 134-2(d), HRS, specifies, among

other things, that "[t]he chief of police of the respective counties may issue permits to acquire firearms to citizens of the United States of the age of *twenty-one years or more* . . . ." (Emphasis added.)

We further note that Chapter 134, HRS, does not specify a procedure for county police departments to follow when, pursuant to section 134-3(a), HRS, a "person arriving in the State who brings or . . . causes to be brought into the State a firearm of any description" attempts to register the firearm pursuant to that subsection but is not of sufficient age to acquire or own a firearm under section 134-2, HRS.

Additionally, we note that the following sections of Chapter 134, HRS, specify minimum age requirements for other types of firearm-related activities (italic emphases added), yet as a whole the Chapter does not seem to offer much clarity with respect to each type of activity or consistency with respect to minimum ages for these activities.

1. Section 134-2(d), HRS, allows a county chief of police to issue a permit to an alien "for use of rifles and shotguns for a period not exceeding sixty days, upon a showing that the alien has first procured a hunting license" under part II of Chapter 183D, HRS; provided that the alien is *eighteen years of age or older.*

2. Section 134-2(d) also allows a county chief of police to issue a permit to an alien "for use of firearms for a period not exceeding six months, upon a showing that the alien is in training for a specific organized sport-shooting contest held within the permit period"; provided that the alien is *twenty-one years of age or older.*

3. Section 134-4(a), HRS, prohibits the "transfer"[1] of "any rifle having a barrel length of sixteen inches or over or any shotgun having a barrel length of eighteen inches or over, whether usable or unusable, serviceable or unserviceable, modern or antique, registered under prior law or by a prior owner, or unregistered" to "any person *under the age of eighteen years*, except as provided by section 134-5", HRS.

4. Section 134-4(c), HRS, allows the loan of a "lawfully acquired rifle or shotgun . . . to an adult[2] for use within the State for a period not to exceed fifteen days without a permit; provided that where the rifle or shotgun is to be used outside of the State, the loan may be for a period not to exceed seventy-five days."

5. Section 134-5(a), HRS, allows a person to "carry and use any lawfully acquired rifle or shotgun and suitable ammunition while actually engaged in hunting or target shooting or while going to and from the place of hunting or target shooting"; provided that the person is either "of the *age of sixteen years, or over*" or "accompanied by an adult" if "*under the age of sixteen years*"; and provided further that if hunting is involved, the person "has procured a hunting license" under part II

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[1] We note that section 134-4, HRS, does not define "transfer", nor does section 134-1, HRS, which is the definitional section for the chapter.
[2] Similarly, we note that "adult" is not defined in sections 134-1 or 134-4, HRS.

of Chapter 183D, HRS. Under the Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR),[3] a person must be "*at least 10 years of age*" in order to "be issued a hunter education certificate after completion of the hunter education program" and generally speaking, under section 183D-28, HRS, a person must possess a hunter education certificate to obtain a hunting license under that section, unless the person qualifies for an exemption that is based on the person's age and proof of prior licensure.
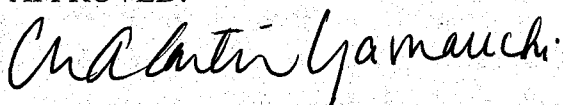
6. Section 134-5(b), HRS, allows the loan, without a permit, of a "lawfully acquired firearm . . . to a person, *including a minor*,[4] upon a target range or similar facility for purposes of target shooting; provided that the period of the loan does not exceed the time in which the person actually engages in target shooting upon the premises."

7. Section 134-5(c), HRS, allows a person to "carry unconcealed and use a lawfully acquired pistol or revolver while actually engaged in hunting game mammals, if that pistol or revolver and its suitable ammunition are acceptable for hunting by rules adopted pursuant to [section 183D-3, HRS] and if that person is licensed pursuant to [part II of Chapter 183D, HRS]." Under section 13-123-22(2)(K), HAR, "[n]o person *under the age of 18 years* shall hunt game mammals with a handgun."

For your convenience, unofficial printouts of sections 134-2, 134-3, 134-4, 134-5, and 183D-28, HRS, are enclosed, as well as the HAR sections cited herein.

As noted above, the Bureau does not issue formal legal opinions or provide legal advice. Therefore, your constituent may wish to consult with a private attorney. The Hawaii State Bar Association operates the Lawyer Referral & Information Service, which refers potential clients to private attorneys. Information on the service may be obtained by calling (808) 537-9140, emailing lris@hsba.org, or visiting http://hawaiilawyerreferral.com. You may also wish to consider requesting a formal opinion on this matter from the Department of the Attorney General.

If you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact me by phone at 587-0666 or by email at r.chung@capitol.hawaii.gov.

APPROVED:

Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi
Director

jl
Enc.

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[3] *See* section 13-122-12(a)(5), HAR, pertaining to hunting of game birds and section 13-123-22(1)(E), HAR, pertaining to hunting of game mammals.
[4] The term "minor" is not defined in sections 134-1 or 134-5, HRS.

Institute for Rational and Evidence-Based Legislation

P. O. Box 41
Mountain View, Hawaii 96771

March 23, 2019

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Re: SB600, HD1

Date of hearing: Monday, March 25, 2019

Chair, Vice Chair, and Members,

Please defer SB600 by voting NO.

Let me first add, as something of an aside, that I find it "troubling" that the committee chair announced at 4:49 PM on a Friday afternoon the scheduling of this bill to be heard on a Monday, meaning that testimony, in order to be available to members by the scheduled meeting, would have to be submitted by midday Sunday. I consider this a violation of the rules requiring 48 business day hours notice. Many people take off Friday afternoon and don't concern themselves with such matters until the next working day, which would be too late to submit testimony in a timely manner. Why the shenanigans? (That's a rhetorical question.)

This is nothing but an illegal age-discrimination-based statute that would deny legal law-abiding adult citizens their constitutionally-protected right to keep arms, solely on the basis of their age, and no other factors. The actual evidence regarding crime and this age group, both as victims and perpetrators leads to the exact opposite conclusion to the assumptions underlying SB600. These people, aged 18 to 20, are legal adults in all other matters of law in Hawaii and the United States. They can drive, vote, get married, enter into contracts, be tried as adults for any crimes committed, etc. On what basis, other than pure age discrimination, should they be denied the right to keep arms, like all other law-abiding adults?

It's even more ludicrous when one thinks that this effects members of the military who may train with and use weapons daily, yet when they return home are denied the ability to have such weapons for self-defense of themselves and their families. Completely nonsensical. And hypocritical. You expect them to possibly die in military action defending their country and the rights embodied by it, yet deny them those same rights they are willing to die for? Ludicrous.

If the Hawaii legislators believe that persons 18 to 20 years of age aren't entitled to exercise their constitutionally-protected rights, then pass laws that deny persons of that age group ALL their rights, not just one particular one. That would be the rational thing to do. Rational, that is, if there were even a shred of evidence that denying these people their rights would have any benefit to society at all. Of course, you well know there isn't any such evidence, which is why some legislators have selected only

one such right to be denied, based not upon evidence, but upon nothing more than irrational fear that such persons of said age are prone to dangerous firearm-related behavior beyond other age groups.

In fact, this proposed law has it completely backwards if we are to consider facts rather than mere bias.

Because **18-20 year-olds are the most frequently criminally victimized age group**, they deserve MOST to have the ability to defend themselves from such predators, ***not*** be prevented from defending themselves. Disarming the most abused group only makes them even more vulnerable to more predation. That's the exact opposite of "public safety".

Data also shows that people in the 21-24 age group commit crimes at a higher rate than people in the 18-20 age group. Thus according to facts, the rational evidence-based proposed legislation would have to ban the import and/or possession of firearms by anyone under the age of 25.

Another example of the wrongly directed prejudice directed at this age group is the data for Michigan, Nevada and Texas indicate that permit holders between the ages of 18 and 22 are even more law-abiding than older permit holders. Why should these law-abiding young adults be denied their right to defend themselves?

Are you going to vote on proposed legislation based upon facts or some data-less emotional discriminatory hyperbole?

See, for example (full article below, specifically addressing under-18 possession, but includes data from states banning possession for under age 21):

THE IMPACT OF BANNING JUVENILE GUN POSSESSION

THOMAS B. MARVELL
Justec Research

Abstract
A 1994 federal law bans possession of handguns by persons under 18 years of age. Also in 1994, 11 states passed their own juvenile gun possession bans. Eighteen states had previously passed bans, 15 of them between 1975 and 1993. These laws were intended to reduce homicides, but arguments can be made that they have no effect on or that they even increase the homicide rate. This paper estimates the laws' impacts on various crime measures, primarily juvenile gun homicide victimizations and suicide, using a fixed-effects research design with state-level data for at least 19 years. The analysis compares impacts on gun versus nongun homicides and gun versus nongun suicides. Even with many different crime measures and regression specifications, there is scant evidence that the laws have the intended effect of reducing gun homicides.

Do not irrationally discriminate! All law-abiding adults are entitled to exercise ALL their rights. Do not pass SB600. Vote NO on SB600.

Thank you,

George Pace

THE IMPACT OF BANNING JUVENILE
GUN POSSESSION

THOMAS B. MARVELL
Justec Research

ABSTRACT

A 1994 federal law bans possession of handguns by persons under 18 years of age. Also in 1994, 11 states passed their own juvenile gun possession bans. Eighteen states had previously passed bans, 15 of them between 1975 and 1993. These laws were intended to reduce homicides, but arguments can be made that they have no effect on or that they even increase the homicide rate. This paper estimates the laws' impacts on various crime measures, primarily juvenile gun homicide victimizations and suicide, using a fixed-effects research design with state-level data for at least 19 years. The analysis compares impacts on gun versus nongun homicides and gun versus nongun suicides. Even with many different crime measures and regression specifications, there is scant evidence that the laws have the intended effect of reducing gun homicides.

I. INTRODUCTION

GUNS are the second leading cause of death in the United States among youths ages 10–24, and the firearm death rate for U.S. minors is 12 times the average for other industrialized countries.[1] Gun murders of and by juveniles roughly doubled between 1985 and 1992, while the number of nongun murders remained stable.[2] Consequently, governments have attempted to get guns out of the hands of juveniles. The federal government and probably all states have long prohibited gun sales to minors.[3] Later laws, the subject of this study, go further and prohibit possession of guns by juveniles (aimed at, presumably, guns that were originally purchased by adults). States passed such laws with increasing frequency in the 1980s and early 1990s, and Title XI of the Federal Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 made the ban effective nationwide on September 13, 1994.

Table 1 lists 34 state laws that ban juvenile gun possession, along with their effective dates (the laws only apply to violations on or after the

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[1] Susan DeFrancesco, Children and Guns, 29 Pace L. Rev. 275 (1999).

[2] James A. Fox & Marianne W. Zawitz, Homicide Trends in the United States (2000).

[3] Jens Ludwig, Concealed-Gun-Carrying Laws and Violent Crime: Evidence from State Panel Data, 18 Int'l Rev. L. & Econ. 239 (1998).

TABLE 1

LAWS BANNING JUVENILE HANDGUN POSSESSON

	Under Age of	Brief Citation	Effective Date
Federal	18	18-922(x)	September 13, 1994
Alaska[a]	16	11.61.220	January 1, 1980
Arizona[a,b]	18	13-3111	July 18, 1993
Arkansas[a,b]	18	5-73-119	July 4, 1989
California[a]	18	Penal 12101	January 1, 1989
Colorado[a]	18	18-12-108.5	September 13, 1993
Delaware	18	11-1448	July 15, 1994
Florida	18	790.22	January 1, 1994
Georgia[b]	18	16-11-132	July 1, 1994
Idaho[b]	18	18-3302F	July 1, 1994
Illinois	18	720-5/24-3	pre-1970
Indiana	18	35-47-10-5	July 1, 1994
Kansas[b]	18	21-4204a	July 1, 1994
Kentucky[b]	18	527.100	July 15, 1994
Michigan[a]	18	750.234f	March 28, 1991
Minnesota[a]	18	624.713	August 1, 1975
Mississippi[b]	18	97-37-14	July 1, 1994
Nebraska[a]	18	28-1204	July 1, 1978
Nevada[b,c]	18	202.300	July 1, 1995
New Jersey[a]	18	2C:58-6.1	June 27, 1980
New York[a]	16	265.05	September 1, 1974
North Carolina[a,b]	18	14-269.7	September 1, 1993
North Dakota[a,b]	18	62.1-02-01	July 1, 1985
Oklahoma[a,b]	18	21-1273	June 7, 1993
Oregon[a]	18	166.250	January 1, 1990
Rhode Island[b]	15	11-47-33	pre-1970
South Carolina[b]	21	16-23-30	pre-1970
South Dakota[b]	18	23-7-44	July 1, 1994
Tennessee	18	39-17-1319	July 1, 1994
Utah[a]	18	76-10-509	October 21, 1993
Vermont[b]	16	13-4008	pre-1970
Virginia[a]	18	18.2-308.7	July 1, 1993
Washington[b]	21	9.41.040	July 1, 1994
West Virginia[a,b]	18	61-7-8	July 9, 1989
Wisconsin	18	948.60	pre-1970

NOTE.—Sixteen states do not have bans. Ten are Brady Act states (Alabama, Louisiana, Maine, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Wyoming), and six are non–Brady Act states (Connecticut, Hawaii, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Missouri).

[a] States with laws effective 1974–93.

[b] Brady Act states. (Federal waiting periods and background checks apply in 1994 because these states did not have preexisting laws.)

[c] A pre-1970 Nevada law applied to persons under 14.

effective dates). This information was obtained through research into state statutory compilations and session laws, and it was checked against two other surveys.[4]

[4] Gwen A. Holden, *et al.*, Compilation of State Firearm Codes that Affect Juveniles (1994); Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Firearms State Laws and Published Ordinances (20th ed. 1994) (hereafter referred to as ATF).

The federal law, as well as the typical state law, makes it a misdemeanor for a person under 18 (21 in two states) to possess a handgun, with several exceptions, such as hunting or target shooting with the permission of a parent. Many state laws also ban possession of rifles and other deadly weapons by juveniles. As of 1994, five state bans applied only to persons younger than 15 or 16 (Table 1). These are not counted as juvenile gun ban laws for the purpose of this study because children that young seldom commit homicide.[5] Among the states that did not enact juvenile gun possession bans, Massachusetts and New York have strict general gun possession laws,[6] and lawmakers there might have believed that special laws for juveniles were unnecessary. The federal law also makes it illegal for a person to provide a minor with a handgun. Most states have similar laws, some enacted with the possession ban and some before the ban.

The issue addressed in this article is whether the juvenile gun possession bans have the effect of reducing gun homicides, especially of juveniles. The assumption behind the laws is that the bans reduce the number of juveniles who have guns and, thus, the number who use guns.[7] The impact on crime might be limited because existing laws prohibited juveniles from purchasing guns, carrying concealed handguns, and possessing guns if they have been convicted of a felony.[8] Thus, the question is whether crime rates are affected by a change from a situation where juveniles can possess guns, but cannot legally purchase or conceal them, to a situation where they can possess guns only with adult monitoring. Perhaps the major practical impact is creating disincentives to keeping guns at home. The laws might add an additional incentive for juveniles not to carry concealed weapons or purchase weapons since it adds a second charge when prosecuted, a charge that can be prosecuted in federal court.

An initial consideration is whether the bans increase the expected cost to juveniles for possessing guns, which largely determines whether the ban can have any effect.[9] The costs include confiscation of the weapon, informal sanctions applied by such persons as relatives, juvenile officers, and prose-

[5] See Terry Allen & Glen Buckner, A Graphical Approach to Analyzing Relationships between Offenders and Victims Using *Supplementary Homicide Reports*, 1 Homicide Stud. 129 (1997); and Michael D. Maltz, Visualizing Homicide: A Research Note, 14 J. Quantitative Criminology 397 (1998).

[6] ATF, *supra* note 4.

[7] There apparently is no statement that this is the actual intent of juvenile gun bans. The legislative history of the federal ban consists of justifications for federal action under the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution; that is, guns and drug markets are interrelated and cross state lines. See Steven Rosenberg, Just Another Kid with a Gun? *United States v. Michael R.*: Reviewing the Youth Handgun Safety Act under the *United States v. Lopez* Commerce Clause Analysis, 28 Golden Gate Univ. L. Rev. 51 (1998).

[8] ATF, *supra* note 4.

[9] See Philip J. Cook & James A. Leitzel, "Perversity, Futility, Jeopardy": An Economic Analysis of the Attack on Gun Control, 59 Law & Contemp. Probs. 91 (1996).

cutors, and conviction and sentencing by courts. These costs are more likely to occur with greater efforts to uncover and report juveniles' gun possession. Information on all these topics is lacking, so it is impossible at this point to hypothesize whether the laws have much impact.

Assuming that possession actually entails a cost, there are many mechanisms by which the bans might affect the actual use of guns and, thus, crime rates. The most obvious is that juveniles who do not possess guns are less likely to carry guns and thus less likely to use them during crimes or altercations. If they do not possess guns, juveniles are less likely to retrieve them in the middle of a dispute or to use them later in retaliation. The bans can disrupt gun markets among juveniles because the law increases the costs of carrying gun inventories.

On the other hand, the gun bans might increase crime against young persons because criminals might consider them less risky targets.[10] A criminal contemplating robbery or assault probably takes into consideration the likelihood that potential victims are armed and likely to defend themselves. If the potential victim appears to be under 18 years old, after a ban goes into effect, an aggressor might believe that armed resistance is less likely because of the juvenile gun possession ban. As discussed earlier, the possession bans do not make it any more illegal to carry a concealed handgun, but, again, the juvenile is less likely to have a handgun available if possession is less likely. The ban also can make aggression more likely because the aggressor is less concerned that the victim will retaliate by retrieving a gun.

An additional indicator of the impact of the juvenile gun possession bans is whether they reduce gun suicide by juveniles. There is a close relationship over time between the percentages of juvenile suicides and homicides by gun.[11] One would expect that the choice of whether to use a gun in suicide depends largely on whether a gun is readily available. Although possession is only one of several factors suggesting availability, if the laws reduce possession, they should reduce gun suicides.

Preliminary indications of the likely impact can be seen in trends for gun homicide victimization for persons 15–19 years old, which is a group likely to be affected by the ban if it has an impact. Figure 1 plots the trends for the percentage of homicide victims who were killed by guns (since the number of nongun homicides changed little over time, the lines in Figure 1 also approximate trends in the number of gun homicides). This percentage rose from about 65 percent in the first half of the 1980s to 86 percent in 1992, leveled off for 2 years, and then declined modestly. The leveling off occurred when more and more states were enacting juvenile gun possession

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[10] For example, John R. Lott, Jr., & David B. Mustard, Crime, Deterrence, and Right-to-Carry Concealed Handguns, 26 J. Legal Stud. 1 (1997).

[11] Alfred Blumstein & Daniel Cork, Linking Gun Availability to Youth Gun Violence, 59 Law & Contemp. Probs. 5 (1996).
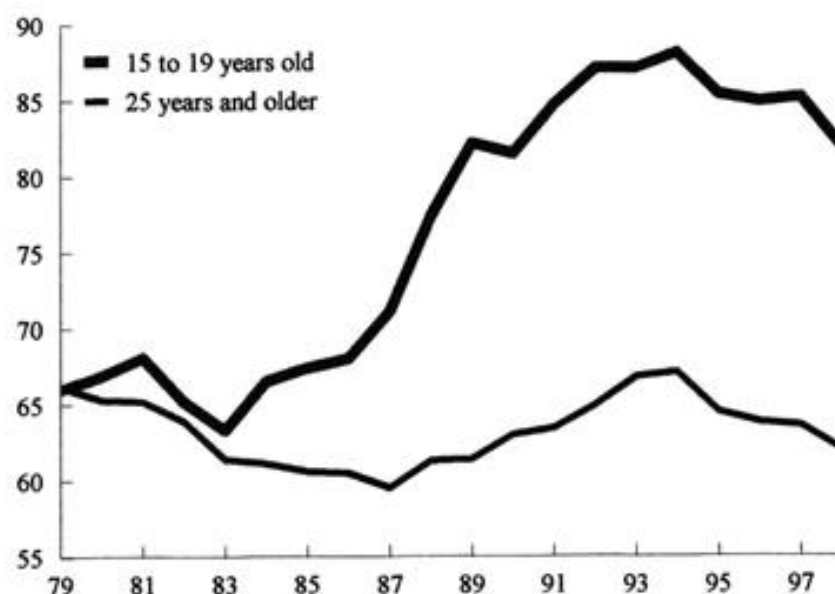
FIGURE 1.—Percent of homicides with guns

bans, and the decline occurred right after the substantial lawmaking activity in 1994, when most states first became covered by the ban (Table 1). At first glance, the trends suggest that the laws have the desired effect of reducing gun homicides. However, this impression disappears when one looks at trends in adult crimes; the post-1994 drop in percentage of homicides with guns occurred here as well. The initial impression from Figure 1 that the laws reduce gun homicide is probably only a reflection of general trends in homicides.[12]

The purpose of this paper is to explore this relationship with more elaborate data and analysis than are illustrated in Figure 1. The next section describes the methodology, which is a state-level multiple time-series regression that

[12] Commentators have given many reasons for the decline in murder and other crimes in the 1990s. I argue that it is due to the incapacitation impact of rising prison populations and the slackening of the crack era. Thomas B. Marvell & Carlisle E. Moody, The Impact of Out-of-State Prison Population on State Homicide Rates: Displacement and Free-Rider Effects, 36 Criminology 513 (1998); Thomas B. Marvell & Carlisle E. Moody, Female and Male Homicide Victimization Rates: Comparing Trends and Regressors, 37 Criminology 879 (1999). Other suggested causes include the legalization of abortion in the 1970s (John J. Donohue III & Steven D. Levitt, The Impact of Legalized Abortion on Crime, 116 Q. J. Econ. 379 (2001)) and better police practices (Malcolm Gladwell, The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference (2000)).

compares the impacts of the laws on different homicide categories. The third section describes the variables, and the fourth gives the results, which are that there is no evidence that the juvenile gun possession bans, taken as a whole, reduce gun homicides or total homicides.

II. METHODOLOGY

The multiple time-series regression has become a common tool to estimate the impact of legal changes, and the methods are continually improving.[13] The regressions here encompass 45–50 states and 18–29 years, depending on the dependent variable, using the standard fixed-effects procedure. The regressions are weighted by population when the dependent variable is homicide and by lesser amounts (varying from population to the .3 power to population to the .7 power) for other crimes as determined by the Bruesch-Pagan test.[14] Weighting is necessary because crime rates vary over time more in small states, and weights are greater in homicide equations because homicides are less frequent events; so the discrepancy between variation in small and large states is especially large. The data start in 1970 because several control variables lack data for earlier years. The last year with available data is 1998 or 1999, depending on the series. The analysis, therefore, includes at least 4 full years of experience under each law. The main dependent variables are homicide victimizations for various age groups, and I use a sizeable number of other crime measures for robustness checks. The gun possession bans are represented by dummy variables.

The basic procedure is strengthened by comparing the estimated impacts of the laws on crimes that one would expect to be affected the most by the laws to the impacts on crimes less likely to be affected. The analysis, for example, compares the coefficients on the law dummies when gun homicides are the dependent variable with coefficients with nongun homicides. This helps control for missing variables that are not otherwise controlled for by the elaborate control mechanism possible with the multiple time-series design, as discussed below. The comparison is done with the STEST option in the SYSLIN procedure in SAS,[15] which tests whether differences between co-

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[13] For example, Lott & Mustard, *supra* note 10; Thomas B. Marvell & Carlisle E. Moody, Determinate Sentencing and Abolishing Parole: The Long-Term Impacts on Prisons and Crime, 34 Criminology 107 (1996).

[14] William H. Greene, Econometric Analysis 394–95 (2d ed. 1993).

[15] SAS Institute, SAS/ETS User's Guide, Version 6 (2d ed. 1993). Using the multiple time-series procedure with dummy variables to evaluate the impact of laws or other impacts is the same as the difference-on-difference procedure (Jeffrey M. Wooldridge, Introductory Economics: A Modern Approach (2000)), but it has the benefit that one can set dummies at the effective date of each law that went into effect during the period when data are available, as opposed to setting a uniform date for all laws. Also, using an *F*-test to compare coefficients is an improvement on the difference-on-difference-on-difference procedure, whereby the impact of the law change on a crime type that is expected to be affected by the law is compared with the impact on a crime having no expected impact (for example, Ludwig, *supra* note 3). The

efficients on an independent variable used in separate regressions are statistically significant.

III.   DEPENDENT VARIABLES[16]

Most dependent variables are gun homicide victimization rates for various age groups and homicide offending rates by juveniles. When juveniles commit homicide, the victims are overwhelmingly persons of the same age or slightly older,[17] so measures of gun homicide victimization are for persons in their late teens and early twenties. Alternate specifications use measures of juvenile homicide offending and general crime rate variables. All crimes are expressed as rates, divided by 100,000 persons in the age group in question. The numerous variables are best described in outline form.

A.   Victimization (Homicide and Suicide)

1. The primary victimization data are from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Internet site, where state-level mortality data are available for 1979–98. In addition, earlier total homicide and gun homicide data were obtained from published mortality tables.[18] The four types of data, and the years available, are the following:
   a. Gun and nongun homicide victims, ages 15–19 (1979–98).
   b. Gun and nongun homicide victims, ages 15–24 (1979–98).
   c. Gun and nongun homicide victims of all ages (1968–98).
   d. Gun and nongun suicide victims, ages 15-19 (1979–98).

2. Additional juvenile victimization data, compiled by James A. Fox in January 2001, were obtained from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) Internet site. Data are not used for five states for which observations are missing for more than 2 years (Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, and Montana):
   a. Homicide victims, ages 14–17 (1976–99).
   b. Homicide victims, ages 14–24 (1976–99).

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separate regressions mean that the two types of crime are allowed to have their own coefficients on the control variables, and again we need not set law dummies at the same year.

[16] The data set and basic programs used here are available from the author at marvell@cox.net or at http://www.mmarvell.com/justec.html.

[17] Allen & Buckner, *supra* note 5; Maltz, *supra* note 5.

[18] Data are from National Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics of the United States 1978 (1982), and earlier versions. All the homicide data exclude legal homicides (executions and police killings).

B.   Offending and Reported Crime

Homicide arrests for the following two categories were also prepared by James A. Fox and placed on the BJS Internet site:
1. Homicide offending ages 14–17 (1976–99).
2. Homicide offending ages 14–24 (1976–99).

Finally, we use the seven Uniform Crime Report (UCR) categories (homicide, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, larceny, and auto theft) with data from 1968–99.

C.   Issues Pertaining to Homicide and Suicide Data

Small states often have no juvenile homicides in any given year. Because this theoretically creates problems with regression analysis, I have dropped states from a given analysis if the dependent variable is zero for more than 2 years. The states that were dropped, which number up to 16, are listed in the tables along with the regression results. In the parallel SYSLIN regressions, the state is dropped when data are missing for either dependent variable. For the remaining zero values (that is, one or two such zeros in a state), the number of homicides is set at .1 before logging (or for the Fox data sets, the homicide rate is set at .1). Coefficients on aggregate law variables change little when all states are included (because the regressions are weighted by population), but coefficients for individual state law dummies are erratic in states with many zero homicide years.

The juvenile homicide offending rates, because they are based on arrests, are probably overstated in relation to victimization rates and offending rates for older age groups because juveniles are less likely to escape arrest.[19]

We have no measure of gun homicides committed by juveniles, although that is the immediate target of the law, because data at the state level are very incomplete and erratic. As a practical matter, however, the measure of total juvenile homicide offending serves nearly the same purpose because the variation in homicide rates is largely due to variations in gun homicide rates.[20] Also, for policy purposes, victimization is more important than offending because the overriding purpose of the laws is to reduce harm, and any impact on offending is simply the means to achieve that purpose.

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[19] Howard N. Snyder, The Overrepresentation of Juvenile Crime Proportions in Robbery Clearance Statistics, 15 J. Quantitative Criminology 151 (1999); Thomas B. Marvell & Carlisle E. Moody, Age Structure and Crime Rates: The Conflicting Evidence, 7 J. Quantitative Criminology 237 (1991).

[20] Fox & Zawitz, *supra* note 2.

IV. INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

A. *Juvenile Gun Bans*

The key independent variables, of course, are those representing laws that ban juvenile gun possession, as listed in Table 1. After the year the law went into effect, the law variable is one. During that year, it is a decimal representing the portion of the year the law was in effect. The states are divided into three groups (Table 1): (1) 15 states that passed laws in 1975–93, (2) 11 states that passed laws in 1994, and (3) 21 states without laws by 1994 (the remaining three states had laws before 1970).[21] Again, laws banning possession only for those under 15 or 16 are ignored. In the second group, the state laws went into effect only a few months before the federal law, so that dummy variables cannot separate their impact from that of the federal law. The main difference between the second and third groups is that the latter is affected only by the federal law, typically enforced only in the federal courts, whereas in the second group enforcement is possible in both state and federal courts. These 11 states received a double dose of law, although largely redundant (state authorities can enforce the federal law, and it is unlikely that federal prosecutors indict many juveniles for gun possession).

Homicides in the second and third groups of states, where dummy variables begin in 1994, are also subject to the changes made by other federal laws that year. The most important are waiting periods and background checks for firearm purchases, required under the Brady Act, beginning February 28, 1994. The act is applicable to the majority of states that did not already require waiting periods.[22] These states are indicated in Table 1, and dummies representing the Brady Act for these states are included in later regressions. Also, the Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 contains several major crime-reduction programs such as truth in sentencing, enhanced penalties for drug offenses and using firearms in crimes, and funds for hiring new police and advancing community policing. These nationwide events are controlled for by entering year effects and by comparing gun and nongun crime regressions.

B. *Other Independent Variables*

Additional independent variables are those typically used in other state-level studies of crime.[23] These studies explain the theoretical importance of

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[21] The fact that most law dummies are for the same year suggests that clustering effects might bias the *t*-ratios. To test for these, I used the ACOV option in SAS PROC REG, with the TEST statement for the law dummies. The resulting significance levels for the law dummies are very close to those for the original *t*-ratios.

[22] ATF, *supra* note 4.

[23] See Thomas B. Marvell & Carlisle E. Moody, The Lethal Effects of Three-Strikes Laws, 30 J. Legal Stud. 89 (2001).

the variables and describe the sources of data. Age structure variables are census data for the percent population of persons ages 15–17, 18–24, 25–29, and 30–34, the ages with highest arrest rates. Economic variables are the unemployment rate, the number employed, real welfare payments, real personal income, and the poverty rate. Economic downturns might increase violent crime by increasing strain or might reduce it by reducing interaction among potential aggressors and victims. Prison population is the number of prisoners sentenced to more than 1 year, and it is the average of the current and prior year-end figures. All these variables are per capita and logged.

In addition, I make full use of the unique ability of the multiple time-series design to control for missing variables—variables that are not known or that lack adequate data. State dummies control for such factors that cause crime rates to differ generally from one state to another. Year dummies control for missing variables that cause crime rates to rise or fall nationwide in a year. Separate linear trend variables for each state control for factors that cause trends in the state to differ from nationwide trends. Without them, coefficients on the law dummies are likely to be dominated by such trend differences, as opposed to any changes that took place at the time the law went into effect. Finally, lagged dependent variables reduce autocorrelation and further mitigate missing-variable bias. Two lags are entered when the dependent variables are UCR crimes and total gun and nongun victimization because data start before 1970. The remaining regressions have one lagged dependent variable and lose 1 year of data.

V.   RESULTS

The most important regressions are in Tables 2, 3, and 4, where dependent variables are homicide victimization rates for persons 15–19 years old, persons 15–24 years old, and all persons, respectively. For each table, there are two regressions, one with gun and one with nongun homicides. The coefficients for the early state laws are very small and not significant throughout except for the negative estimate for nongun total homicides (Table 4). On the one hand, the coefficients on the 1994 state law dummies are positive in the three gun homicide regressions, but only significant to the .10 level. On the other hand, the elasticities of up to .17 are fairly sizeable, and their decline as the age bracket expands is consistent with the suggestion that the 1994 state laws increase juvenile homicide. The 1994 state law dummy has no noticeable impact on nongun homicides. Finally, all coefficients on the "federal law only" dummies are negative, but significant to the .05 level only for gun homicides of all ages (Table 4), which is due solely to New York, a topic discussed later. As might be expected, in a separate analysis in which the 1994 state law variable and the federal law variable are combined into one variable, it is everywhere far from significant. The same result also occurs when the three law variables are combined into a single variable.

TABLE 2

HOMICIDE VICTIMIZATIONS OF PERSONS AGES 15–19, REGRESSED
ON JUVENILE GUN BAN LAWS

	GUN HOMICIDE		NONGUN HOMICIDE	
	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t
Early state laws	.000	.008	−.135	1.175
1994 state laws	.172	1.787	−.010	.068
Federal law only	−.045	.582	−.181	1.501
Ages 15–17	−.447	.721	.195	.203
Ages 18–24	2.181	3.473	−.291	.300
Ages 25–29	.882	1.511	−.775	.862
Ages 30–34	1.293	1.409	−2.185	1.535
Unemployment rate	−.102	.844	.265	1.413
Employment	−1.222	1.068	1.816	1.022
Welfare	.193	1.010	−.302	1.014
Military employment	.478	1.977	.718	1.929
Real personal income	1.672	1.711	−.358	.237
Poverty rate	−.039	.374	.246	1.499
Prison population	−.510	3.368	−.192	.819
Lag dependent variable	.174	4.409	−.134	3.213
Degrees of freedom	597		597	
Adjusted R^2	.90		.48	
F-statistics:				
For three law types	1.59 (.19)		1.21 (.30)	
For differences between equations:				
Early state laws			.98 (.32)	
1994 state laws			1.05 (.31)	
Federal law only			.90 (.34)	
All three types			.74 (.53)	

NOTE.—These two regressions encompass 37 states over 19 years, 1980–98 (after losing a year because of the lagged dependent variable). Thirteen small states are not included because they had at least 3 years with zeros for one of the dependent variables (Alaska, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wyoming). Not shown are year dummies, state dummies, and individual state linear trend variables. The first three variables listed are dummies representing laws banning juvenile gun possession. Except for dummies and trends, the variables are per capita and logged. The first F-statistics are for the significance of the three law types taken as a group. The remaining F-statistics are for comparing coefficients on the individual law types, determining whether differences between the two equations and the net effect of the three are statistically significant. Numbers in parentheses are probabilities.

A key feature of these tables is the F-test to determine whether differences between each law dummy coefficients in gun and nongun homicide regressions are significant. The laws are designed to reduce gun use, and, if that were the only theory involved, one would not expect to see a reduction in nongun homicides. In fact, the laws might even increase nongun homicides because the reduced availability of guns might lead juveniles to substitute other means of killing. Thus, if the laws have their intended effects, one would expect the coefficients on the law dummies to be significantly lower in the gun homicide regressions. However, if the opposing theory—the one that holds that bans increase juvenile homicides because the victims are more vulnerable—dominates, both gun and nongun homicides should increase. The

TABLE 3

HOMICIDE VICTIMIZATIONS OF PERSONS AGES 15–24, REGRESSED
ON JUVENILE GUN BAN LAWS

	GUN HOMICIDE		NONGUN HOMICIDE	
	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t
Early state laws	−.000	.007	.007	.118
1994 state laws	.129	1.757	.124	1.450
Federal law only	−.079	1.324	−.052	.748
Ages 15–17	.195	.419	.140	.259
Ages 18–24	1.098	2.524	−.136	.271
Ages 25–29	1.208	2.826	−.101	.207
Ages 30–34	.462	.682	−1.050	1.330
Unemployment rate	.018	.202	.135	1.295
Employment	−.336	.388	−.221	.219
Welfare	.121	.831	.027	.162
Military employment	.350	1.913	.065	.310
Real personal income	1.366	1.901	.811	.970
Poverty rate	.007	.089	.097	1.047
Prison population	−.449	3.898	−.200	1.497
Lag dependent variable	.211	6.005	−.100	2.749
Degrees of freedom	750		750	
Adjusted R^2	.91		.72	
F-statistics:				
For three law types	2.44 (.06)		1.29 (.28)	
For differences between equations:				
Early state laws		.01 (.92)		
1994 state laws		.00 (.96)		
Federal law only		.09 (.77)		
All three types		.04 (.99)		

NOTE.—See note to Table 2. The regressions encompass 46 states over 19 years, 1980–98. Four small states are excluded (New Hampshire, North Dakota, Vermont, and Wyoming).

increase might be greater for nongun homicides, because if the attacker no longer fears the victim has a gun, he or she is less likely to rely on the quickest and most lethal means of attack.

In practice, both hypotheses receive little support. Nowhere in Tables 2–4 is there evidence that the laws cause gun homicides to decline more than nongun homicides. The hypothesis that the laws increase homicides receives only very slight support: the difference for early state laws in Table 4 is significant to the .10 level. With the large number of comparisons and F-tests, however, one such result is to be expected by chance. Finally, an important result is that coefficients on the three law variables as a group are not significantly different between the gun and nongun variables (last rows in Tables 2–4).

By aggregating the laws into three groups in Tables 2–4, I am assuming that the coefficients on the dummies are the same for each law in a group. Similar assumptions are common in time-series cross-sectional analyses of legal changes, but they are unrealistic. One would expect that impacts vary

TABLE 4

HOMICIDE VICTIMS, ALL AGES, REGRESSED ON JUVENILE GUN BAN LAWS

	GUN HOMICIDE		NONGUN HOMICIDE	
	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t
Early state laws	−.002	.080	−.063	2.529
1994 state laws	.060	1.659	.014	.400
Federal law only	−.084	2.786	−.048	1.670
Ages 15–17	.158	.829	.036	.196
Ages 18–24	.186	1.029	.170	.966
Ages 25–29	.365	2.130	.282	1.719
Ages 30–34	−.167	.784	.249	1.197
Unemployment rate	−.069	1.794	.068	1.829
Employment	−.151	.464	1.114	3.465
Welfare	−.149	3.093	−.175	3.744
Military employment	.213	3.107	.260	3.897
Real personal income	.408	1.774	−.372	1.650
Poverty rate	−.002	.057	.076	1.838
Prison population	−.172	4.456	−.147	3.882
Lag dependent variable	.349	12.774	.106	3.919
Second lag dependent variable	.173	6.212	.050	1.885
Degrees of freedom	1,307		1,307	
Adjusted R^2	.95		.90	
F-statistics:				
For three law types	5.55 (.001)		3.25 (.02)	
For differences between equations:				
Early state laws		2.94 (.09)		
1994 state laws		.83 (.36)		
Federal law only		.72 (.39)		
All three types		1.90 (.13)		

NOTE.—See note to Table 2. The regressions encompass all 50 states for 29 years, 1970–98.

between states because of differences in the precise terms of the laws, enforcement efforts, other contemporaneous changes in criminal law and operations, and preexisting conditions. To address this problem, each law is given a separate dummy variable, which is zero except in the postlaw period in the particular state. Dummies were not entered for three states that had laws before 1970. Because we only have data for juvenile homicides beginning in 1979, regressions with these variables do not include dummies for three early laws. Also, as indicated in Tables 2–4, several small states were deleted because they had more than 2 years with no homicides.

As expected, the coefficients vary greatly (Table 5). The coefficients for New York stand out; they are negative, large, and highly significant because of the extreme decline in homicide rates there since the early 1990s. Most coefficients are positive, however, and a few are large. One cannot attribute these, or any other individual coefficient in Table 5, specifically to the juvenile gun possession bans because the coefficients might be affected by other contemporaneous changes that are not captured by control variables, although the multiple time-series design permits numerous controls. Assuming that

TABLE 5

Gun Homicide Victimization Regressed on Individual State Law Dummies

	Ages 15–19		Ages 15–24		All Ages	
	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t
States passing laws in 1975–93:						
Arizona	.284	.942	.299	1.316	.302	2.922
Arkansas	.546	1.275	.203	.630	.110	.805
California	.163	1.315	.135	1.451	.081	1.883
Colorado	−.367	1.189	−.065	.280	.168	1.500
Michigan	−1.002	4.504	−.553	3.319	−.188	2.668
Minnesota	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	−.293	2.965
Nebraska	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	−.225	1.411
New Jersey	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	−.025	.308
North Carolina	.036	.145	.044	.237	.101	1.274
North Dakota	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	−.331	1.201
Oklahoma	−.245	.737	−.062	.251	.079	.706
Oregon	.752	2.129	−.388	1.455	−.250	2.066
Utah	.360	.838	.498	1.540	.342	2.245
Virginia	−.105	.424	.082	.442	.162	1.972
West Virginia	−.064	.133	−.271	.740	−.120	.773
States passing laws in 1994:						
Delaware	. . .	. . .	.537	1.070	.295	1.227
Florida	−.112	.690	.047	.383	−.011	.202
Georgia	−.202	.823	−.118	.639	.108	1.303
Idaho	. . .	. . .	.617	1.490	.421	2.165
Indiana	.752	3.065	.743	3.986	.261	2.994
Kansas	.212	.596	.347	1.290	.229	1.795
Kentucky	1.076	3.586	.448	1.995	.248	2.365
Mississippi	−.149	.414	−.069	.258	.021	.169
South Dakota	. . .	. . .	−.271	.544	−.176	.752
Tennessee	.462	1.757	.217	1.096	.181	1.976
Washington	−.282	1.020	−.150	.723	.081	.861
Federal law (states without laws by 1994):						
Alabama	−.083	.297	.033	.158	.116	1.150
Alaska	. . .	. . .	.675	1.230	.476	1.758
Connecticut	−.263	.827	−.107	.446	−.107	.928
Hawaii	. . .	. . .	.121	.306	.379	1.987
Iowa	.630	1.855	.505	1.968	.254	2.112
Louisiana	−.282	1.010	−.199	.945	.052	.533
Maine	. . .	. . .	.433	1.166	.015	.088
Maryland	.290	1.076	.053	.264	.148	1.576
Massachusetts	.077	.300	−.130	.671	−.091	1.021
Missouri	−.438	1.753	−.249	1.324	−.022	.244
Montana	.104	.171	.360	.780	.134	.612
Nevada	−.219	.460	.078	.219	.280	1.613
New Hampshire	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	−.197	1.047
New Mexico	.089	.204	.236	.713	.342	2.151
New York	−.468	3.078	−.506	4.387	−.551	9.415
Ohio	.119	.677	.047	.356	.005	.088
Pennsylvania	.537	2.936	.395	2.870	.276	4.250
Rhode Island	.193	.343	.172	.405	−.274	1.357

Texas	−.379	2.127	−.254	1.900	−.184	3.109
Vermont	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	−.252	.956
Wyoming	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	−.112	.378
Means (with *t*-ratios):						
All laws	.073	.818	.096	1.938	.048	1.447
Early states	.032	.224	−.007	.071	−.006	.099
1994 states	.224	1.174	.214	1.921	.151	2.515
Federal only	−.005	.067	.088	1.280	.033	.591

NOTE.—See note to Table 2. These three regressions are the essentially the same as the regressions in the "Gun Homicide" columns in Tables 2–4, except that there are separate law dummies for each state. The Minnesota, Nebraska, and New Jersey laws are not included in the first two regressions because the laws went into effect before or during 1980, when the data in the regressions start. The remaining blank spaces occur because states are deleted if they have 3 or more years with no murders. The *t*-ratio for the means is based on the standard error of the means, which is a conservative estimate.

the other changes are largely random, the overall impact of each law type can be estimated by taking the means of the coefficients.[24] As seen at the end of Table 5, these estimates are generally consistent with those in Tables 2–4, although the evidence is a little stronger that the 1994 state laws are associated with more gun homicides.[25]

Table 6 gives the results of the analysis of suicides of persons ages 15–19 years, presenting only the results concerning the law variables. In regressions similar to those in Table 2, the law dummies are never significant and there is no evidence of a difference between gun and nongun suicide. It is likely, however, that any impact of the laws is dampened in Table 6 because the suicide measure includes persons 18 and 19 years old, who are not covered by the gun possession ban, and unlike with the gun homicide measures, one would expect an exact correspondence between age and impact of the law.

Next, in Tables 7–9, the basic homicide regressions are replicated with seven additional homicide measures, again using dummies for the three types of laws. Only the law coefficients are shown. The results are consistent with the gun homicide regressions in Tables 2–4; the 1994 state laws have positive coefficients, while the federal law has negative coefficients, significant in two regressions. Coefficients on the federal law are greatly affected by New

[24] There is no uniformly accepted way to calculate the standard error of means of coefficients. The procedure used in Table 6 is that recommended in M. Hashem Persaran & Ron Smith, Estimating Long-Run Relationships from Dynamic Heterogenous Panels, 68 J. Econometrics 79 (1995). Another procedure is to calculate the standard deviation of the mean by dividing the mean standard deviation by the square root of the number of law dummies involved (see Badi H. Baltagi & James M. Griffin, Pooled Estimators vs. Their Heterogeneous Counterparts in the Context of Dynamic Demand for Gasoline, 77 J. Econometrics 303 (1997)), which usually produces larger *t*-ratios. Baltagi & Griffin, *supra*, and Pesaran & Smith, *supra*, address coefficient heterogeneity by conducting separate regressions for each unit. That is not feasible here because the time series are too short and, more importantly, because separate regressions are likely to be misspecified because they lack year effects.

[25] One reason for the slight differences between the means in Table 5 and the law coefficients in Tables 2–4 is that the latter are based on regressions weighted by population, whereas the means in Table 5 treat each coefficient equally and thus emphasize smaller states. Thus, excluding New York has little impact on the mean for the federal law only states in Table 5.

TABLE 6

SUICIDE RATES REGRESSED ON JUVENILE GUN BAN LAWS (Ages 15–19), 1980–98

	FIREARM		NONFIREARM	
	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t
Early state laws	−.009	.155	.127	1.346
1994 state laws	.005	.063	.022	.187
Federal law	−.060	.940	.078	.800
Number of states	46		46	
Degrees of freedom	750		750	
Adjusted R^2	.78		.36	
F-statistics:				
Three law types	.35 (.79)		.77 (.51)	
For difference between equations:				
Early state laws			1.58 (.21)	
1994 state laws			.01 (.92)	
Federal law only			1.40 (.24)	
All three types			.97 (.41)	

NOTE.—This table gives coefficients on the three law variables from regressions that are the same as in Table 2 except for the dependent variables.

York, and when it is dropped from the analysis, there is no evidence that the federal law reduces homicide.

Table 9 also analyzes UCR crimes other than homicides. If the laws actually reduce gun possession, they might reduce these crimes because some juveniles might be reluctant to commit them without the protection of firearms. If the laws embolden criminals to commit crimes because they believe that victims who appear to be juveniles are less likely to be armed, then one would expect these other crimes to increase after the bans. The increases would probably be greater for violent crimes, where the offender comes into contact with the victim. All these possible impacts, however, are likely to be muted because the bans do not apply to adults, who comprise the majority of victims and offenders, and there are no useable data disaggregated by age. In any event, there is no sign that the bans affect nonhomicides (Table 9). In particular, the F-statistics for the three law types are far from significant.

The regressions discussed thus far were also estimated with a wide variety of variable specifications. Results change little when law variables are lagged 1 year or converted into distributed lags (a linear trend until the fourth lag). The same is true when the regression is conducted in differences, when the continuous variables are not per capita, and when they are not logged. Coefficients on the 1994 state law variable are usually a little larger and more likely to be significant when the law variable is lagged, but they are less likely to be significant when variables are differenced or not logged.

As stated earlier, interpretation of the 1994 laws is uncertain because many other nationwide changes were made that year. The regression design mitigates this problem by entering year dummies and state trends and by com-

TABLE 7

HOMICIDE VICTIMIZATION RATES REGRESSED ON JUVENILE GUN BAN LAWS

	1980–98				1977–99			
	Ages 15–19		Ages 15–24		Ages 14–17		Ages 14–24	
	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t
Early state laws	−.021	.332	.024	.547	.000	.005	.035	.879
1994 state laws	.160	1.910	.132	2.285	.157	1.339	.092	1.320
Federal law	−.063	.932	−.064	1.383	−.166	2.261	−.125	2.817
F for three types	2.21 (.09)		3.59 (.01)		3.00 (.03)		4.51 (.004)	
Number of states	44		49		34		42	
Degrees of freedom	716		801		672		838	
Adjusted R^2	.87		.92		.80		.89	

NOTE.—This table gives coefficients on the three law variables from regressions that are the same as in Table 2 except for the dependent variables.

paring coefficients in gun and nongun homicides. Still, the best estimates are probably for the pre-1994 laws, which were passed before the spate of federal law activity. There is virtually no evidence that the pre-1994 laws have an impact.

Another way to control for at least some of the other changes occurring around 1994 is to add dummy variables for specific laws. I added three categories to the regressions in Tables 2–4. The first is background checks for handgun purchases, which under the Brady Act were first applied after February 1994 in 33 states that did not already have background checks (indicated in Table 1).[26] The second is that 24 states have three-strikes laws (usually enhanced penalties for third violent felonies).[27] The third is that 25 states have shall-issue laws (which facilitate concealed handgun permits).[28] These additions had very little impact on the results reported above.[29]

[26] Jens Ludwig & Philip J. Cook, Homicide and Suicide Rates Associated with Implementation of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, 284 JAMA 585 (2000).

[27] See Marvell & Moody, supra note 23.

[28] See Lott & Mustard, supra note 10. The dates for these laws are as follows: Alaska, August 30, 1994; Arizona, July 17, 1994; Arkansas, July 8, 1995; Florida, October 1, 1987; Georgia, August 25, 1989; Idaho, July 1, 1990; Kentucky, October 1, 1996; Louisiana, April 19, 1996; Maine, August 7, 1980; Mississippi, July 1, 1990; Montana, October 1, 1991; Nevada, October 1, 1995; New Hampshire, August 1, 1994; North Carolina, December 1, 1995; Oklahoma, September 1, 1995; Oregon, January 1, 1990; Pennsylvania, June 18, 1989, and October 19, 1995; South Carolina, August 23, 1996; Tennessee, July 1, 1994; Texas, August 28, 1995; Utah, May 1, 1995; Virginia, July 1, 1983, and July 1, 1995; West Virginia, July 1, 1988; Wyoming, October 1, 1994.

[29] Analysis of the results for these three law variables is outside the scope of this paper. A rough summary is that the shall-issue laws have little discernable impact except for reducing rape. The three-strikes laws are strongly associated with increases in almost all measures of homicide (the major exceptions are nongun homicides of persons ages 15–19 and 15–24). The likely reasons for this result are discussed in Marvell & Moody, supra note 23. The Brady Act is also strongly associated with more homicides (except victimizations of persons ages 15–19 and 15–24), as well as with robbery, burglary, and auto thefts. A possible reason is that criminals believe that citizens are more vulnerable. However, this finding suffers from the

TABLE 8

HOMICIDE ARREST RATES REGRESSED ON JUVENILE GUN BAN LAWS, 1977–99

	AGES 14–17		AGES 14–24	
	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t
Early state laws	.054	.796	.080	1.843
1994 state laws	.218	1.784	.159	2.103
Federal law	−.095	1.254	−.070	1.454
F for three types	2.31 (.08)		4.03 (.01)	
Number of states	35		44	
Degrees of freedom	693		880	
Adjusted R²	.83		.86	

NOTE.—This table gives coefficients on the three law variables from regressions that are the same as in Table 2 except for the dependent variables.

The next analysis is another comparison of coefficients, with young person and adult victimizations as dependent variables. If the juvenile handgun bans act to increase homicides because criminals have less cause to fear that victims are armed, then the impact should fall only on persons whom the attacker believes to be juveniles (it is possible, however, that offenders might refrain from attacking adults if there are juveniles present whom the offender believes might be armed). Although the bans apply to persons under 18, the attacker often does not know the victim's age and might believe older persons are similarly without gun protection. In any event, I use victimizations of persons ages 14–17, 15–19, and 15–24. Likewise, it is difficult to determine which age group is not affected, and the variables used are persons older than 19 and persons older than 24. These various combinations lead to five comparisons, and there is no indication of a difference between the age groups for any of the three law types.

It is possible that the apparent lack of crime-reduction impact of the law is due to simultaneity—that is, state legislatures pass juvenile bans in response to rising juvenile homicide, such that this positive relationship counteracts a negative impact of the laws. This possibility is suggested by Figure 1 and Table 1. Most laws in the "early state law" category were enacted in the late 1980s and early 1990s, just when juvenile gun homicide was increasing. Although these crimes peaked in about 1992, the 1994 federal and state laws might be in response to the trends in the prior decade. This issue is addressed in two ways. First, any such simultaneity would be mitigated (but not eliminated) by lagging the law dummy variables, because the legislatures are not

fact that the categorization of states as Brady Act states and non–Brady Act states by Ludwig & Cook, *supra* note 26, has little to do with the extent of gun control exercised before and after the Brady Act. Several Brady Act states (subjected to the law) already had strong gun control laws, while the federal government classified several states as non–Brady Act states on the basis of laws passed just before the Brady Act went into effect. In all, because of this problem and because of the positive coefficients on the Brady Act variable, I question the results in Ludwig & Cook, *supra* note 26.

TABLE 9

Uniform Crime Report Crime Rates Regressed on Juvenile Gun Ban Laws
(50 States, 1,353 Degrees of Freedom), 1970–99

	Homicide		Rape		Robbery		Assault		Burglary		Larceny		Auto Theft	
	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t	Coefficient	t
Early state laws	.003	.161	−.010	.702	−.002	.113	−.000	.011	.001	.171	.010	1.260	−.001	.093
1994 state laws	.051	1.741	−.026	1.326	.019	.790	−.024	1.186	−.008	.604	.009	.856	.007	.333
Federal law	−.076	3.180	−.013	.827	.007	.361	−.027	1.563	−.015	1.281	.001	.119	−.017	.944
F for three types	6.89		.67		.24		.99		.62		.71		.51	
	(.001)		(.57)		(.87)		(.40)		(.60)		(.55)		(.67)	
Adjusted R^2	.95		.97		.99		.98		.98		.98		.98	

Note.—This table gives coefficients on the three law variables from regressions that are the same as in Table 2 except for the dependent variables. Two dependent-variable lags are used.

influenced by crime rates in the next year. As discussed earlier, lagging the dummy has little impact on the results.

Another way to explore possible simultaneity is the Granger test.[30] Using a probit procedure, with the variables listed in Table 2 plus the state effects, the law dummies are regressed on crime lagged 2 years, as well as the law dummies lagged 2 years. If rising crime caused the laws to be enacted, the coefficients on the crime variables would be significant and positive.[31] The analysis showed that there is no evidence of this for any of the three law categories and for any of the numerous crime measures. Most coefficients on lagged crime (the regressions use lags of 1 and 2 years) are negative, and none is positive and significant.

VI. CONCLUSION

Juvenile handgun bans have little or no impact on a wide variety of crime measures. This finding renders the analysis more difficult than if an impact were found. Most published evaluations of laws do find an impact one way or another, and they typically only present a regression with significant results, with perhaps a few supporting analyses. Such a procedure, however, is not valid to show the absence of an impact because still other specifications might uncover an apparent impact. Also, the lack of significant results does not mean absence of impact, just that it is less likely. One can never claim to have covered all possibilities, but this paper attempts to mitigate these by using numerous crime measures as well as several configurations of the law variables and of the continuous variables. The multiple time-series design using coefficient comparisons, moreover, provides far more controls than other procedures.

One can posit theories that the juvenile gun bans either increase or decrease homicides. If the bans reduce juvenile gun access, they would probably reduce the use of guns by juveniles in crimes. If the bans lead others to believe that juveniles are more vulnerable targets, the result is likely to be more crime, especially violent crimes involving juveniles. The finding that the laws have little or no impact could mean that both types of theories are without merit or that they cancel each other out. The former appears more likely. It is not likely that theories cancel each other in a similar way for so many different

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[30] Clive W. J. Granger, Investigating Causal Relations by Econometric Models and Cross-Spectral Methods, 37 Econometrica 424 (1969).

[31] The rationale for the Granger test is that there is no simultaneity between the dependent variable and lagged independent variable, so long as the lagged dependent variable is entered to control for possible serial correlation between the lagged independent variable and dependent variable through the lagged dependent variable. It is possible for the Granger test to miss causation if it occurs only in the current year, since the current year independent variable is not entered (because the causal direction in the current year is undetermined). This is very unlikely here because the legislature in one year is unlikely to react only to crime in that year and not consider crime in the prior year.

crime measures, and the lack of impact on juvenile suicide rates suggests that the laws do not reduce gun access.

The results are almost uniform with respect to the pre-1994 state laws banning juvenile gun possession: they have no discernible crime-reduction impact, and there is only very slight evidence of an increase, mainly with respect to total gun homicides (Table 5). The results for the 1994 law variables are more uncertain because the results might be influenced by substantial federal efforts commenced that year to regulate guns and reduce crime generally. Where the 1994 laws seem to have an impact, the suggestion is almost always that crime increases; thus, there is no evidence that these bans had their intended effect. There is some slight support for the theory that the bans increase homicides because juveniles appear more vulnerable. With aggregate law variables, this effect appears mainly for state 1994 laws and it is usually counterbalanced by negative results for the federal 1994 law. The strongest indication occurs when the law variable is disaggregated, but these results are affected by large positive coefficients in a few small states. Finally, there is no discernable difference between the impact of the laws on murders by juveniles and those by adults; if the laws encouraged crime, the impact would only apply to the former.

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SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2019 9:53:12 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Democrats Committee on Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments:

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION
555 CAPITOL MALL, STE 625
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 446-2455

STATE & LOCAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
DANIEL REID, WESTERN REGIONAL DIRECTOR

March 25, 2019

The Honorable Chris Lee
Chair, Committee on Judiciary
Sent Via Email

Re: **Senate Bill 600 - OPPOSE**

Dear Chairman Lee:

On behalf of the Hawaii members of the National Rifle Association, we strongly oppose Senate Bill 600.

Hawaii requires individuals who bring a firearm into the state to register that firearm within five days; however an age for registration is not expressly stated in statute. SB 600 would set the minimum age for registration at 21 years old. This legislation will discriminate against those young adults who possess lawfully acquired firearms from traveling to Hawaii for hunting or recreational purposes along with those who are relocating to Hawaii for various reasons including members of our military.

We encourage the author to explore proposals that go after those misusing firearms instead of focusing attention on the good honest law abiding citizens traveling or relocating to the Aloha State.

For the foregoing reasons, we urge your opposition to SB 600.

Sincerely,

Daniel Reid
Western Regional Director

GIFFORDS
COURAGE TO FIGHT GUN VIOLENCE

LATE

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB600

TO: MEMBERS OF THE HAWAII HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
SUBMITTED BY: MOLLY VOIGT, STATE LEGISLATIVE MANAGER, GIFFORDS
DATE: MARCH 25, 2019

Chair Lee, Vice-Chair Buenaventura, and Members of the Hawaii House Judiciary Committee,

On behalf of Giffords, the gun violence prevention organization founded by former Congresswoman Gabby Giffords and her husband Captain Mark Kelly, I would like to thank you for consideration of this important gun violence prevention bill. This written testimony is specifically to state our support for Senate Bill 600. This bill would prohibit any person under 21 years of age from bringing a firearm into the state. Hawaii law already requires that state residents who wish to apply for a permit to acquire ownership of a firearm be at least 21 years old, so this bill will ensure that all firearm owners in the state are of the same more responsible age.

Possessing a firearm necessitates an ability to act extremely responsibly, and data shows that young adults account for a disproportionate number of gun homicides and suicides. The perpetrators of the two deadliest school shootings in United States history— Sandy Hook Elementary and Marjory Stoneman Douglas High had an important characteristic in common: neither shooter was old enough to buy beer, but both were old enough to purchase the weapons they used to murder 34 students and 9 adults. These shooters share another feature—as 19- and 20-year-olds, they fall into a category of Americans who are disproportionately at risk of committing gun violence. Individuals age 18 to 20 comprise only 4% of the population but commit 17% of gun homicides.[1] Based on data from the FBI, 18- to 24-year-olds also account for a disproportionate percentage of arrests for homicide and violent crime in general.[2] Young adults ages 18 to 25 also experience the highest rates of serious mental illness,[3] and suicide attempts that result in death or treatment in a hospital peak between ages 16 and 21[4]. It is well-documented that the biological processes that take place during late adolescence and young adulthood predispose individuals to riskier and less controlled behavior.[5] In 1984, responding to a public health crisis of intoxicated driving by 18 to 20 year-olds, the US enacted a federal law raising the drinking age to 21.[6] The rate of fatal automobile crashes involving 18- to 20-year-old drivers under the influence of alcohol was 61% in 1982.[7] By 1995, it had declined to 31%, a larger reduction than for older age groups. Similar to the reasons why 18- to 20-year-olds lack the biological maturity and brain development to

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[1] "Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 2015," US Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, https://ucr.fbi.gov/nibrs/addendumfor-submitting-cargo-theft-data/shr.

[2] "Crime in the United States 2012," US Department of Justice & Federal Bureau of Investigation, Table 38: Arrests by Age, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crimein-the-u.s.-2012/tables/38tabledatadecoverviewpdf.

[3] "Results from the 203 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Summary of National Findings," Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/NHSDA/2k2NSDUH/Results/2k2results.htm#chap9.

[4] Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, https://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/johns-hopkins-center-for-gun-policy-and-research/_pdfs/GunsOnCampus.pdf.

[5] *Id*.

[6] Steven R. Weisman, "Reagan Signs Law Linking Federal Aid to Drinking Age," New York Times, July 18, 1984, http://www.nytimes.com/1984/07/18/us/reagan-signs-law-linking-federal-aidto-drinking-age.html; https://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/fact-sheets/minimum-legal-drinkingage.html.

[7] Anne T. McCartt, Laurie A. Hellinga, and Bevan B. Kirley, "The Effects of Minimum Legal Drinking Age 21 Laws on Alcohol-Related Driving in the United States," Journal of Safety Research 41, no. 2 (2010): 173–181.

GIFFORDS

safely drink alcohol, the "challenges with impulse control, emotional regulation, and onset of mental illness" make unsupervised access to firearms by this age group a dangerous combination.

We urge you to support Senate Bill 600 and strengthen minimum age laws for possessing firearms because it will help protect young people and the public at large in Hawaii.

ABOUT GIFFORDS

Giffords is a nonprofit organization dedicated to saving lives from gun violence. Led by former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and her husband, Navy combat veteran and retired NASA astronaut Captain Mark Kelly, Giffords inspires the courage of people from all walks of life to make America safer.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2019 12:45:18 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hawaii Public Policy Advocates	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Melissa Pavlicek and I am testifying in support of SB 600.

This bill is an important step toward ensuring a reduction in gun violence and toward reducing the amount of firearms brought into the state. Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-600-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2019 5:18:28 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Isaacson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This is plainly a discriminatory bill which will not pass constitutional muster, leaving Hawaii taxpayers having to defend unconstitutional measures again. If you are old enough to be in the military, you are old enough to own a firearm.

SB-600-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2019 6:47:33 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Russell Takata	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE this measure.This proposal directly and adversely impacts incoming service members assigned to Hawaii, and competitors who visit Hawaii to participate in shooting sports events sanctioned by nationally-recognized organizations. Regarding the former, servicemen under 21 years of age should not be prohibited from firearms possession and registration. They have either served in combat or can be assigned to combat duty. This measure does not recognize their firearms safety training and duty to our country.

SB-600-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2019 10:05:02 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joel Berg	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB600 : OPPOSE! RE: Prohibits anyone under 21 from registering a firearm. This law separates an individual from their lawfully acquired property, many of whom are soldiers and sailors who at great personal cost have volunteered to defend the state and the nation. It is immoral that we would allow these young men and women to fight on our behalf yet would deny them the right to defend themselves.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/23/2019 7:14:01 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fred Delosantos	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose SB600. A person at the age of 18 can join the armed forces, and be sent in harms way bearing arms to perform the warfighting duties of our country, and perhaps risk their lives so we can enjoy our freedoms. Yet SB600 proposes to abridge the constitutional rights of this age group 18-21, although they may be asked to lay down their lives so that we can rest easy? so that we can enjoy our constitutional rights at the same time we deny theirs? Something fundamentally wrong here.

SB-600-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/23/2019 8:44:14 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Quentin Kealoha	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose bill SB600 HD1.

This bill makes absolutely no sense and discriminates against law abiding citizens, simply because of their age.

It has been indicated numerous times that the majority of the population opposes this and most, if not all, of the recent anti-firearm legislation, as highlighted by the overwhelming oppositional testimonies in previous committes which individuals like Rep. karl rhodes and Rep. chris lee conveniently have been ignoring to continue to push bills like this through.

Ironic that they continue to push bills like this through, yet kill any bills relating to term limits or voter recall, all of which would force them to do their job and implement the will of the people.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/23/2019 6:10:22 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ron Klapperich	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it's hipocritical that we can fight a war but not bring firearms into the State. Perhaps Hawaiian citizens should be prevented from entering service and defending our country until they are old enough to legally drink (21). That would be less ridiculous then the outcome of this poorly thought out bill.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/23/2019 7:11:07 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mitchell weber	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I STRONGLY, OPPOSE SB600,

   This proposed bill violates th terms of HRS 134. Nowhere in HRS 134 does it require a person to be twenty one years of age. Therefore the federal age regulation of eighteen stands. This proposed bill will hurt Hawaii tourism.

   If young Americans are old enough to die for our country and way of life(this includes yours),they should be old enough to own a firearm. There is a push for voting rights at age sixteen, of course this would benefit the DNC so I will assume at least some members of the committee agree. Do you mean to tell me that a teenager has the mental capacity and experience to shape our countries laws and practices but a legal adult cannot fathom the responsible use and ownership of a firearm?

   I would hope everyone on the committee is aware of the history of SB600 in the legislative session. Earlier in the process hundreds of testimonies were illegally cast aside and ignored. A normal unbiased person would be given the benefit of the doubt regarding this honest mistake, but I will not allow a pass for biased anti gun legislators who have a track record of ignoring the will of the people to satisfy a small minority of constituents. As committee chairs your actions affect all Hawaii citizens not just your selective constituency. The amount of "organization" of the pro second amendment citizens are speaking out in opposition due to your tone deaf and dangerous legislative overreach.

SB-600-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/23/2019 10:36:45 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tony lee	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

Military members under 21 , arriving into hawaii will be unable to register their personnal firearms.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/23/2019 8:52:16 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael A. Wee	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE this bill. It makes no sense when existing law allows other firearm-related activities at much younger ages. This bill is an example of unnecessary legislation intended to harass law-abiding gun owners. It just complicates firearm acquisition and ownership. Other than that, it does not accomplish anything.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/23/2019 11:40:47 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Fukuzawa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Legislative Members,

I am writing to you inform you that as an NRA member, as a retired correctional officer, and as a disabled military veteran, I am opposing this bill. Being that men and women may join the military at age 18, you are discriminating individuals due to age. This is not the way to do this. People this age may own a firearm according to the 2nd amendment and as such, we should honor this. If you are going to discriminate, it should be according to criminal records or severe mental illness not because of a person's age.

Sincerely,

David J Fukuzawa

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 12:10:54 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shyla Moon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 12:19:24 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adam Lipka	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This is not appropriate and is likely unconstitutional. We deam 18 year olds mature enough to join the military, national guard, and vote yet somehow they aren't mature enough to possess a firearm.

SB-600-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/24/2019 12:30:42 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louis Prescott II	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I, Louis Prescott II, oppose SB600 HD1 because it is a direct violation of our Constitutionally protected rights to keep and bear arms under the 2nd Ammendment and discriminates against age.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 1:11:10 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Oshima	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 3:43:42 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
brandon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha, I oppose SB600 .We need to stop punishing law abiding citizens with these restrictive laws. We have to stop punishing the good people as a way to stop the bad. There are better ways. Mahalo.

Brandon w from Pahoa

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 5:44:32 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Len Fergusen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

  I oppose SB 600 in it's entirety. I am a lifelong resident of Hawaii and an educational professional and I VOTE in every election.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 6:53:35 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Traci Powers	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I stand in opposition of this legislation. This legislation carves out no exceptions for military personnel or their families who are relocated to Hawaii for military service. If an 18 year old is considered mature enough to sign a contract, vote, purchase a vehicle and to die for our country in uniform, these same individuals are mature enough to own a firearm. This legislation does nothing to address real issues of crime or illegal activity, it is nothing more than feel good legislation that infringes on the rights of law abiding citizens.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 7:15:22 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Yokota	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose bill because there is no exception for those in the military, and that it discriminates based on age those who would otherwise not be prohibited under HRS from owning a rifle or shotgun for hunting or target shooting. Other than creating more of a burden on law enforcement, and depriving those of a certain age from owning a firearm, there isn't any point to this bill.

Will this bill prevent another Sandy Hook or Parkland? No, since neither of those shooters obtained their firearms legally.   Will this prevent criminals from committing crimes? No. Justin Waiki and Darryl Freeman we're both convicted felons who still had firearms.

This bill will not solve or prevent anything.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 9:45:01 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kamakani de dely	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

As a tax paying,voting, law abiding citizen of Hawaii, I vote NO on bill SB600. I find it offendsive and oppressive of the rights of the people. Stop oppressing our rights to live a happy peaceful life by means of taking away our firearms and the rights to bear them.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 9:48:35 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mallory De Dely	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

As a tax paying,voting, law abiding citizen of Hawaii, I vote NO on bill SB600. I find it offendsive and oppressive of the rights of the people. Stop oppressing our rights to live a happy peaceful life by means of taking away our firearms and the rights to bear them.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 12:41:30 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matt	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

I Oppose SB600. At a time when the democrats are saying that they want the voting age to be lowered to 16, its hypocrisy to say that someone below 21 is old enough to vote but not old enough to safely handle a firearm.

I had my own shotgun at 9 years old and knew how to safely handle it so this bill should be rejected.

Please have the courage to stand for common sense and for our Constitution that you swore an oath to defend.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 1:43:06 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mikhael Kobayashi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 7:22:37 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marcus Tanaka	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Age discrimination. 18 you can vote and join the military. The military takes an oath to protect the constitution. But with this law. They cant even exercise their 2nd amendment right.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 8:23:02 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dwayne Lim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 8:23:36 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelly Lim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/24/2019 10:21:56 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Grant Nagata	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee,

I'm writing in opposition of Bill SB600. I'm opposed to any legislation that goes against any Constitutional rights. I understand that this bill and many like it is an attempt to curb violence. I also understand the thinking that taking away tools to commit violent acts such as with firearms, knives, bats, bricks, pipes, fists, elbows, etc., may seem like a good idea. However removing the tools is not the solution. The problem is not because of the tools but the lack of integrity, character and the absence of values that people have. Walk around and ask random people what their core values are, especially those under 40 years of age. You'll be met with blank stares and even the response of "what does that mean?" I know this because I've asked this question may times. It is sad when people know more about trivia, music and TV than their own values. When was the last time you or anyone mentioned the word character, integrity, leadership, decision making, honor, delaying gratification, persistence, etc. in the home?

I take 100% personal responsibility for making sure that these words are a commonplace in my family and that we apply them. I think that if we all did this we would see violence of all kinds not just guns, but bullying, sexual assault, child abuse, verbal abuse, etc. be reduced. I think we should allocate our time, energy and money to reestablishing these values in our State and County systems, including our education system, instead of misallocating more of our funds towards restrictive laws that will not have a long term impact.

Respectfully,

Grant Nagata

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2019 8:33:57 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kawika Freitas	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill. You can vote at 18, join the military, smoke, etc.. and be tried as an adult. If all these things are legal at the age of 18 then so should your second amendment.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2019 12:05:10 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This is Against the 2nd Amendment. The Federal Consitution super seeds the State or County.

Stop Screwing with the people there are over 100,000 Gun owners in Hawaii they will remember you Next Election!!!

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2019 1:51:51 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald G Livingston	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2019 7:34:40 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shelton Yamashiro	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

PLEASE OPPOSE!

This bill denies adult citizens under 21 the right to bring their legally owned firearms with them into the state.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2019 9:40:22 AM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Howard Suguitan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This bill discriminates gased on age and denies constitutional rights.

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2019 2:37:02 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Goo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

We opposed SB600 How are you going to accomdate our military personnel who get assiged to Hawaii and are between 18-21 years old, This is discriminatory as many of they in most states are able to own firearms after 18 years old.

Dan Goo Retired HPD, Judy Goo, Sean Goo, Elisha Goo, Mariah Goo, Katherine Goo

SB-600-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2019 2:45:14 PM
Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carolyn Pearl	Individual	Support	No

Comments: