



**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA  
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

H.B. NO. 984, RELATING TO FIREARMS.

**BEFORE THE:**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 14, 2023      **TIME:** 2:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 325

**TESTIFIER(S):** Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or  
David D. Day, Special Assistant to the Attorney General

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Chair Tarnas and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) strongly supports this bill. The purpose of this bill is to clarify, revise, and update Hawaii's firearms laws to address the serious hazards to public health, safety, and welfare posed by firearms and gun violence. The Department offers this bill as one step in an ongoing dialogue with the Legislature regarding how our State can maintain the longstanding public policy and legislative intent of chapter 134, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), amid a changing legal landscape following recent United States Supreme Court decisions.

For 170 years—since 1852—Hawai'i has protected public health and safety by carefully limiting who may carry guns in public. For decades, a system of discretionary licensing was used: the police departments would evaluate an applicant and decide whether there was a good reason why that person needed to carry a concealed firearm in public. This policy was preserved and supported across many different administrations and legislative sessions, and it played an important role in helping to reduce the risks of gun violence in our communities. Largely due to Hawaii's system of discretionary licenses, concealed weapons were not commonly carried in public in Hawai'i. Accordingly, there was not as great a need for some of the types of firearms laws that exist in many other states—for example, laws prohibiting carrying firearms in "sensitive places" like schools, playgrounds, and government buildings, or laws prohibiting carrying a firearm in public while intoxicated.

In its June 2022 decision in *New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen*, 142 S. Ct. 2111 (2022), the United States Supreme Court held that discretionary licensing systems for carrying guns in public cannot be used going forward. The Supreme Court stated that the Second Amendment requires that state law must provide clear and objective criteria for when licenses to carry firearms in public will be granted. Moreover, after *Bruen*, the Second Amendment requires that if an applicant meets the statutory criteria that have been established by the state legislature, then a license to carry a concealed weapon in public “shall” be granted.

The Supreme Court’s *Bruen* decision represents a very significant and disruptive change for our State. In the wake of *Bruen*, many more people are applying for licenses to carry a firearm. Under *Bruen*, those licenses shall be granted unless there is an objective statutory basis requiring denial. This will result in a significant increase in the presence of firearms in public, with more individuals carrying concealed weapons in Hawai’i than ever before in our State’s history. This presents serious challenges for public health and safety. This bill is an effort to address these challenges in the post-*Bruen* legal landscape.

Gun violence presents an urgent public-health issue, and even after the Supreme Court’s decision in *Bruen*, there are still a number of important tools available to address the serious and increasing risks posed by firearms and gun violence. States have the authority to enact “a ‘variety’ of gun regulations,” *Bruen*, 142 S. Ct. at 2162 (Kavanaugh, J., concurring), such as prohibiting the carrying of firearms in sensitive locations and adopting laws to ensure that those who carry firearms are “law-abiding, responsible citizens,” *id.* at 2133, 2138.

At a fundamental level, this bill is intended to do two things.

*First*, some existing provisions of chapter 134, HRS, can no longer be applied going forward, and should be reframed to address the immediate effects of the Supreme Court’s decision in *Bruen*. The bill would update and revise these provisions to preserve the intent and purpose of chapter 134, HRS, to the extent possible. For example, the bill would clarify the legal standards and criteria that will be applied when a person applies for a license to carry a firearm in public.

*Second*, the bill identifies policies that we believe would help address the significant risks presented by the increased public carrying of firearms. We offer this bill as one step in an ongoing dialogue with the Legislature regarding how the State can maintain the longstanding public policy and legislative intent underpinning chapter 134, HRS, in a post-*Bruen* legal framework, to the extent legally permissible. The goal is to outline a set of policies that would robustly protect public health and safety in a manner that complies with *Bruen*.

As explained in greater detail below, this bill would:

- Prohibit carrying or possessing a firearm in certain sensitive locations;
- Require a person stopped by a law enforcement officer to inform the law enforcement officer if they are carrying a concealed firearm;
- Prohibit leaving an unsecured firearm in a vehicle unattended;
- Prohibit people carrying a firearm from consuming alcohol, consuming a controlled substance, being under the influence of alcohol, or being under the influence of a controlled substance;
- Prohibit carrying or possessing a firearm on private property open to the public without authorization;
- Revise, clarify, and focus Hawaii's mental-health disqualification for firearms possession;
- Protect public safety by ensuring that firearms are not possessed or carried by those who lack the essential character or temperament necessary to be entrusted with a firearm;
- Add new education and training requirements for applicants for a license to carry a firearm in public;
- Clarify that when a permit to acquire a firearm or a license to carry a firearm is denied, the applicant should be given reasons for the denial and will have a right to a contested case hearing;
- Prohibit a person carrying a firearm in public pursuant to a license from carrying more than one firearm on their person at one time; and

- Disqualify individuals who have been convicted of a violent misdemeanor crime or a crime relating to firearms from possessing firearms for 20 years following the conviction and maintain Hawaii's lifetime prohibition on possessing firearms for persons convicted of a felony.

\* \* \*

**The bill would prohibit carrying or possessing a firearm in certain sensitive locations (Section 2, section 134-A, HRS, page 4, line 1, through page 8, line 19).**

These include the following locations:

- State and local government buildings;
- Schools, colleges, and universities;
- Public or private hospitals, mental health facilities, nursing homes, clinics, medical offices, urgent care facilities, and other places at which medical or health services are customarily provided;
- Bars and restaurants serving alcohol;
- Stadiums, movie theaters, concert halls, and places at which a professional, collegiate, high school, amateur, or student sporting event is being held;
- Prisons and jails;
- Public libraries;
- Beaches, playgrounds, state monuments, and other state and county parks;
- Shelters and residential facilities serving unhoused persons or victims of domestic violence;
- Voting service centers and other polling places;
- Banks;
- Places, facilities, or vehicles used for public transportation or public transit, including buses, bus terminals (but not including bus stops located on public sidewalks), trains, rail stations, and airports;
- Amusement parks, aquariums, carnivals, circuses, fairs, museums, water parks, and zoos.

These provisions are intended to protect particularly sensitive locations from the risks of gun violence. These locations fall into three general categories: high-density locations; locations with vulnerable populations; and locations of governmental activity. Parking areas adjacent to the sensitive locations identified above are also deemed sensitive locations where possessing firearms is prohibited. These prohibitions do not apply to law enforcement and authorized security guards, and are subject to various affirmative defenses.

The U.S. Supreme Court has made clear that the Second Amendment does not prohibit states from prohibiting carrying firearms in “sensitive locations.” The collection of sensitive locations defined in the bill is in line with the set of sensitive locations that a number of other states have identified in recent legislation. Although many states protect sensitive locations from firearms, Hawai‘i currently has no such law in place. We believe these provisions are legally appropriate and are grounded in longstanding history and tradition—as required by the legal test the Supreme Court established in *Bruen*. The bill also clarifies that counties may, if they elect to do so, identify additional “sensitive locations” within each county as appropriate. See Section 2, section 134-G, HRS.

**The bill would require a person carrying a firearm in public pursuant to a license to maintain possession of the license and proof that the firearm being carried is properly registered (Section 2, section 134-C(a), HRS, page 9, line 20, through page 10, line 9).** This provision is intended to promote public safety by making sure that those who carry firearms pursuant to a license comply with registration and licensing requirements. Many states have established similar requirements for licensees.

**The bill would require a person stopped by a law enforcement officer to inform the law enforcement officer if they are carrying a concealed firearm (Section 2, section 134-C(b), HRS, page 10, line 10, through page 11, line 4).** This provision is intended to protect the public, protect law-enforcement-officer safety, promote situational awareness during investigatory stops, and avoid the risks of escalation. Many states have already established similar public safety requirements.

See, e.g., N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-415.11(a) (“[Licensee] shall carry the permit together with valid identification whenever the person is carrying a concealed handgun, shall disclose to any law enforcement officer that the person holds a valid permit and is carrying a concealed handgun when approached or addressed by the officer, and shall display both the permit and the proper identification upon the request of a law enforcement officer.”); Alaska Stat. Ann. § 11.61.220 (requiring that a person must “immediately inform the peace officer of [firearm] possession” if stopped).

**The bill would prohibit leaving an unsecured firearm in a vehicle unattended (Section 2, section 134-D, HRS, page 11, line 5, through page 12, line 6).** A significant concern associated with the increased public carry of firearms is the increased risk of theft of firearms from automobiles. See Megan J. O’Toole et al., *Gun Thefts from Cars: The Largest Source of Stolen Guns*, Everytown Research & Policy (May 9, 2022), <https://everytownresearch.org/gun-thefts-from-cars-the-largest-source-of-stolen-guns> (reporting, based on FBI crime data, that “gun thefts from cars are now the largest source of stolen guns—one that continues rising in parallel with rising rates of gun sales and violence”).

Under this provision, a person leaving a firearm inside a vehicle unattended would be required to securely lock the firearm in a gun safe or other secure container within the vehicle that is out of sight from outside of the vehicle. This provision is similar to laws that have been enacted in a number of other states, including New York, California, and Connecticut. See, e.g., N.Y. Penal Law § 265.45; Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 29-38g(a)(1) (“No person shall store or keep any pistol or revolver in any motor vehicle that is unattended unless such pistol or revolver is in the trunk, a locked safe or locked glove box.”); Cal. Pen. Code § 25140 (“[A] person shall, when leaving a handgun in an unattended vehicle, lock the handgun in the vehicle's trunk, lock the handgun in a locked container and place the container out of plain view, lock the handgun in a locked container that is permanently affixed to the vehicle's interior and not in plain view, or lock the handgun in a locked toolbox or utility box.”).

The Department also proposes adopting one revision to this provision. In light of additional information the Department has received regarding this provision, and in

order to ensure that requirements established by the bill can be satisfied through the use of safe storage depositories that are currently commercially available for use in vehicles, the Department recommends replacing "fire, impact," with "impact" at page 11, lines 17-18.

**The bill would prohibit people carrying a firearm from consuming alcohol, consuming a controlled substance, being under the influence of alcohol, or being under the influence of a controlled substance (Section 2, section 134-E, HRS, page 12, line 7, through page 13, line 5).** This provision is intended to combat the very serious public health risks that are presented when intoxicated persons carry or use firearms. Research demonstrates that “people who abuse alcohol or illicit drugs are at an increased risk of committing acts of violence,” and “[d]rug and alcohol use by domestic abusers has been strongly linked with the perpetration of fatal and non-fatal domestic violence.” D.W. Webster & J.S. Vernick, *Keeping Firearms from Drug and Alcohol Abusers*, 15 *Injury Prevention* 425 (2009); see also B.G. Carr et al., *A Randomised Controlled Feasibility Trial of Alcohol Consumption and the Ability to Appropriately Use a Firearm*, 15 *Injury Prevention* 409, 409 (2009) (concluding that “[i]ntoxicated subjects were less accurate, slower to fire in reaction time scenarios, and quicker to fire in scenarios requiring judgement relative to controls” and determining that “[a]n association between firearm injury and heavy alcohol consumption has been demonstrated”).

Notably, “studies consistently reported that alcohol use was significantly associated with the possession of firearms, the ownership of firearms, and the use of firearm as a suicide means, and that the association was stronger for heavy alcohol use.” Charles C. Branas et al., *Alcohol Use and Firearm Violence*, 38 *Epidemiologic Reviews* 32, 43-44 (2016). Moreover, “an overwhelming proportion (70%) of [intimate-partner] homicide perpetrators were under the influence of substances when the crime occurred, . . . and the use of alcohol is a strong predictor of intimate terrorism of women.” Darryl W. Roberts, *Intimate Partner Homicide: Relationships to Alcohol and Firearms*, 25 *J. Contemp. Crim. Just.* 67, 70 (2009).

The majority of states either prohibit carrying a firearm while under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance, prohibit carrying a firearm while consuming alcohol or a controlled substance, or both. Hawai'i currently has no law prohibiting either.

**The bill would prohibit carrying or possessing a firearm on private property open to the public without authorization (Section 2, section 134-F, HRS, page 13, line 6, through page 14, line 17).** The bill would create a “default rule” that a person may not carry firearms on other peoples’ private property without express permission of the owner or manager of the property. The purpose of this provision is to reduce the risks of gun violence on private property, to reduce the likelihood of armed confrontations, and to respect the right of private entities and property owners to decide for themselves whether to allow the carrying of firearms on their property.

This is similar to laws adopted in New York and New Jersey in 2022. See N.Y. Penal Law § 265.01-d(1) (“A person is guilty of criminal possession of a weapon in a restricted location when such person possesses a firearm, rifle, or shotgun and enters into or remains on or in private property where such person knows or reasonably should know that the owner or lessee of such property has not permitted such possession by clear and conspicuous signage indicating that the carrying of firearms, rifles, or shotguns on their property is permitted or has otherwise given express consent.”); N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:58-4.6(a)(24) (prohibiting carrying a firearm onto “private property, including but not limited to residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, institutional or undeveloped property, unless the owner has provided express consent or has posted a sign indicating that it is permissible to carry on the premises a concealed handgun”); see *also* Alaska Stat. § 11.61.220(a) (prohibiting possession of a firearm “that is concealed on the person within the residence of another person unless the person has first obtained the express permission of an adult residing there to bring a concealed deadly weapon within the residence”).

Under this provision, an owner or operator of private property may signify authorization for others to carry a firearm on their property by providing written or verbal authorization, or by posting a conspicuous sign indicating that carrying or possessing a



firearm is authorized. To be subject to this provision, the private property must be “open to the public”—this includes places like malls, hotels, other retail establishments, etc.

Consistent with this provision, survey data indicates that most people would prefer that the default rule be that guns should not be carried on others’ private property without their express consent. As one recent study found, “a substantial and statistically significant majority of Americans reject the default right to carry weapons onto other people’s residences, unoccupied rural land, retail establishments and businesses.” Ian Ayres & Spurthi Jonnalagadda, *Guests with Guns: Public Support for “No Carry” Defaults on Private Land*, 48 *Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics* 183, 189 (2020).

In light of the above, it appears that of the two possible alternatives for a rule like this—(1) a rule allowing the concealed carrying of firearms on others’ private property unless the property owners take affirmative steps to expressly deny consent or (2) a rule that prohibits concealed carry of firearms on others’ private property unless property owners expressly grant consent—most people would prefer option 2. As noted above, a central purpose of this provision is to protect the important right of owners and operators of private property to decide for themselves whether they want to allow other people to carry firearms on their property.

**The bill would revise, clarify, and focus Hawaii’s mental-health disqualification for firearms possession (Section 6, page 30, line 15, through page 36, line 19).** Currently, section 134-7(c)(3), HRS, prohibits persons “diagnosed as having a significant behavioral, emotional, or mental disorders [sic] as defined by the most current diagnostic manual of the American Psychiatric Association or for treatment for organic brain syndromes” from possessing firearms. The bill would replace the current disqualifier provision with a new provision establishing that a person shall not possess a firearm if they have been “diagnosed with or treated for a medical, behavioral, psychological, emotional, or mental condition or disorder that causes or is likely to cause impairment in judgment, perception, or impulse control to an extent that presents an unreasonable risk to public health, safety, or welfare if the person were in possession or control of a firearm or ammunition[.]” The proposed revision is intended to update the statutory language to create a more targeted provision that focuses on

reducing risks to public welfare. Additionally, the term “organic brain syndrome” is no longer commonly used. See, e.g., Donald W. Black, M.D. & Jon E. Grant, M.D., M.P.H., J.D., *The Essential Companion to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition* 360 (2014).

The wording of this provision is similar to an analogous Texas statute. See Tex. Gov’t Code § 411.172(d) (disqualification for license to carry based on “diagnos[is] by a licensed physician as suffering from a psychiatric disorder or condition that causes or is likely to cause substantial impairment in judgment, mood, perception, impulse control, or intellectual ability”).

**The bill would protect public safety by ensuring that firearms are not possessed or carried by those who lack the essential character or temperament necessary to be entrusted with a firearm (Section 4, page 16, line 21, through page 29, line 2, and Section 7, page 36, line 20, through page 51, line 2).** The bill provides that “[i]n determining whether a person lacks the essential character or temperament necessary to be entrusted with a firearm, the issuing authority shall consider whether the person poses a danger of causing a self-inflicted bodily injury or unlawful injury to another person, as evidenced by:

- (1) Information from a healthcare provider indicating that the person has had suicidal or homicidal thoughts or tendencies within the preceding five years;
- (2) Statements by the person indicating dangerousness or violent animus towards one or more individuals or groups, including but not limited to groups based on race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, or other characteristic, of a nature or to an extent that would objectively indicate to a reasonable observer that it would not be in the interest of the public health, safety, or welfare for the person to own, possess, or control a firearm or ammunition; or
- (3) Other information that would lead a reasonable, objective observer to conclude that the person presents a danger to the community or intends

or is likely to use a firearm for an unlawful purpose or in an unlawful manner.”

**The bill would add new education and training requirements for applicants for a license to carry a firearm in public (Section 7, page 36, line 20, through page 51, line 2).** This includes components on firearm safety, firearm handling, shooting technique, safe storage, legal methods to transport firearms and secure firearms in vehicles, laws governing places in which persons are prohibited from carrying a firearm, firearm usage in low-light situations, situational awareness and conflict management, and laws governing firearms, including information regarding the circumstances in which deadly force may be used for self-defense or the defense of another, mental health and mental health resources, as well as a live-fire shooting exercise on a firing range, with a demonstration by the applicant of safe handling of (and shooting proficiency with) each firearm that the applicant is applying to be licensed to carry in public. Increased education and training is expected to play an important role in mitigating risks associated with the public carry of firearms. This provision is intended to align with recent reforms in several other states.

The bill would also adjust the duration of a license to carry a firearm from one year to two years. The Department believes that this adjustment is warranted in light of the additional requirements for license renewals established in the bill, and in order to reduce the significant administrative burdens on the police departments that annual license renewals would impose. See Section 7.

In order to correctly reflect the current statutory wording that is being amended in section 134-2(g), HRS, the Department recommends a correction to the Ramseyer formatting used on page 24, lines 14-15. In particular, the Department recommends replacing "unless the person, within four years of the issuance of the permit, has completed" with "unless the person, [~~at any time prior to~~] within four years of the issuance of the permit, has completed".

**The bill would clarify that when a permit to acquire a firearm or a license to carry a firearm is denied, the applicant should be given reasons for the denial and will have a right to a contested case hearing (Section 4, page 16, line 21, through**

**page 29, line 2, and Section 7, page 36, line 20, through page 51, line 2).** This is intended to ensure efficient and fair administrative processes for applicants.

**The bill would prohibit a person carrying a firearm in public pursuant to a license from carrying more than one firearm on their person at one time (Section 7, page 36, line 20, through page 51, line 2).** This provision is intended to address the risks to public health and safety associated with carrying multiple firearms in public without impairing the ability of a law-abiding, responsible individual to engage in effective self-defense with a firearm.

**The bill would disqualify individuals who have been convicted of a crime relating to firearms from possessing firearms for 20 years following the conviction (Section 6, page 30, line 15, through page 36, line 19).** Under current law, felonies and a small number of other violent crimes result in an indefinite disqualification from possessing firearms. The bill would modestly expand the set of crimes that trigger a disqualification from firearms ownership, and establish a category of firearms crimes that also, upon conviction, result in a disqualification from firearms possession. These provisions are intended to reduce the risks to public health and safety posed by armed individuals who have a track record of dangerous criminal conduct—rather than being responsible, law-abiding gun owners. The core purpose is to ensure that those who carry guns are responsible, law-abiding gun owners. With respect to misdemeanor convictions, the bill would revise the length of the firearms prohibition associated with such convictions from an indefinite disqualification to a 20-year disqualification. In other states, qualifying misdemeanor convictions generally result in prohibitions on firearms possession that range from 3-20 years. The bill would maintain Hawaii's indefinite prohibition on firearms possession by felons, which parallels federal law.

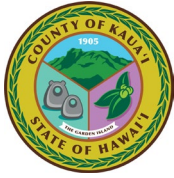
Additionally, the Department recommends a revision to one of the provisions of this bill. Section 2 of the bill would require insurance coverage for those who engage in the licensed public carry of firearms (Section 2, section 134-B, HRS). In particular, section 2 of the bill would require that, effective January 1, 2025, every person who carries a firearm in public pursuant to a license maintain insurance coverage insuring

against loss resulting from liability imposed by law for bodily injury, death, and property damage arising out of the ownership, maintenance, operation, or use of a firearm carried in public. The Department believes that firearms insurance represents a promising policy tool that warrants strong consideration. Several jurisdictions—including the State of New Jersey and the City of San Jose—have adopted similar measures in recent months. However, the Department also recognizes that there are a number of areas of uncertainty that presently exist in this area. To that end, the Department recommends that the Committee consider deleting the current language of section 2 from this bill and instead consider requesting the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a study analyzing the use and effectiveness of systems of insurance and other financial responsibility requirements associated with the public carry of firearms.

\* \* \*

As outlined above, the Department strongly supports the provisions outlined in this bill, and offers this bill as one step in an ongoing dialogue with the Legislature regarding how our State can maintain the longstanding public policy and legislative intent of chapter 134, HRS, amid a changing legal landscape following recent United States Supreme Court decisions.

Thank you for your consideration of this important measure.



DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR  
MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

# POLICE DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF KAUAI



TODD G. RAYBUCK, CHIEF OF POLICE

Testimony of Todd G. Raybuck  
Chief of Police  
Kauai Police Department

Before the  
Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs  
February 14, 2023, 2:00 pm  
Conference Room 325 & via Videoconference

In consideration of  
House Bill 984  
Relating to Firearms

Honorable Chair Tarnas, Honorable Vice-Chair Takayama, and Committee Members:

I provide the following testimony regarding House Bill 984 Relating Firearms, which seeks to amend and enact requirements and processes related to the possession and carrying of firearms.

Portions of House Bill 984 appear to inadvertently make it a criminal offense, punishable by imprisonment, for law enforcement officers to carry a firearm whether on-duty or off-duty. I respectfully submit a request for modification to this Bill wherein it relates to law enforcement officers included in the exempt categories identified in section 134-11.

House Bill 984 prohibits locations firearms can be carried, "**§134-A Carrying or possessing a firearm in certain locations and premises prohibited: penalty.**"; how they are to be secured when unattended, "**§134-D Leaving firearm in vehicle unattended; penalty.**"; and prohibitions on private property carry, "**§134-F Carrying or possessing a firearm on private open to the public without authorization; penalty.**".

As written, the prohibitions and requirements outlined in the above noted sections of House Bill 984 criminalizes the actions of on-duty and off-duty law enforcement officers alike. House Bill 984 does allow for an "affirmative defense" for said violations, but that defense is presented at trial after criminal proceedings have been initiated.

House Bill 984 would force law enforcement officers to knowingly violate the law and risk potential arrest and prosecution or abandon the ability to carry firearms necessary in the performance of their duties and for the protection of themselves and others.

I respectfully request House Bill 984 sections 134-A, 134-D, and 134-F be amended to not apply to a person that is in an exempt category identified in section 134-11 (1), (2), and (6) of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.





**RICHARD T. BISSEN JR**  
MAYOR

OUR PREFERENCE

YOUR PREFERENCE

# POLICE DEPARTMENT

## COUNTY OF MAUI

55 MAHALANI STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
TELEPHONE: (808) 244-6400  
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**JOHN PELLETIER**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

**WADE M. MAEDA**  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

February 13, 2023

Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Honorable Gregg Takayama, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILL 984, RELATING TO FIREARMS

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Committee Members:

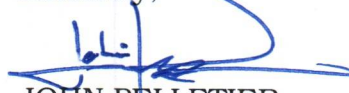
This bill, in its current form, appears to inadvertently make it a criminal offense for law enforcement officers to carry a firearm whether on-duty or off-duty. Specifically, **§134-A Carrying or possessing a firearm in certain locations and premises prohibited; penalty**, location firearms can be carried; **§134-D Leaving firearm in vehicle unattended; penalty**, how they are to be secured when unattended; **§134-F Carrying or possessing a firearm on private open to the public without authorization; penalty**, and prohibitions on private property carry.

As written the prohibitions and requirements outlined in the bill would criminalize the actions of on-duty and off-duty law enforcement officers alike. This would affect the officer's ability to carry firearms necessary in the performance of their duties.

We respectfully request HB 984 be amended to not apply to a person that is exempt under Hawaii Revised Statutes 134-11(1), (2), and (6), specific to law enforcement officers.

For these reasons we are in opposition of this bill. We thank you for the opportunity to testify. Feel free to contact Assistant Chief Gregg Okamoto at (808) 244-6415 or by email at [Gregg.Okamoto@mpd.net](mailto:Gregg.Okamoto@mpd.net) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

  
JOHN PELLETIER  
Chief of Police

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
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RICK BLANGIARDI  
MAYOR

ARTHUR J. LOGAN  
CHIEF

KEITH K. HORIKAWA  
RADE K. VANIC  
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE **JAT-DNK**

February 14, 2023

The Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Judiciary and  
Hawaiian Affairs  
House of Representatives  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Tarnas and Members:

**SUBJECT: House Bill No. 984, Relating to Firearms**

I am Joseph A. Trinidad, Major of the Records and Identification Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports the intent of House Bill No. 984, Relating to Firearms, and offers the following concerns.

We suggest enhanced sentencing for persons who have a firearm in their possession in areas of sensitive places and are not issued a license under Section 134-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), and are not exempt per Section 134-11, HRS.

The section of the bill regarding "Unlawful conduct while carrying a firearm; penalty" would be difficult to enforce and prosecute. The HPD appreciates the intent of this section; however, enforcement and prosecution of this section would require either the observation of the consumption of alcohol, intoxicating liquor, or controlled substance or proof of intoxication. Proof of intoxication would require a legal threshold limit and administrative procedures to legally allow law enforcement to draw blood or take a breath sample.



The Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair  
and Members  
February 14, 2023  
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Additionally, we are concerned with the section of this bill that outlines the required information on the License to Carry card. Each county within the State of Hawaii has different equipment and capabilities. The HPD currently does not have the equipment to capture the licensee's signature and would require additional funding to purchase the necessary equipment. An additional safety concern is that the licensee's address and date of birth would be exposed if his/her card were lost.

Lastly, the private sale or transfer of firearms should require the contact information of both parties to include addresses and telephone numbers. The current statute only requires the name of the parties, which does not allow for police to contact the individuals if there are any questions regarding the transfer or sale of the firearm.

The HPD supports the requirement for licensees to have their license in their possession. It also requires a person carrying a firearm to disclose to law enforcement officers that they are carrying a firearm and the location of their firearm.

We also support the responsible storage and safe keeping of all firearms at all times, including in vehicles. Each year, firearms are acquired illegally by theft from a vehicle, possibly putting these firearms in the possession of criminals.

Lastly, the HPD supports changing the \$10 licensing fee to a non-refundable \$150 application fee. The application fee would assist with the administrative costs for staffing and supplies that are used to process the License to Carry application packets.


We thank you for the consideration of our concerns regarding House Bill No. 984, Relating to Firearms, and for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Joseph A. Trinidad, Major  
Records and Identification Division

APPROVED:

  
Arthur J. Logan  
Chief of Police

## TESTIMONY

### House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs HB 984 RELATING TO FIREARMS

Monday, February 14, 2023, 2:00 pm  
State Capitol Conference Room 325 and via Videoconference

Submitted in STRONG OPPOSITION by Mrs. Jamie Detwiler, President, Hawaii Federation of Republican Women.

Honorable Judiciary Chair Tarnas, Vice-Chair Takayama and Committee Members

I strongly OPPOSE HB984, RELATING TO FIREARMS for the following reasons:

1. The U.S. Constitution Second Amendment states, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed. Furthermore, the Second and Fourteenth Amendments protects an individual's right to carry a handgun for self-defense outside the home.
2. Do you have the historical documents related to the drafting of HB984? The Supreme Court was clear in Bruen (June 2022) that in order for any gun control legislation to pass constitutional muster under the Second Amendment, such legislation must be consistent with historical tradition. The state has had six months since Bruen to identify well-established and representative historical information. There is no historical tradition cited in HB984.
3. We can all agree that violent crimes involving firearms are tragic. However, the dictate of Bruen is clear: legislative interest balancing is understanding and elsewhere, appropriate. However, it is not deference that the Constitution demands. While the authors of this bill may disagree with Bruen, it may NOT disobey it.
4. REMOVE the proposed amendment in HRS 134-2 (Permits to acquire). This is unconstitutional. Why would we want to issue permits to aliens? Aliens are not U.S. Citizens. What are the potential security risks? Who is going to monitor and enforce the sixty-day period and six-month period? How will you obtain their mental health and criminal history background?

HB984. Page 19 (Line 12). The chief of police of each county shall issue permits to aliens of the age of eighteen years or more 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 chapter 183D, part II. The chief of police of each county shall issue permits to aliens of the age of twenty-one years or more 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 to be held within the permit period.

5. HB984 proposes the issuing authority shall not issue a permit to acquire the ownership of a firearm if an applicant is disqualified under section 134-7 from the ownership, possession, or control of a firearm, or if the issuing authority determines that issuance would not be in the interest of public health, safety, or welfare because the person lacks the essential character or temperament necessary to be entrusted with a firearm. Who is authorized to adjudicate “character” and “temperament”? What are their credentials?
6. There are countless stories verified by law enforcement records where criminals intending to kill innocent citizens in shopping malls, restaurants, and other heavily populated areas were stopped by a trained law-abiding conceal-carrying citizen. On February 1, 2023, a very tragic incident took place in Mililani, where my family and I have resided for 35 years. A mother of an infant was run down by a crazed man using his vehicle as a weapon and then beaten by the same man. An innocent bystander providing first aid to the critically injured woman was also beaten by the perpetrator. If a trained law abiding citizen who was licensed to conceal carry were there, the outcome would have been much different with minimal critical injuries.
7. Defines sensitive places. In the 2022 Bruen decision, Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas said that there were a handful of places where guns could be constitutionally banned. He called these “sensitive areas” and they include places like courthouses, jails, and similar establishments. This makes sense as these are places where some are more inclined to be violent. These specific places are secured so that virtually no one can bring a gun in because metal detectors are used, not signs on the door. Currently, the term “sensitive area” is being used to justify additional restrictions.

Once again, I strongly OPPOSE HB984. Please vote NO.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Jamie Detwiler  
President Hawaii Federation of Republican Women



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI, PRESIDENT  
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII  
February 14, 2023  
Re: HB 984 Relating to Firearms**

Good afternoon, Chair Tarnas and members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii was founded in 1901 and is a statewide, not for profit trade organization committed to supporting the growth and development of the retail industry in Hawaii. Our membership includes small mom & pop stores, large box stores, resellers, luxury retail, department stores, shopping malls, on-line sellers, local, national, and international retailers, chains, and everyone in between.

We are in support of HB 984 Relating to Firearms. This measure amends, clarifies, and enacts provisions of chapter 134, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS); amends section 707-716, HRS; and amends and clarifies section 846-2.7(b), HRS. Amends and enacts requirements and processes regarding permits to acquire and licenses to carry a firearm; updates criteria governing when firearm ownership, possession, or control is prohibited; identifies locations within the State where carrying or possessing firearms is prohibited; requires a person carrying a firearm pursuant to a license to have in the person's immediate possession the license and documentary evidence that the firearm being carried is registered; requires a person carrying a firearm in public pursuant to a license to maintain insurance coverage; requires that when a person carrying a firearm is stopped by a law enforcement officer or is a driver or passenger in a vehicle stopped by a law enforcement officer, the person shall immediately disclose to the law enforcement officer that the person is carrying a firearm and, upon request, identify the specific location of the firearm and present to the law enforcement officer a license or credentials to carry a firearm; prohibits leaving an unsecured firearm in a vehicle unattended; prohibits consuming or being under the influence of alcohol or intoxicating liquor or a controlled substance while carrying a firearm; prohibits carrying a firearm on private property open to the public without express authorization; and amends, clarifies, and enacts other provisions relating to firearms. Provides that criminal history record checks may be conducted by county police departments on applicants for licenses to carry a pistol or revolver and ammunition pursuant to section 134-9, HRS.

**We would like to request that Retailers also be included as a sensitive place.** We understand that Retail would be included as a commercial business. However, we would like to make it clear that the public carrying concealed firearms is not allowed at retail locations.

**We would like to point out that on any given day there are large public gathering of shoppers at retail stores and shopping malls.** It would be hard to enforce if one store allows conceal and carry and another one does not.

**On a daily basis, retailers continue to be hard hit by thieves who shoplift and try to fight back with employees or good Samaritans when confronted.** Shoplifters are becoming more aggressive when fighting back. Our major concern is that there is someone who wants to be "the hero" and tries to shoot the shoplifter, misses and a customer or employee is injured, or the shoplifter tries to shoot his way out of being caught. **We want our customers and employees to feel safe to come to work and shop in our stores. Without shoppers there would be no retail brick and mortar stores and if retail stores close due to lack of customers, there will be less people working.**

**Active shooters are prevalent in malls across the United States.** In 2022 alone, there were active shooter incidents in malls that include but not limited to Mall of America, Westfield Garden State Plaza, Beverly Hill Center, Greenwood Park Mall, Columbia Mall, Inland Center Mall, Stanford's Shopping Center, Atlantic Station mall, Scottsdale Fashion Square Shopping mall, Eastridge Mall, Ellenton Premium Outlets, Tysons Corner Center, Stanford Shopping Center, Inland Shopping Center, Macomb Mall, Jefferson Mall, Kings Plaza Shopping Center, and the Irving Mall. And while these malls are on the mainland and not in Hawaii, our state must remain vigilant and not think "It won't happen here." Again, **we don't want someone to think they are going to be "the Hero" or go viral on social media for trying to take down an active shooter and then shooting a customer or employee instead.** Not everyone who has a conceal and carry permit will be a weapon's expert. It is our understanding that at a firing range is very different than put in a live situation. In a live situation, most people's adrenaline is heightened, reactions are instantaneous and mistakes can be made. **Unlike video games, there is no reset or do over when someone gets shot.**

Mahalo again for this opportunity to testify.



*Submitted via web portal*

**RE: HB 984 (Saiki): Relating to Firearms - SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama and Members of the Committee:

**Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America are writing in strong support of HB 984.**

Everytown is the largest gun violence prevention organization in the country with nearly 10 million supporters including moms, mayors, survivors and everyday Americans who are fighting for public safety measures that respect the Second Amendment and help save lives. At the core of Everytown are Mayors Against Illegal Guns, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America and the Everytown Survivor Network.

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America is a grassroots movement of Americans fighting for public safety measures that respect the Second Amendment and protect people from gun violence. Moms Demand Action campaigns for new and stronger solutions to lax gun laws and loopholes that jeopardize the safety of our children and families. Since its inception after the tragedy at Sandy Hook School, Moms Demand Action has established a chapter in every state of the country, including Hawai'i.

The Supreme Court's June 2022 decision in [\*New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen\*](#) invalidated New York's requirement that applicants seeking a license to carry a concealed handgun in public show "proper cause"—jeopardizing public safety in Hawai'i and other states with similar laws. The Court's decision is wrong, dangerous, and completely out of step with centuries of history and fundamental constitutional principles.

With a rate of 3.8 deaths per 100,000 people, Hawai'i has [one of the lowest rates of gun deaths](#) in the U.S. This is no accident—Hawai'i has the [third strongest set of gun safety laws in the country](#). Hawai'i is a national leader in gun violence prevention policy and has a long history of passing common-sense gun laws.

However, the Court's decision risks compromising those hard-won gains by making it easier for more people to carry concealed guns in Hawai'i communities and likely leading to significantly more guns in public places. In the first three months after the Court's decision, [more than 500 people](#) across the state had applied for permits. Data out of Maryland, which is similarly affected by the *Bruen* decision, shows that from June 23-July 11, people submitted 5,314 new applications for wear and carry permits—a 772.6% increase from the same time the prior year. As our nation continues to experience horrific mass shootings, an onslaught of daily gun violence, and a spike in hateful armed extremism, more people carrying guns in public is the absolute last thing we need.

Let's be clear—strong concealed carry permit systems save lives. A growing body of research shows that when states weaken law enforcement's authority to deny permits to people who pose a danger, violent crime rates rise by 13 to 15 percent over what would have been expected without the change<sup>1</sup> and firearm homicides increase by 7 percent in urban counties.<sup>2</sup> Adopting a shall-issue law in general is associated with a 9.5% increase in the rate of firearm assaults. States that have shall-issue laws without any provisions such as violent misdemeanor prohibitions, live fire requirements, suitability requirements, or dangerousness prohibitions in their shall-issue concealed carry permitting laws see rates of firearm assault and firearm homicide that are 22% and 30% higher than would be expected with these provisions.<sup>3</sup>

By requiring Hawai'i to eliminate its "exceptional case" standard for concealed carry permitting, *Bruen* completely upended centuries of precedent and made all Hawai'i residents less safe in the process. Thankfully, the Court made clear that states are still allowed to require a license to carry a firearm in public, and expressly declined to interfere with the public carry regimes of the overwhelming majority of states—including those that require firearm training and deny permits to applicants who officials find pose a danger to public safety. The Court also reaffirmed that the exercise of discretion by licensing authorities in order to deny licenses to those who might pose a risk to public safety is permissible, so long as the law provides narrow, objective, and definite standards to guide licensing officials in determining whether an applicant is responsible and not dangerous.

HB 984 will strengthen Hawai'i's concealed carry license system in a number of key ways in response to the Court's decision. It will ensure that licenses to carry a loaded gun in public are not granted to people who are determined to be a danger to self or others based on a thorough background check and will prohibit guns from sensitive areas where they don't belong. It will also improve training requirements for concealed carry to ensure license-holders can properly handle, store, and transport a firearm, and know where guns are not allowed.

For these reasons listed above, Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America strongly support HB 984.

Sincerely,

Krystal LoPilato  
Policy Counsel  
Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action & Students Demand Action  
450 Lexington Ave.  
New York, NY 10163  
klopilato@everytown.org

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<sup>1</sup> John J. Donohue, Abhay Aneja, and Kyle D. Weber, "Right-to-carry Laws and Violent Crime: A Comprehensive Assessment Using Panel Data and a State-Level Synthetic Control Analysis," *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies* 16, no. 2 (2019): 198-247.

<sup>2</sup> Cassandra K. Crifasi, et al, "Correction to: Association Between Firearm Laws and Homicide in Urban Counties," *Journal of Urban Health* 95, no. 5 (2018): 773-76.

<sup>3</sup> Mitchell L Doucette, Alexander D McCourt, Cassandra K Crifasi, and Daniel W Webster, "Impact of Changes to Concealed Carry Weapons Laws on Fatal and Nonfatal Violent Crime, 1980-2019", *American Journal of Epidemiology*, 2022;, kwac160, <https://doi.org/10.1093/aje/kwac16>

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:45:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jerry Yuen	Pu'uloa Rifle and Pistol Club	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB 984. This bill is unconstitutional, and places unreasonable demands upon legal gun owners.

This bill...

Prohibits possession in common public places in addition to the traditional government building, polling places, and schools

Mandates gunowners have insurance coverage to exercise a constitutional right

Require safe storage in vehicle in a container that is fire, impact, and tamper resistant

Prohibits carrying a firearms when there is consumption of alcohol without regard to blood alcohol levels, home consumption, or emergency circumstances.

Carrying on private property unless with specific permission from the property owners rather than posting no guns allowed signs.

Prohibits the carrying more than 1 gun even though guns have been known to fail and a backup gun may be required in an emergency

Stipulates essential character and temperament for granting a permit which is a subjective requirement.

Does away with the NRA certified instructor clause even though NRA certification is the national standard that most police departments abide by.

Adds a mental health, suicide prevention, and domestic violence training requirement that is not defined and unreasonable.

Requires an excessive \$150 fee for each handgun for which a concealed carry license is applied.

This is a bad bill and will open the State of Hawaii to many lawsuits if passed and will have no effect on actual violent crime.







**SanHi**

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: February 13, 2023

TO: Representative David Tarnas  
Chair, Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Tiffany Yajima

RE: **H.B. 984 - Relating to Firearms**  
**Hearing Date: February 14, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.**  
**Conference Room: 325 & Videoconference**

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Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

We submit this testimony on behalf of the Hawaii Bankers Association (HBA). HBA represents seven Hawai'i banks and one bank from the continent with a branch in Hawai'i.

HBA submits this testimony in **support** of H.B. 984 which, among other things, establishes the crime of carrying a firearm in a sensitive location and defines a list of sensitive places.

In June 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* impacted many conceal carry laws by opening the door for municipalities and states to define sensitive places where concealed weapons could be prohibited. Since this decision, many municipalities and states have been deliberating over and passing legislation to prohibit concealed firearms in sensitive locations.

We support the inclusion of financial institutions defined under HRS 211D-1 as one of the sensitive locations where concealed carry weapons would be prohibited. Given the elevated risk of danger in bank crimes that involve firearms, it makes good policy sense and is appropriate to restrict concealed firearms on bank premises.

We are happy to answer any questions, and appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:44:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chris Marvin	Everytown Veteran Advisory Council	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha, I am Captain Chris Marvin, US Army retired, submitting testimony in support of HB 984, relating to firearms and sensitive locations. I am a Honolulu resident, a combat wounded veteran of the war in Afghanistan, and an expert on gun safety.

As a consultant, I lead the veteran engagement strategy for the nation’s largest gun violence prevention organization, Everytown for Gun Safety. I also lead the Everytown Veteran Advisory Council, a national group of veterans who advise the organization on gun safety measures. The organization, council, and I all strongly support this bill.

I will begin by noting, as I did in testimony for SB 1230, that no matter what the Supreme Court has decided or what laws this legislature creates, there will always be places on this island where no individual has the discretion to carry a personal firearm. These include Schofield Barracks, Joint Base Pearl-Harbor Hickam, Marine Corps Base Hawai’i, and every other military installation in the state.

In the military, we treat our bases and posts as the ultimate “sensitive locations”, where the only place you’ll find loaded weapons are on shooting ranges and carried by military police and sentries on duty. We do this because we are a profession of arms, and better than anyone else in this country, we understand the danger of having weapons in the wrong hands, at the wrong time, or in the wrong place.

In the military, we have a weapons culture built on three pillars: training, safety, and accountability. Every service member is vigorously trained before possessing a firearm, safety is paramount at all times, and all members of the chain of command—up to the generals and admirals—are responsible for what the lowest ranking military member might do with his or her weapon. For these reasons, and to protect our own, the military has the strictest prohibitions on carrying personal firearms.

Hawai'i must follow the military's lead to keep our citizens safe the same way military leaders protect their service members. In this state, we are lucky to have a legislature that has continuously passed gun safety laws that keep our citizens from harm. Because we live on islands, we lack the terrestrial interstate gun trafficking that plagues other states. As a result, we have the lowest gun violence rates in the nation.

Now that the Supreme Court has stripped away this legislature's steadfast attempts to make our own laws for Hawai'i and keep the people of this great state safe from a nation-wide gun violence epidemic, we must take further action.

HB 984 is that needed action. By identifying sensitive places where gun consumers and licensed gun carriers are prohibited from carrying a firearm, we can put off the carnage and death that we see in virtually every other state.

Vocal opponents of this bill from gun rights groups will tell you that they can be trusted to carry a gun in public because they are responsible gunowners—they are likely right. The very loud and vocal minority of Hawai'i residents who oppose gun safety measures do so with only their own individual rights in mind. They complain about how inconvenient it is for them to fill out paperwork, sit for interviews, or pass background checks. They conclude that these onerous tasks should not apply to them, because they are trained, responsible gun owners.

However, laws are not made to only protect the public from gun experts. Laws are made to protect the public from the least common denominator—the bad actors that try to possess a gun.

This legislative body doesn't have the privilege to only act in concert with the rights of an individual or a small group, this legislature makes laws for all Hawai'i residents. Ask these gun rights advocates if they believe that every potential gun consumer in Hawai'i is as safe, experienced, and responsible as they are. They will tell you no. That is why we need to make sure our laws cover those people with less experience who may be less safe and less responsible. Our community deserves as much.

To illustrate further, we all may agree that a professional racecar driver could drive 100 mph on H-1 without injuring anyone. After all, he's a professional with tons of experience. But we would never raise the speed limit to 100, just because that racecar driver wants it that way and is qualified to drive that fast. We create speed limits that will keep all drivers safe, even those with less skill. The same must be true of our limits on carrying firearms.

In addition, HPD commented on SB 1230 that they may not be able to monitor all of the sensitive locations, because of the sheer number. This argument contains a logical fallacy. The more locations that are considered "sensitive locations" the easier it will be for police to determine and enforce where guns cannot be possessed. Making private businesses sensitive places by default will ease the burden on law enforcement. Furthermore, how much more manpower will HPD require for each and every shooting that occurs? If the gun rights advocates who oppose this bill are to be believed, the reason they want to carry a firearm is to "protect" themselves and those around them in some form of extra-judicial vigilantism—i.e. the myth of the "good guy with a gun." Even a justified shooting will require orders of magnitude more police intervention and tax payer dollars than would simply monitoring sensitive places.

Most importantly, because this bill creates a default for business owners that guns are not allowed inside their place of business (unless they explicitly welcome them) this bill is pro-business, especially small businesses. Can you imagine how many mom-and-pop shops will be relieved not to have to confront a man with a gun who they don't want in their corner store? How many teenage restaurant workers will not be forced to ask if the patron who just entered with a pistol is licensed or not? Keep the burden off of these hard-working folks by making sure our laws are water tight.

Opponents of this bill talk a lot of rights and freedom. HB 984, gives the right to all people in Hawai'i to not live in fear of gun violence. It gives small business owners the freedom to run their shops the way they want to. And it gives this legislature the autonomy to govern our state in a way that we all believe will keep us safe.

Sunday February 12, 2023

**IN SUPPORT OF HB984**

I believe in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment right to bear arms, but I do not believe that guns are appropriate everywhere in our modern society. I do not wish to take someone's guns away – I support common sense gun laws. Without this bill, we are expected to trust total strangers to be armed “silent protectors” throughout our community – that is a **very** big ask. Guns do not make everyone feel safe. The thought of being in close proximity with these firearms makes me feel anxious and scared, not safe. Hawaii has been one of the safest states for gun violence for decades and we need to preserve that. This is not the mainland. Putting guns out into our community, as we go about our daily lives, will significantly increase the risk of injury and violence, just by their presence because they will now be part of the equation. It is my fear that the accidents and escalations will outnumber the heroics.

Military bases do not allow conceal carry and the nation's highest-ranking military officer has said he doesn't think soldiers should carry concealed weapons on base. This gives me pause and I think it should for you as well. If the United States military doesn't think concealed carry is wise, even in a heavily controlled area such as a base, why do we think the general public are qualified for unfettered access throughout our community to carry guns? If we want people to act with firearm common sense, we have to set the precedent by passing common sense gun legislation.

If we must have concealed weapons in our community, there should be some limits, but not just federal buildings. Guns don't belong in schools and parks and other places that children play. Guns should not be allowed where alcohol is sold and consumed. When I am taking my young children to the grocery store, the playground, or the beach, I do not want to have to worry about the presence of guns. It is complicated when it comes to protecting your family and we all have the right to do so, but we are going to have to find a compromise because firearms don't make everyone feel safe. We should have access to areas where we can take our families if we're concerned about the potential presence of concealed guns - and businesses should have to openly post out front if firearms are allowed on their property.

I strongly support HB984 and am very grateful to our local leaders in Honolulu who understand the importance of keeping guns out of places where the risk of harm is particularly high. Please pass this bill so we can continue to feel safe to move throughout our community freely and provide our children the safe spaces they deserve in order to thrive.

Mahalo,

Rachel Logan  
Concerned Parent & Citizen  
Events Lead - Moms Demand Action - Hawaii Chapter



I write today on behalf of myself, Hawaii Firearms Coalition, and all law-abiding gun owners in the state of Hawaii, **We are in opposition to HB984.**

With the recent Supreme Court decision in New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen, the State of Hawaii has begun to see law-abiding citizens applying for and being issued concealed carry licenses. In reaction to this, we see several laws being proposed as a method of denying and or delaying the issuance of such licenses.

The Supreme Court in NYSRPA V Bruen laid out a framework for gauging the constitutionality of any law that impacts the cour right of the second amendment (for law-abiding persons to keep and bear arms). In doing so they said that action should be taken on any law that impacts the right to keep and bear arms before a historical analysis has been conducted to make sure said law is in line with the text, history, and traditions of the Second Amendment.

*“when the Second Amendment’s plain text covers an individual’s conduct, the Constitution presumptively protects that conduct, and to justify a firearm regulation the government must demonstrate that the regulation is consistent with the Nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation.”*

Any law that is current or passed is likely to face a constitutional challenge. Several states have passed similar laws to those being proposed here, each of which has been significantly neutered or stopped by the courts.

We issue a caution to Hawaii legislators that making changes to our current laws that impact the second amendment will open the state and counties to lawsuits. These will challenge not only the changes but the state's current laws and policies. Government lawyers, when asked, are sure to claim to be able to defend the changes/laws, but history is not on their side. They have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars without a single success.

Bellow, we provide a break down of the 74 page bill and out position and explanation on each section.

**134-A Carrying or possessing a firearm in certain 2 locations and premises prohibited; penalty.**

We are in opposition to the extensive list of sensitive places provided in this bill. However, we do

acknowledge that there are some places where firearms may be prohibited. The Supreme Court in *NYSRPA Vs. Bruen* gave several examples of permissible places (schools, legislative assemblies, polling places, and courthouses<sup>1</sup>). The also outline a framework for determining if others were permissible<sup>2</sup> but gave limitations as well. Simply declaring all public places as being sensitive because they are open to the public and people “can” call the police is not acceptable<sup>3</sup>. It is our belief that the list of sensitive places should be so small that it should have little to no effect on the day-to-day lives of its law-abiding citizens, and in no way should it encompass all public space except sidewalks.

#### **§134-B Mandatory insurance coverage.**

We are in opposition to requiring insurance to exercise a constitutional right. Firstly the insurance required does not exist. It is the hope that by requiring it, insurance companies will create the policy, but this is unlikely. If they do create a policy, it will be costly and expensive and available only to the wealthy. Oftentimes those that are in the most need of firearms are already suffering the economic impacts of living in Hawaii.

#### **§134-C Duty to maintain possession of license while carrying a firearm; duty to disclose; penalty.**

If this bill had been passed two years ago, this provision would have likely been permissible. But with the Supreme court affirming the right to carry a firearm, it's likely that a licensing requirement will be challenged in the near future. Current case law<sup>4</sup> would suggest that a challenge would likely prevail. In addition, a requirement that a person identifies they are exercising a right and provide ID to show they are legally allowed to exercise said right is also unconstitutional and has been settled law for decades<sup>5</sup>.

#### **§134-D Leaving unsecured firearm in vehicle unattended; penalty.**

We support the ability for a person to store their firearm in their vehicle but request the following changes. Allow firearms to be secure in the glove box or trunk of the firearm. An additional

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<sup>1</sup> “longstanding” “laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools and government buildings.” 554 U. S., at 626. Although the historical record yields relatively few 18th- and 19th-century “sensitive places” where weapons were altogether prohibited—e.g., legislative assemblies, polling places, and courthouses” [https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843\\_7j80.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843_7j80.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> courts can use analogies to those historical regulations of “sensitive places” to determine that modern regulations prohibiting the carry of firearms in new and analogous sensitive places are constitutionally permissible. [https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843\\_7j80.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843_7j80.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> But expanding the category of “sensitive places” simply to all places of public congregation that are not isolated from law enforcement defines the category of “sensitive places” far too broadly. [https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843\\_7j80.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843_7j80.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> *Murdock v. Pennsylvania*, 319 U.S. 105 (1943) A State may not impose a charge for the enjoyment of a right granted by the Federal Constitution. P. 319 U. S. 113.

<sup>5</sup>Under *Terry v. Ohio*, an investigatory stop—including a demand for identification is permissible, only if the officer possesses reasonable suspicion, based on specific, articulable facts, that the suspect is committing or has committed a crime.

locked box provides no additional safety. Remove the requirement for a case to be “fire, impact, and tamper resistant” this would result in a larger case that may be more easily visible, leading to the potential of target theft. Police officers store their firearms unsecured in the trunk of their squad cars.

**§134-E Unlawful conduct while carrying a firearm; penalty.**

While we are not directly opposed to these prohibitions, there need to be some changes. Allow for consumption of alcohol within a person's own home. While firearms are never a great idea, a person should be able to defend themselves in their home under any circumstances. For alcohol, there needs to be a metric of measurement, this should be measured the same as impaired driving.

**§134-F Carrying or possessing a firearm on private property open to the public without authorization; penalty.**

We are in opposition to the default prohibition on private property. While we do believe that property owners can prohibit the carrying of firearms on private property, the default should not be to prohibit it. The law should encompass clear and concise signing requirements as it does in almost every other state.

Should a sensitive places bill pass, it is essential that the law include signage requirements: an example of which I have included below.

- 1. Be posted in a conspicuous location on all building entrances.*
- 2. Contain a pictogram that shows a firearm within a red circle and a diagonal red line across the firearm.*
- 3. Contain the words "no firearms allowed pursuant to HRS XYZ"*
- 4. Be at least 8.5"x11" in size.*
- 5. Include the date the sign was posted.*
- 6. The signs required by this section shall be composed of block, capital letters printed in black on white or yellow laminated paper.*
- 7. The letters constituting the words "no firearms allowed" shall be at least three-fourths of a vertical inch, and all other letters shall be at least one-half of a vertical inch.*

It should also include an affirmative defense that the sign must be visible, undamaged and posted for thirty days.

**§134-G Authority of counties.**

The bill should include a preemption clause, prohibiting a law at any level lower than the state. Hawaii should not have five different sets of firearms laws. Having such can lead to confusion, mistakes, and criminal prosecutions that serve no public safety purpose.



### **134-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes,**

The “crime of violence” definition is too broad and covers minor and non-physical acts. Pushing someone out of the way or grabbing someone’s hand is considered a physical force. A slap on the face is considered a bodily injury. Harassment includes repeated phone calls. Sexual Assault 4th degree includes peeping tom. These are all bad things that a person should not do but are not crimes of violence. A person's constitutional rights should be vacated for minor infractions that do not pose a threat to public safety in general.

### **134-2 Permits to acquire.**

We oppose the changes made to this section for the following reasons.

#### “a designee of the chief of police”

would allow any person or private company to process firearms applications. No one other than law enforcement should be able to process applications and have access to people's private records.

“and shall identify any healthcare providers who possess or may possess such records.” It has already been determined that people’s medical records are private. Requiring people to identify medical providers BEYON their current provider is clearly an invasion of privacy.

#### “essential character or temperament”

This is a vague and subjective term. Denial of constitutional rights should be based on due process through indictments and convictions.

#### “Citizens, nationals, or lawful permanent resident”

we 100% support this change.

#### “Permits issued to acquire any pistol or revolver shall be void unless used within thirty days after the date of issue.”

There should not be an expiration on the permit date. If a person is approved for the permit or can pick up the firearm and keep it forever. They should be able to keep the perm, it forever until they use it.

#### “the issuing authority determines that issuance would not be in the interest of public health, safety, or welfare ...intends or is likely to use a firearm for an unlawful purpose or in an unlawful manner.”

Absent a prohibiting factor (hrs134-7) A person can not be denied a permit. The changes made in this section is subjective and open to interpretation and abuse. We have seen in recent years that the Honolulu Police Department and Hawaii Police department have lost lawsuits regarding their interpretation of state laws, and this wording will allow further abuse.<sup>6 7 8 9</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> <https://dockets.justia.com/docket/hawaii/hidce/1:2021cv00333/155633>

<sup>7</sup> <https://dockets.justia.com/docket/hawaii/hidce/1:2021cv00384/156040>

<sup>8</sup> <https://dockets.justia.com/docket/hawaii/hidce/1:2020cv00330/150393>

<sup>9</sup> <https://dockets.justia.com/docket/hawaii/hidce/1:2018cv00125/138948>

“A firearms training or safety course or class conducted by..... as well as a component on mental health, suicide prevention, and domestic violence issues associated with firearms and gun violence.”

The requirement that a person seeks training of any kind before purchasing a firearm is costly and burdensome and serves no public safety aspect, especially if a person already owns any type of firearm. The ability for the police department to certify instructors allows for four different interpretations resulting in inconsistent instruction across the state and would also result in a person who receives training on one county being unable to purchase firearms in another without having to repeat the training in that county.

The current system has been in place since 1994 and has worked just fine.

As cautioned above, making changes that infringe of the right of the people will likely lead to lawsuits. If a lawsuit is needed to fix a change, it's likely it will also target the entirety of the process. With only eight states requiring classes to purchase a firearm<sup>10</sup> none of which existed before the 1990s, its unlikely they will survive a legal challenge.

“An approved hunter education course as authorized 1under section 183D-28”

Removing hunter education as a training option for handguns and revolvers. Hunter’s education teaches firearm safety and state gun laws and was offered as a free or low-cost training option for people to acquire firearms. Also people from the mainland, military servicemembers, and gun owners who received other firearms training use this as an affordable way to learn Hawaii’s laws and meet Hawaii’s training requirements without paying \$200 for a handgun safety course

“as well as a component on mental health, suicide prevention, and domestic violence issues associated with firearms and gun violence”

Firearm instructors are not trained to teach mental health, suicide prevention, and domestic violence. I recommend the State create a video on these subjects and place it on the internet for the public to watch. A win-win situation where gun owners do the training conveniently, and the general public benefits from the information being taught by experts.

“provided that an instructor shall not submit an attestation for the instructor’s own permit application.”

A person who is qualified to teach the subjects needed to own a firearm has completed the process. Making them take a class to be certified by another individual serves no purpose other than to create a time delay and cost to that individual

“for permits. under this section. except for a single fee chargeable by and payable to the issuing county”

Adding a fee to each application serves no purpose other than to add a cost. The fingerprinting and data entry only occurs one time with the HCJDC, collecting the fee a few times is a tax on the right to bear arms.

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<sup>10</sup> <https://everytownresearch.org/rankings/law/training-required-to-purchase-guns/>

*“If an application under this section is denied, a 15 person or entity aggrieved by the denial shall be entitled to a 16 hearing before the chief of police”*

The police departments should not be adjudicating themselves. A third-party review of all denials should take place REGARDLESS is the individual request it. A compensational value should be added [aid out to all individuals found ot be wrongly denied.

*“No person shall intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly lend a firearm to any person who is prohibited from ownership, possession, or control of a firearm under section 134-7.”*

Intentionally and knowing are synonyms. Adding the extra word (intentionally) will introduce confusion.

*“has one or more pending charges for a felony, a crime of violence, a criminal offense relating to firearms, or an illegal sale or distribution of any drug in a court in this State or elsewhere”*

We do not remove a person's rights because of an arrest, they must have a conviction or inditement (actual charges)

*“The person is or has been diagnosed....unreasonable risk to public health, safety, or welfare if the person were in possession or control of a 14 firearm or ammunition”*

The terms used are subject, open for interpretation and abuse. Police departments are not doctors and are not equipped to make determinations on a person's medical health. Relying on personal doctors for this information could lead to a larger problem of people not seeking mental health care, as it could remove their right to bear arms.

*“Any person who otherwise would be prohibited under subsection (b) from owning, possessing, or controlling a firearm and ammunition solely as a result of a conviction for a crime that is not a felony, ...possessing, or controlling a firearm and ammunition if twenty years have elapsed from the date of the conviction.”*

This should be reduced to 5 years.

### **134-9 Licenses to carry.**

Pre Bruen, the state may have been able to put many of these restrictions in place. Post Bruen the state must demonstrate that there is a historical analogy to any law which they wish to pass. 25 states currently do no require a concealed carry license to possess a firearm for lawful purposes.

Modern concealed carry licensing did not exist pre-1976. Although some states prohibited concealed carrying of firearms they allowed open carrying in its place. Should the state push thru burdensome restrictions its likely they will face challenges that would remove much of the current licensing scheme.

*“Is not found to be lacking the essential character or temperament necessary to be entrusted with a firearm”*

A person should only be denied the ability to carry a firearm if they are a prohibited person. The essential character is a method of adding a morality clause that's open to interpretation and can be used to deny people a constitutional right based on subjective opinions.

*"Is a citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident of the United States or a duly accredited official representative of a foreign nation"*

We agree with this change in its entirety

*"Is a resident of the State of Hawaii"*

Constitutional rights apply to everyone, not just residents of the state. Hawaii needs to reciprocate licenses from out of state. Failure to add a reciprocity clause will open the state and counties up to lawsuits as you are denying those that travel here a fundamental right. We do not remove the firearms of those who arrive in the state until they complete "a process" we should not be removing the right to bear arms either.

*"Effective January 1, 2025, provide proof of compliance with the insurance coverage requirements of section 134-3;"*

As stated previously, you can not require insurance to exercise a right.

*"Sign an affidavit expressly acknowledging that the applicant has read.....including laws regarding the use of deadly force for self-defense or the defense of another, and that:"*

The requirement that a person signs a sworn document agreeing to follow the rules should not be a requirement. We do not do this with any other right, law or policy. This would be compelled speech and would likely be unconstitutional.

*"to use the firearm or firearms for which the license to carry will be issued"*

Many people will want to carry different handguns depending on what they are doing/wearing. A license should be good for any firearm for which they own. The requirement that a license be obtained for each firearm serves no purpose other than to add a cost and time delay.

*"The course of training for issuance of a license under this chapter may be any course acceptable to the licensing authority that meets all of the following criteria:"*

Training requirements Should training be something that all gun owners seek out? Yes. Should training requirements be set by the government? No.

The training requirements, as outlined in SB1230, are very broad and serve no purpose other than to create a financial and time barrier to exercising a right. Further, the requirement that the training is done on a strict schedule inhibits the ability of a person to exercise their right. With all government-mandated programs, the level of education is often lower than what would otherwise be offered.

Instead of offering a quality product that would enhance safety and knowledge, the bare minimum levels are attained. Instead of creating barriers for those that wish to carry firearms, more time and funds should be put towards educating Hawaii's youth about gun safety.

Such action would substantially enhance public safety since gun education, like driver's

education, would instill core safety values into Hawaii's youth. Accordingly, any additional training requirements in the bill should be removed.

The training required for HRS134-2g that people have already completed to acquire current firearms should be enough. The requirement that a person seeks annual training and/or training on multiple firearms they wish to carry should also be eliminated since there is no articulable or otherwise justifiable reason for repetitive training.

Legislators should be aware that due to the lack of any historical analogy to require training to own or carry a firearm during the nation's founding, it's likely that any challenge to this requirement as written would lead to all training requirements being removed.

*"An applicant for a license under this section shall sign a waiver at the time of application."*

The requirement that a person releases medical information is a further infringement on their right to privacy.

*A nonrefundable fee of \$150 shall be charged for each 5 license application submitted under this section.*

This fee is beyond what would be considered constitutional and serves no purpose other than to put a burden on law-abiding citizens. The supreme court said in Bruen that this is something that they would be opening to see a challenge on<sup>11</sup>

"A license to carry issued under this section shall be void if"

The only reason a license should become void or be revoked is if a person is disqualified from owning a firearm and has been subjected to due process.

### **License Length.**

Hawaii's current one year and the proposed two years are too short. A license should be good for a significant amount of time so as not to become burdensome. Currently, most states that issue them have a five-year limit with a mail-in or online renewal. Hawaii should do the same.

Andrew Namiki Roberts  
Director Hawaii Firearms Coalition.

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<sup>11</sup> we do not rule out constitutional challenges to shall-issue regimes where, for example, lengthy wait times in processing license applications or exorbitant fees deny ordinary citizens their right to public carry.[https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843\\_7j80.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843_7j80.pdf)

**I OPPOSE HB984.**

I oppose the vast majority of changes written into HB984 as they are unconstitutional, restrict places where licensed people may carry a handgun, and has burdensome requirements and restrictions to Concealed Carry Weapons(CCW) licenses and Permit to Acquire Firearms. There are some good aspects to this bill such as providing a two year license (up from one year), an improved mental health definition of a dangerous person, allowing storage of firearms in cars, and bringing the law up to date from prior legal action such as restoring Samoan nationals and permanent residents their right to possess firearms. However I am opposed to the bill as a whole.

**The US Supreme Court 2A Standard**

The US Supreme Court ruled in NYSRPA v Bruen last June that the Government has the burden of showing the text, history and tradition supports the firearm restriction, or in other words that similar laws were generally in place in the states around the time of the US Constitution ratification in 1791. There is no historical analogues provided with this bill and they should be researched and provided prior to voting on this bill.

In the post-Bruen lawsuits, New York's Antonyuk v Bruen, which is similar to SB984, the Federal district judge granted an injunction due to the historical laws provided were not relevant, not near the time of ratification, applied to territories and not states, or affected a very small population such as a small town. New Jersey's law was stopped due to not providing any precedent with the judge stating that the historical evidence should have been researched prior to the law passing.

The US Supreme Court did provide references to firearms restrictions in sensitive places: government buildings, courthouses, legislative assemblies, polling places, and school buildings. If you restrict firearms in these places, please ensure exceptions are provided for employees, parents picking up children from school, college students living in dorms, and private schools.

**Significant issues I oppose in this bill include:**

- Banning firearms possession for minor crimes, examples of such are a push or shove under harassment and registering firearms late. These crimes should not be done, but they are not uncommon does not justify revoking a person's civil rights.
- Requiring insurance which adds a cost burden for practicing a constitutional right, along with no insurance companies currently offer it and normally insurance does not cover intentional or reckless acts.
- Setting by default a carry ban on all private property open to the public which is considered a 1<sup>st</sup> amendment violation as compelled speech.
- The use of essential character and temperament standard to deny firearms possession and carry, which can be vague and subjective compared to using indictments and convictions.

- Requiring firearm training every 4 years for a permit to acquire firearms, removing the Hunter Education course option for handgun training. The current requirement for firearm safety training has worked for the past 30 years, so there is no need to change it.

**Suggested amendments:**

If you decide to advance this bill, I suggest passing the bare minimum regulations that can be supported by text, history, and tradition. I also suggest extending the carry license period to five years (instead of two), making it valid statewide (instead of by county), and making it per carrier (instead of a license per firearm). This will ease the cost and time burden for both the applicant and for police manpower requirements to process applications.

Please see the attached list of my detailed opposing and supporting points of the bill.

Mahalo

Todd Yukutake  
PH. (808) 255-3066  
Email: [todd@hifico.org](mailto:todd@hifico.org)

## References

New Jersey Koons v Reynolds opinion: <https://law.justia.com/cases/federal/district-courts/new-jersey/njdce/1:2022cv07464/506033/34/>

Page 19: “That Defendants dedicate a significant portion of their argument discussing the benefits of the firearms regulations and not evidence of historical analogues is quite telling. And although Defendants represent that the “State will offer ample evidence that Chapter 131 is constitutional,” [State’s Br. at 2], they do not adequately explain why—if such evidence was critical to the passage of the legislation that would pass constitutional muster post-Bruen and available to the Legislature as set forth in Section 1(g) of the statute—they have not introduced such evidence here. Certainly, Defendants anticipated challenges to the legislation and should have been better prepared to defend the legislation’s constitutionality. Plaintiffs implore this Court to consider the only reasonable conclusion from Defendants’ posturing: their dragging of feet is evidence that no such historical tradition and evidence exists. Perhaps. At this juncture, there is no bona fide basis for this Court to withhold its ruling because the State says it needs more time to come forward with historical evidence that the Legislature represented it had at the time of the law’s passage. The Court will therefore proceed to consider the evidence and argument the parties have presented.”

New York Antonyuk (GOA) v Bruen decision: <https://michellawyers.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/2022-08-31-Decision-Order-on-MPI.pdf>

Page 71: “Although Defendant cites some historical analogs for restricting firearms at some of the above-listed locations, he often ignores the fact that vast majority of the other states (of which there were 14 in 1791 and 37 in 1868) did not have statutes restricting firearms at those very locations (suggesting that Defendant’s “historical analogs” might represent exceptions to a tradition more than a tradition), and that some of the states even had contrary statutes (for example, statutes regarding carrying in places of worship and educational institutions). In any event, and more importantly, he does not cite any historical analogs for restricting firearms at all of the above-listed locations. IN short, the CCIA’s list of “sensitive locations” is not deeply rooted in the Nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation.

US Supreme Court statement: [https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/22pdf/22a557\\_0pm1.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/22pdf/22a557_0pm1.pdf)

“I understand the Court’s denial today to reflect respect for the Second Circuit’s procedures in managing its own docket, rather than expressing any view on the merits of the case. Applicants should not be deterred by today’s order from again seeking relief if the Second Circuit does not, within a reasonable time, provide an explanation for its stay order or expedite consideration of the appeal”



1. 134-A OPPOSE all “sensitive places” but acknowledge and accept the constitutionality of the US Supreme Court’s decision stating firearms can be restricted from government buildings, public school buildings, polling places, legislative assemblies, and courthouses. This should not ban carry for unrelated purposes on these properties, such as a McDonald’s on school property. This needs to be indicated by clear signage at entrances. CCW holders should be able to have their firearms in the parking lots of these places, and exceptions to the ban should be made to allow carry for employees, parents picking up children, dorm students, and private schools.
2. 134-B OPPOSED - Requiring insurance to practice a constitutional right is unconstitutional. It’s an extra cost and burden to gun owners. This type of insurance doesn’t exist and might never be sold. Insurance does not cover criminal, reckless, or intentional acts.
3. 134-C AMMEND – Law enforcement should require probable cause of a crime occurring to stop and ask a person for their carry license. For example, the same is true when driving a car, police cannot stop the car unless they have probable cause that a violation or crime has occurred.
4. 134-D AMMEND – A locking glovebox or other locking container should be suitable to store a gun. Remove the requirement for a case to be “fire, impact, and tamper resistant” as to meet this requirement it will likely be at least a couple hundred pounds and expensive. Thieves will just steal the entire case from the car and open it later anyways. Police officers store their firearms unsecured in the trunk of their squad car.
5. 134-E AMMEND – Exempt a person’s residential property.
6. 134-F OPPOSE - Private property open to the public cannot be a default ban and it violates the 1<sup>st</sup> amendment on compelled speech. HIFICO supports private property rights and their right to decide to ban guns from their property. This needs to be indicated by clear signage at entrances.
7. 134-G OPPOSE – Allowing counties the ability to enact other restrictions creates confusion to travelers and goes against the purpose of this bill to create one statewide standard.
8. 134-1 AMMEND – The “crime of violence” definition is too vague and covers minor instances. Pushing someone out of the way or grabbing someone’s hand is considered physical force. A slap on the face is considered bodily injury. Harassment includes repeated phone calls. Sexual Assault 4<sup>th</sup> degree includes peeping tom. These are all bad things to do to someone, but should not ban 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Rights.
9. 134-2b – OPPOSE “essential character or temperament” as it can be a vague and subjective term. Denial of constitutional rights should be based on due process through indictments and convictions.
10. 134-2c – OPPOSE “identify any healthcare providers who possess or may possess such records” as this is an invasion of privacy and may force applicant to divulge information not pertinent to the firearms possession.
11. 134-2c – OPPOSE “issuing authority”. Forms should be standardized statewide. Hospitals and doctors shouldn’t have to deal with 4 different county forms.
12. 134-2d – RECOMMEND AMENDMENT to change “spouses” to “other qualified persons” regarding joint applications for a permit to acquire a firearm. This would allow sharing of firearms such as a group of firearms instructors to share a firearm to teach a class, an entire family to be able to use a handgun for recreational shooting, etc.
13. 134-2e – OPPOSE the “fortieth day” allowance for police to process permits. Forty days is too long to wait and should not take this long. Our existing permit to acquire process and checks have been working well for 30 years and no changes should be made to the process that would delay the permit issuance.

14. 134-2e – OPPOSE “a criminal offense relating to firearms” as a reason for a permit denial. This could be as simple as registering a firearm late, which I’m sure many people do, would result in a ban of firearms ownership.
15. 134-2e (2) – OPPOSE “Statements or actions by the person...” due to it being a subjective standard. Instead, it should be due process based such as convictions and indictments.
16. 134-2e (3) – OPPOSE due to the same reasons as (2).
17. 134-2g – OPPOSE the change to require training for long guns and to have had training within four years. This will be a burdensome and costly requirement and the current permit to acquire requirements have been working for 30 years.
18. 134-2g (1) – OPPOSE removing hunter education as a training option for handguns and revolvers. Hunter’s education teaches firearm safety and state gun laws and was offered as a free or low-cost training option for people to acquire firearms. Also people from the mainland, military servicemembers, and gun owners who received other firearms training use this as an affordable way to learn Hawaii’s laws and meet Hawaii’s training requirements without paying \$200 for a handgun safety course. A better option would be to require hunters education to perform live-fire training like is done on the mainland.
19. 134-2g (4) – AMEND. The majority of firearm instructors are not trained to teach mental health, suicide prevention, and domestic violence. I recommend the State psychologists and social workers create a video on these subjects and placed on the internet for the public to watch. Firearm owners can watch the video and print a training certificate and submit it with their application. Win-win situation where gun owners do the training conveniently, general public benefits from the class, and the class is taught by experts.
20. 134-2i – CHANGE NOT NEEDED. Restore “for individuals applying for their first permit”. HCJDC only needs one payment to set up the person’s record.
21. 134-7b – OPPOSE “criminal offense relating to firearms”. See #14 above.
22. 134-7d - OPPOSE “criminal offense relating to firearms”. See #14 above.
23. 134-7h – AMMEND “twenty years” to “five years” as the misdemeanor-level offenses are not significant to warrant twenty years.
24. 134-9a (5)– OPPOSE “resident of the State of Hawaii” requirement. Many people living in Hawaii are not residents, including tourists, visitors, workers, etc. Their right to carry a handgun is the same regardless of residency.
25. 134-9b (5)– OPPOSE “resident of the State of Hawaii” requirement. See #24
26. 134-9c – AMMEND “two years” license expiration to five years. This will make the process more efficient by reducing the time and cost requirements for the applicant and the police departments. Especially with the additional requirements need to obtain a license. The majority of the states issue permits for three to five year terms.
27. 134-9d (2) – AMMEND by removing “to use the firearm or firearms for which the license to carry will be issued”. This removes the burden of having to get a license for each handgun carried. Many people will want to carry 2 (or more) handguns which require separate applications, fees, and qualification tests. We ask that one license be issued to the carrier regardless of handguns carried. The vast majority of states do it this way and it saves on police manpower.
28. 134-9d (5) – OPPOSE insurance requirement. See #2 above.
29. 134-9d (6) – OPPOSE the requirement for an affidavit. This normally requires a notary fee to be paid which is an unnecessary cost. A signature will suffice.
30. 134-9e (5) – AMMEND by removing “with, each firearm that the applicant is applying for to be licensed to carry”. See #27.

31. 134-9g – OPPOSE regarding “access to any records that have a bearing on the mental health of the applicant”. See #10
32. 134-9h (2) OPPOSE “Statements or actions by the person...”. See #15
33. 134-9h (3) OPPOSE “Other information...” is vague and can be subjective. Indictments and convictions should be used instead.
34. 134-9i – AMMEND \$150 license fee is too high. A \$100 fee is more reasonable if the bill is changed to a five-year statewide license per carrier.
35. 134-9j – AMMEND “one hundred twenty days” time limit to ninety days which is more reasonable. Also AMMEND “the application shall be deemed denied” to deemed approved. This is to prevent a chief from delaying the issuance of permits so that they are automatically denied.
36. 134-9q – OPPOSE the ban on carrying more than one firearm at one time. People will carry backup firearms, as some police officers and security guards do.
37. 134-17 – AMMEND by removing “recklessly” regarding making false statements as a mistake shouldn’t be turned into a criminal penalty.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 6:10:06 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Soleil Roache	Hawaii Firearms Coalition / Active Self Protection	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Soleil Roache  
Hawaii Firearms Coalition  
Active Self Protection

My name is Soleil Roache. I was born and raised in Hawaii and have lived here all my life. I am a mother of 3. I work for Active Self Protection where we educate millions around the world on legal and moral self defense on a daily basis. I am a NRA certified firearms instructor, pepper spray instructor, and a deadly force instructor. **I strongly oppose bill 57.**

We all know this bill isn't going to do anything to deter crime. In fact, it will ensure that criminals know exactly where they can commit crimes where there no one present that is armed to resist them.

Rather than trying to "protect the public" from lawfully armed private citizens who are not inclined to ever use their firearms for nefarious purposes, we should be focusing on educating the public on legal and moral self-defense and **allow private citizens to protect themselves and our community where crime happens.** Making good people defenseless won't make bad people harmless. It will only create more victims. Bad guys get to pick the time and the place they will attack and, unfortunately, private citizens cannot count on the police to protect them. In fact, research shows that, statistically, armed private citizens are best able to mitigate the loss of innocent life quickly because they are there right when an imminent threat of death, great bodily harm or a forcible felony happens. If they are armed, they don't need to wait for a good guy with a gun (police) to show up. They ARE a good guy with a gun.

**According to the CDC, there are up to 3 million lawful defensive gun uses by private citizens in the US every year. Those defensive gun uses far outnumber how much guns are used offensively by criminals. Gun Control Debate: [Gun Control Debate: How Many Lives Are Saved By Guns — And Why Don't Gun Controllers Care? | Stock News & Stock Market Analysis - IBD \(investors.com\)](#)**

**According to National Subject Matter Expert Ed Monk of Last Resort Firearms Training, in active killer situations, when an armed private citizen is present and they choose to intervene when an attack begins, we see the victim count in those attacks drop to single digits 89% of the time. That's nearly a 90% success rate, which is far higher than any other strategy that anyone has come up with to stop active killers. Additionally, the faster an**

**active killer is stopped, the sooner first responders can get in there and start rendering aid to victims so that even fewer innocent lives are lost.**

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLkjkKbdZgxVDIBfIaD6V17K4aLgJw9qNK>

Crime is noticeably increasing in Hawaii. Personally:

- I and two children with me were attacked by a homeless man experiencing a violent psychotic episode.
- My husband works at the 24 hour fitness at Windward City Shopping Center in Kaneohe where the security guard, Mike Chu, was recently murdered.
- My son has been threatened with violence multiple times at his work.
- My older sister was attacked and assaulted by a male neighbor while walking her dog.
- My younger sister had a break-in by a male druggie with heavy tools who stole a bunch of stuff from their safe, and caused significant damage to the walls, doors, and ceiling.

This bill will place unreasonable burden on concealed carriers just trying to navigate their daily life without violating the restrictions and will make them a criminal for crossing an imaginary line.

It will disproportionately affect lower income individuals who are more likely to use public transportation. This demographic already tends to be disproportionately affected by violent crime

Regarding the portion of the bill that bans guns in places that serve alcohol, I strongly believe that responsible gun owners should not mix guns and alcohol, but there are many people who frequent these places that do not consume alcohol at all. Personally, I am allergic to alcohol, so I never drink it. Other people, for example, may be pregnant, or they may be a designated driver. People should not be prohibited from carrying firearms in these locations in those circumstances.

There are two good things in this bill that I can support. The first is extending CCW licenses to 2 years instead of the current 1 year. However I would suggest extending it to 5 years, make permits valid statewide, make permits per carrier, not per gun to save private citizens and the police time and money. The second is that this bill allows for the safe storage of handguns in cars for carriers which is currently prohibited.

Soleil Roache 808-670-9929

[soleil@activeselfprotection.com](mailto:soleil@activeselfprotection.com)

[www.ActiveSelfProtection.com](http://www.ActiveSelfProtection.com)

[www.youtube.com/ActiveSelfProtection](http://www.youtube.com/ActiveSelfProtection)

[www.youtube.com/ActiveSelfProtectionExtra](http://www.youtube.com/ActiveSelfProtectionExtra)

[www.facebook.com/ActiveSelfProtection](http://www.facebook.com/ActiveSelfProtection)

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 11:44:35 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
'Ilima DeCosta	Mom's Demand Action	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice-Chair Takayama and Members of the Committee.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 984.

Once passed, HB 984 will clarify the rules related to concealed carry, including mandatory liability insurance – similar to automobile insurance – and the requirement to produce a permit to any law enforcement officer if/when asked. This bill will also be useful in identifying “safe places” and ensure that the most vulnerable in our community are protected from gun violence.

As a mother to a young woman who was killed due to domestic related gun violence, I support all reasonable measures to ensure that individuals who are granted a concealed carry permit are properly vetted and are held accountable if/when their firearm is involved in the commission of any crime, including suicide.

Since gun violence is the #1 leading cause of death for youth, it is imperative that the State of Hawaii maintain “safe places” and I urge the passage of HB 984. Mahalo.



**Testimony to the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs  
Tuesday, February 14, 2023; 2:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325  
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 0984, RELATING TO FIREARMS.**

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA respectfully offers these **COMMENTS** on House Bill No. 0984, RELATING TO FIREARMS.

By way of background, the HPCA represents Hawaii's FQHCs. FQHCs provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines in rural and underserved communities. Long considered champions for creating a more sustainable, integrated, and wellness-oriented system of health, FQHCs provide a more efficient, more effective and more comprehensive system of healthcare.

The bill, as received by your Committee, seeks to address the United States Supreme Court's ruling in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen*, No. 20-843 (S. Ct. 2022), which overturned New York's gun safety law requiring a license to carry concealed weapons in public places. The New York statute that was stricken provided authorities with the discretion to deny concealed-carry licenses even when the applicant satisfies the statutory criteria because the applicant has not demonstrated cause or suitability for the relevant license. (**See**, *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v Bruen*, supra, at 5.) Aside from New York, only California, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, and New Jersey have analogues to the "proper clause" standard. (**See**, *Bruen*, ibid., at 5 and 6.)

Because the Court determined that the "proper-clause" requirement violated the Fourteenth Amendment by preventing law-abiding citizens with ordinary self-defense needs from exercising their Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms in public for self defense, it would appear that this bill would clarify the circumstances under which a concealed-carry license may be issued.

**Testimony on House Bill No. 0984**

**Tuesday, February 14, 2023; 2:00 p.m.**

**Page 2**

Without discussing the merits or faults of the larger issue of gun control, the HPCA brings to your attention what we believe are serious concerns on how this bill will set forth the process and criteria (including testing, training, and background check requirements) for applicants to obtain licenses to carry firearms outside the home, whether concealed or unconcealed.

Among other things, SECTION 7 of the bill would change the standard by which the mental health of an applicant would be assessed. Currently, Section 134-9(b) Hawaii Revised Statutes, prohibits the issuance of a license to a person "adjudged insane" or appear to be "mentally deranged". SECTION 7 of this bill would instead require the licensing authority to consider whether the person poses a danger of causing a self-inflicted bodily injury or unlawful injury to another person, as evidenced by "information from a healthcare provider indicating that the person has had suicidal or homicidal thoughts or tendencies within the preceding five years." [See, page 46, lines 3-8.]. In essence, the applicant would have to show that he or she had not had a suicidal or homicidal thought over the previous five years, which would need then to be verified by a health care professional.

This information would then be used by the Chief of Police in the Chief's review of the application and all other documentation that would be required pursuant to rules adopted by the Police Departments and the Department of the Attorney General concerning background checks and mental health screening. If all conditions are satisfied, the license would be issued.

We question how the Chief of Police would come to this determination -- whether the Chief would utilize a medical professional employed by the Police Department or by private health care providers via an application process.

If it is the Legislature's intention that private health care providers be utilized, the HPCA is concerned that the expertise needed by a health care professional to determine whether a person poses a threat to public safety is quite specialized. Mental health has become so prevalent and nuanced that a primary care physician, registered nurse, or other frontline professional may not have the expertise nor a sufficient amount of time with a patient to correctly identify the severity of a patient's mental health to the degree necessary for a sound determination of a patient's fitness to receive a firearm license. For FQHCs and all health care facilities throughout the State, there is a severe shortage of mental health professionals -- the kind of personnel with the expertise needed for this very important responsibility.



**Testimony on House Bill No. 0984**

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FQHCs are able to provide primary care services in rural and underserved areas in large part because the liability incurred by our staff is covered under the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA). It is unclear at this time whether the FTCA would cover any liability that might be attributed to an incorrect assessment made by the health care professional for the purpose of facilitating a firearms license application and how that liability would extend to an FQHC.

Also, the statute does not state whether a health care professional may decline a patient's request for the mental health assessment. Arguably, if an FQHC as an organizational policy, or if staff on their own accord, refuses to conduct the requested mental health assessment, arguably, the FQHC or staff might be subject to a Section 1983 claim for violating the civil rights of the patient. As such, without further clarification on the expectations placed on health care providers, this bill might create a "lose-lose" situation regardless of the action or inaction taken by the health care professional.

**In light of the foregoing, the HPCA and its member FQHCs assert that more work is needed legislatively to determine how a firearm license law would be administered.**

Lastly, we note that on September 30, 2022, Mayor Rick Blangiardi submitted to the Honolulu City Council a bill substantively similar to House Bill No. 0984, that would address the *Bruen* Decision by protecting "sensitive areas" that have been traditionally subject to firearm restrictions. This approach is also similar to a recently enacted law in New York that sought to greatly restrict the areas that licensed firearms may be carried. However, it should also be noted that the New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc., filed suit to invalidate the new law citing *Bruen*, supra, at 22:

*". . . But expanding the category of 'sensitive places' simply to all places of public congregation that are not isolated from law enforcement defines the category of 'sensitive places' far too broadly. . . [This argument] . . . would in effect exempt cities from the Second Amendment and would eviscerate the general right to publicly carry arms for self-defense. . ."*

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Public Affairs and Policy Director Erik K. Abe at 536-8442, or eabe@hawaiiipca.net.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 1:35:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lisa H. Gibson	Indivisible Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Legislature must take action to define safe places in order to keep us safe from the ever increasing number of firearms. I support HB984.

## IN SUPPORT

### Indivisible Hawaii supports HB 984.

The following are suggestions for amendments and additional provisions:

#### 1) permit to acquire

- a) background check: add local criminal, mental health, and family court records to background check in addition to federal and international database searches.
- b) training: specify training before acquisition, not after
- c) storage: require proof of secure storage before permit to acquire is granted
- d) insurance: add requirement of mandatory insurance. The potential to cause unexcused harm to persons and property is great. A constitutional right to carry does not eliminate liability for negligence and misuse. Liability via lawsuits is pointless if the shooter does not have the resources to pay.

#### 2) license to carry

- a) add cannot carry more than one firearm at a time, even if all registered
- b) add must be resident of Hawaii for permit to carry unconcealed. The bill as written already requires residency for a license to carry concealed; this residency requirement should also apply to a license to carry unconcealed.
- c) add the following under sensitive locations:
  - i) adults need protection as well as children; include, for example, shelters for victims of domestic violence, adult foster homes, developmental disabilities apartment complexes and domiciliary homes, behavioral health crisis centers, community mental health centers, psychiatric facilities, special treatment facilities, emergency shelters, homeless facilities, and transitional shelters.
  - ii) In addition to voting service centers and polling places, include vote counting centers and places where ballots are stored.
  - iii) Add public gatherings or special events conducted on property open to the public with a permit from a federal, state, or local government, plus a zone of 50 yards around the perimeter, marked by clear signage.
  - iv) Add first amendment expressive activities plus a zone of 50 yards around the perimeter, marked by clear signage.

v) Add private property not open to the public. As written, the bill covers private property open to the public, and should include both private property open to the public and private property not open to the public.

vi) add requirement that the notice of whether or not firearms are permitted on private property must be in writing and prominently posted. Oral authorization is subject to misinterpretation or being misremembered or forgotten. Conspicuous posting allows a person carrying a firearm to know whether they are or are not permitted to bring their firearm on the premises, and allows persons not carrying firearms to determine whether they wish to enter premises where firearms are permitted.

### 3) penalties

a) add stiffer penalty for violation of various provisions. A misdemeanor is not sufficient; add forfeiture of existing permits and licenses, seizure of associated weapons, and disqualification from application for new or replacement permits and licenses. Perhaps the first violation may be subject to misdemeanor only, but subsequent violations should receive stiffer penalties. A person who has demonstrated they are unable or unwilling to comply with the law should not be permitted to possess and carry firearms, particularly after repeat offenses.

b) add requirement to report lost/stolen/forfeited permits and licenses. Strict control must be maintained over permits and licenses. It is imperative that permittees/licenseses report lost or stolen permits/licenses, return revoked permits/licenses, and prevent use of lost or stolen permits/licenses. A permit to carry a lethal weapon is a valuable document and effort must be made to keep it from falling into the hands of unqualified persons. The potential for misuse of a lost or stolen license to carry is great and there should be serious incentive to encourage prompt reporting and to remove incentive for theft.

### 4) Liability

Add provision that people who lend their firearm remain liable for damage caused by its use.

### 5) tourists

Add provision that tourists bringing firearms into the state must receive and acknowledge, in writing, the laws of the state of Hawaii regarding firearms, including carrying of firearms in public, sensitive locations where firearms may not be carried, use of lethal force in self-defense, safe storage, penalties for violations, and liability for damages. They must be informed that they cannot carry a firearm in Hawaii, concealed or unconcealed, without a permit to do so from the State of Hawaii, and that Hawaii does not grant licenses to carry to non-residents (see comment 2b above).

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 11:04:36 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara Gomes	Moms Demand Action for Gun Safety (Hawaii Chapter)	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a resident of Oahu. As both a parent and an educator, I have become very concerned about keeping our Hawaii one of the safest states in the country. Please support this bill so we have clear boundaries state-wide. Guns surely do not belong at playgrounds, parks, or schools, but without this bill, anyone who gets a concealed carry permit can bring hidden guns into those places.

Additionally, guns and alcohol should never mix. This bill will make it clear that people carrying guns in public cannot bring their guns to bars or restaurants serving alcohol.

Thank you VERY much for your careful consideration of this important bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 4:34:32 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

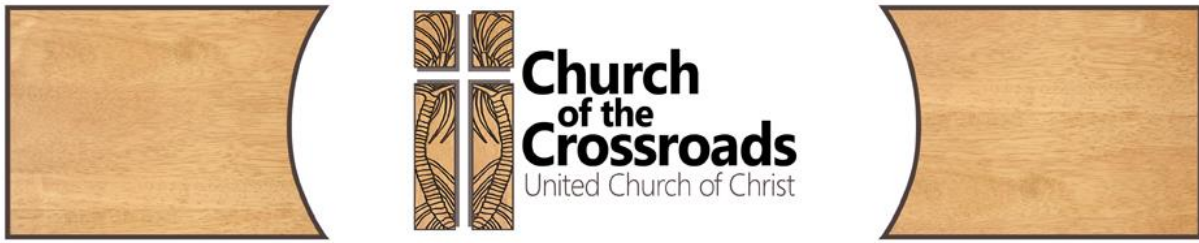
<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
April Ching	Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am grateful to leaders in Honolulu who understand the importance of keeping firearms out of locations where the risk of harm is particularly high. Guns don't belong at schools, parks, or other places where children play. In addition to safe spaces we need to ensure that those allowed to carry guns outside the home have credentials that are clearly registered and measures that ensure there is a clear and present need for a weapon outside the home or the range. As a community college instructor and mother of two, I am concerned that the proliferation of concealed carry permits for firearms will mean more deadly weapons in places my children and I go each day. Please support this ordinance for the protection of our communities.

Mahalo.



## ***A Just Peace and Open and Affirming Congregation***

### **THE CHURCH OF THE CROSSROADS TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL HB 984 AND REQUEST FOR AMENDMENTS**

*The Church of the Crossroads celebrates 100 years of being Hawaii's first intentionally multiethnic church, dedicated to missions of peace, justice, and stewardship of the environment.*

#### **The Church of the Crossroads supports HB 984 and requests amendments.**

In January 2023, our church congregation voted unanimously to advocate for stronger gun safety measures, including:

- requiring thorough background checks of criminal and mental health history;
- requiring proof of insurance for firearms injuries;
- requiring robust safety training for all firearms permits, transfers and licenses;
- closing the loophole that permits shotguns and rifles to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days without notice to the government and without any license, permit or background check for the person receiving the weapon; and
- prohibiting the carrying of firearms in Sensitive Places, broadly defined to include but not be limited to governmental buildings, parks, public transportation, sports and entertainment venues, bars and restaurants, commercial establishments, schools and homeless shelters.

We support HB 984 because it creates numerous measures to better protect our community, while complying the unfortunate US Supreme Court's mandate that public carry permits be allowed. In particular, requiring robust background checks, detailed safety training and proof of insurance should assist in protecting public safety.

#### **We request HB 984 be amended and strengthened to:**

- o **Prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol; and**
- o **Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.**

Thank you for consideration of our testimony and helping protect the safety of our community.

Submitted by Ellen Godbey Carson on behalf of the Church of the Crossroads

Email: [office@churchofthecrossroadshawaii.org](mailto:office@churchofthecrossroadshawaii.org)

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 4:33:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Cudal	Hawaii tactical division llc.	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hate to say it but you guys are not making this a safer place for the people of Hawai'i. We the people should not have to fight for our constitutional rights, it is OUR GOD GIVEN RIGHTS. GOOD WILL ALWAYS PREVAIL so stop making these anti gun bills for us Good law abiding citizens and BE a GOOD politician and STOP YOUR GUYS EVIL WAYS PLEASE. The taste of MONEY GREED CORRUPTION WONT LAST! Until something bad happens to you or your loved ones from someone evil and you decide to change your mind to be pro 2nd amendment might be to late. Stop now and help us people of Hawaii to be stronger protectors of life and not be victims of crime.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:35:10 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Raymond Woo	St. Luke's Episcopal Church Honolulu	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a minister of a church and as a citizen & resident of our State, I fully support HB 984 to keep our State & all our islanders & all our visitors safe by safeguarding all from gun violence & gun deaths.

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 984**

**TO:** THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

**SUBMITTED BY:** DAVID PUCINO  
DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL  
GIFFORDS LAW CENTER TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE

**DATE:** FEBRUARY 13, 2023

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Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs: thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony on behalf of Giffords, the gun violence prevention organization led by former Congresswoman Gabby Giffords. I am writing in support of House Bill 984, which will provide critical updates to state law on the carrying of concealed firearms following the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Ass’n, Inc. v. Bruen*, 142 S. Ct. 2111 (2022). HB 984 will update the law on licensing firearms and set new and critically important parameters on where concealed firearms can be carried, within the Constitutionally permissible boundaries articulated by the Supreme Court.

**HB 984 IS A NECESSARY RESPONSE TO THE SUPREME COURT DECISION ON CONCEALED CARRY**

In *Bruen*, the Supreme Court identified Hawai‘i as one of six states with a law “under which authorities have discretion to deny concealed-carry licenses even when the applicant satisfies the statutory criteria, usually because the applicant has not demonstrated cause or suitability for the relevant license.” *Id.* at 2124. It went on to hold such discretion unconstitutional under the Second Amendment.

However, *Bruen* also made it clear that many regulations implicating Second Amendment rights will survive scrutiny. The majority opinion emphasized that its holding was “neither a regulatory straightjacket nor a regulatory blank check,” and that many common regulations, such as restrictions on guns in sensitive places, can continue. *Id.* at 2133–34. Likewise, the concurrences emphasized the Court’s narrow focus on the specific provision of law at issue: the “proper cause” standard for issuance of concealed carry licenses. Justice Alito noted that the opinion “decides nothing” about who may purchase a gun, what requirements must be met to purchase a gun, or the kinds of guns that can be available for purchase. *Id.* at 2757 (Alito, J. concurring). And Justice Kavanaugh, joined by Chief Justice Roberts, further clarified that states are still permitted to impose licensing requirements so long as they are objective, and that sensitive place restrictions are constitutional. *Id.* at 2162–63 (Kavanaugh, J. concurring). As Justice Kavanaugh summarized, “[p]roperly interpreted, the Second Amendment allows a ‘variety’ of gun regulations.” *Id.* at 2162 (Kavanaugh, J. concurring).

*Bruen* rejected the previous consensus position of the lower courts that heightened scrutiny is appropriate in assessing the constitutionality of firearm laws, declaring instead that courts should use a test focusing on text, history, and tradition. It is worth noting that there were numerous laws that spelled out licensing schemes and restricted public carry throughout the states during Reconstruction, a timeframe the *Bruen* court noted was relevant for its historical analysis, particularly with respect to state laws. *Bruen*, 142 S. Ct. 2111 at 2138. Dozens of these types of laws were enacted during this time, affecting millions of Americans. See Saul Cornell, *History and Tradition or Fantasy and Fiction: Which Version of the Past Will the Supreme Court Choose in NYSRPA v. Bruen?*, 49 Hastings Const. L.Q. 145, 169 (2022). Consistent with Hawai‘i’s interests in passing HB 984, these laws were enacted with a goal of protecting public safety and were a direct response to “newly-rising levels of gun violence.” *Id.* at 168.

## SOCIAL SCIENCE SUPPORTS HB 984 AS A PUBLIC SAFETY INTERVENTION

On the question of guns in public, the social science is clear: more permissive public carry laws and more guns in public places make us less safe, not more safe.

Studies consistently demonstrate that lenient right-to-carry (RTC) laws are associated with increased violent crime and homicide rates. Indeed, “the predominant conclusion from studies in the last five years has been that RTC laws increase violent crime.”<sup>1</sup> Stanford professor John Donohue’s work in this area shows persistent increases in violent crime rates in states with more permissive licensing regimes. In a June 2022 study analyzing a sample drawn from 47 major U.S. cities, Donohue and his colleagues concluded that right-to-carry gun laws “increase overall firearm violent crime as well as the component crimes of firearm robbery and firearm aggravated assault by remarkably large amounts with an attendant finding of no sign of any benefit from RTC laws.”<sup>2</sup>

In particular, Donohue’s study finds that these lenient RTC laws lead to 29 and 32 percent increases in firearm violent crime and firearm robbery respectively.<sup>3</sup> Moreover, the study found a “massive 35 percent increase in gun theft, with further crime stimulus flowing from diminished police effectiveness.”<sup>4</sup> Indeed, the study observes that right-to-carry laws “cause a roughly 13 percent decline in the rates that police clear violent crime, suggesting that [right-to-carry] laws strike at the very heart of law enforcement’s abilities to address criminal conduct.”<sup>5</sup> Further compounding the danger posed by more guns in public, and as discussed in more detail below, social science research confirms that guns are rarely used in self-defense, and are likely to cause harm on innocent bystanders when they are. Indeed, Donohue and his colleagues conclude that “any such [deterrent] benefits are substantially offset by the crime-enhancing impacts of increased gun carrying.”<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See John Donohue et al., *More Guns, More Unintended Consequences: The Effects of Right-to-Carry on Criminal Behavior and Policing in U.S. Cities*, at 1 (Nat’l Bureau of Econ. Res. Working Paper No. 30190, June 2022).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 25.

<sup>3</sup> See *id.*, at 3, 25.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 27.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 3.

<sup>6</sup> Donohue et al., *supra* note 2 at 2.

Another recent study of states that moved from a may-issue to a RTC regime from 1980 to 2019 found that this move to weaker laws “was associated with a 9.5% increase in rates of assaults with firearms during the first 10-years post-law adoption and associated with an 8.8% increase in rates of homicides by other means.”<sup>7</sup> What’s more, the study found that states that removed training, discretion, and violent misdemeanor prohibitions as part of this move saw increases in violence. States that retained some of these features when moving to shall issue did not see such big increases in violence.

This recent research is supported by a long line of social science research that confirms lenient gun laws increase violent crime.<sup>8</sup> For example, in December 2017, researchers at Boston University and Duke University released the first-ever analysis of the impact of concealed carry laws on handgun and long-gun homicide rates.<sup>9</sup> Their study concluded that permissive right-to-carry concealed carry laws were significantly associated with higher crime rates—in particular, 6.5 percent higher total homicide rates, 8.6 percent higher firearm-related homicide rates, and 10.6 percent higher handgun-specific homicide rates, compared to states with stronger regulations.<sup>10</sup> This robust body of evidence confirms that, just as American governments have traditionally sought to protect their citizens by restricting the public use of guns, the new licensing standards in HB 984 will promote public safety by protecting the public from statistically-proven increases in violent crime and firearm homicide.

## CONCLUSION

Social science demonstrates that more guns do not make the public safer—in fact, it tends to have the opposite effect. While the Supreme Court has limited the ability of law enforcement officers in Hawai‘i to exercise discretion when determining who can carry a gun in public, there remain many important avenues available to make sure that those who are carrying are doing so safely, and are not taking guns into especially sensitive places.

HB 984 will accomplish both of these goals, in line with the social science data that shows guns in public pose dangers, and ensure that those who do carry guns in public are doing so safely. I urge you to advance this bill in the interest of public safety, just as governments have done since the founding.

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<sup>7</sup> Mitchell L. Doucette et al., *Impact of Changes to Concealed Carry Weapons Laws on Fatal and Nonfatal Violent Crime, 1980-2019*, AM J EPIDEMIOLOGY. (2022), <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36104849/>.

<sup>8</sup> See, e.g., Rashna Ginwalla et al., *Repeal of the Concealed Weapons Law and Its Impact on Gun-Related Injuries and Deaths*, 76 J. TRAUMA ACUTE CARE SURG. 569, 569, 573 (2014), <http://www.academia.edu/10480999> (lax concealed carry permitting laws are associated with increased gun fatalities); Daniel W. Webster et al., *Firearms on College Campuses: Research Evidence and Policy Implications* 8 (Oct. 15, 2016) (discussing data on 111 high-fatality mass shootings from 1966–2015, finding that in the 41 states with RTC laws or no concealed carry regulations, the average death toll in high-fatality mass shootings increased following the implementation of an RTC law).

<sup>9</sup> Siegel et al., *Easiness of Legal Access to Concealed Firearm Permits and Homicide Rates in the United States*, AM. J. PUB. HEALTH, Dec. 2017, at 1.

<sup>10</sup> *Id.*



Respectfully Submitted,

David Pucino  
Deputy Chief Counsel  
Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence

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**ABOUT GIFFORDS**

Giffords is a nonprofit organization dedicated to saving lives from gun violence. Led by former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, Giffords shifts culture, changes policies, and challenges injustice, inspiring Americans across the country to fight gun violence.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:07:49 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deb Nehmad	Brady Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:



Testimony of Deb Nehmad, Chapter Lead, Brady Hawaii

Before the House Committee on Judiciary and Native Hawaiian Affairs

SUPPORT FOR HB984

February 14, 2023

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Native Hawaiian Affairs

**In furtherance of BradyUnited’s goal to reduce firearm violence across Hawaii, the Hawaii Chapter of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence is proud to offer its strong endorsement of HB984.**

For decades, Hawaii leaders have prioritized the safety and well-being of the people of Hawaii by enacting and implementing proactive, research-informed policy solutions that prevent gun violence, save lives, and spare entire communities from loss, trauma and cycles of violence. However, the latest data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is disturbing:

- Every year, 34 people in Hawaii die by firearm suicide.
- Every year, 15 people in Hawaii are victims of firearm homicide.
- On average, 55 people in Hawaii are killed by gun violence each year and an average of 30 of those deaths occur in Honolulu County.
- Every 7 days, someone in Hawaii is shot and killed.
- 

It's clear that work remains to be done, and in the wake of the Supreme Court's (SCOTUS) decision in *NYSRPA v. Bruen*, which invalidated parts of Hawaii's concealed carry licensing provision, it is imperative that action be taken. The passage of HB984 is a significant step in the right direction to ensure the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

### **Why This Bill is Needed**

As of December 22, 2022, over 600 people in Honolulu reportedly applied for concealed carry permits following the release of the *Bruen* decision in June. As of February 7, 2023, HPD had issued 20 permits with no limitations in place on where guns can be carried. We can only expect thousands more applications statewide. In a State that had not issued any concealed carry permits for decades and is second in the nation of the fewest gun related homicides, this is a jarring number. Absent action, those living and visiting Hawaii will be faced with a new reality where guns are everywhere.

Research shows that if Hawaii does not act immediately to implement comprehensive and robust provisions to enhance its concealed carry permitting system, its citizens will face higher risks of homicide, gun theft, and gun violence. A rigorous study of concealed carry laws found that in states with weak concealed carry laws, violent crime rates rose 13% to 15% after ten years. A recent study conducted by the Center for Gun Violence Solutions analyzed the impact of weakened conceal carry permitting systems on violent crimes. The study found that states that loosened their concealed carry permitting systems (and failed to enact the very licensing requirements that Hawaii seeks to introduce in HB984) saw a 9.5% increase in firearm related assaults over a decade. In the interest of protecting its citizens, passage of HB984 will ensure the entire State has a standardized and robust concealed carry permitting system.

The Supreme Court in *Bruen* leaves it up to State and local legislatures to restrict the use of firearms in certain "sensitive places," including schools and government buildings. HB984 is consistent with SCOTUS case law. It's important to note at the outset that the Supreme Court in

*Bruen* made it clear that its holding was “neither a regulatory straight jacket nor a regulatory blank check,” and that restrictions on guns in sensitive places are still permissible, so long as they are objective. It would be illogical to deem a swath of locations “not sensitive,” simply because the list seems too long.

Passage of the HB984 will help Hawaii maintain its standing as one of the safest states in the country by ensuring that the State enhances and standardizes its concealed carry permitting/licensing requirements and broadens its sensitive place restrictions.

### **What The Bill Does**

HB984 ensures that those who are carrying firearms in public have proper licensing, adequate training, and are not at risk of harming themselves or others. It maintains and enhances Hawaii’s requirement for comprehensive background checks for applicants for concealed carry licenses. Under this bill, an applicant could not qualify for a license to carry a firearm if they have any history of threats or acts of violence by the applicant directed toward themselves or others. Further, the bill prohibits the issuing authority from issuing a license where the issuance would not be in the interest of public health, safety, or welfare because the person is found to be lacking the essential character or temperament necessary to be entrusted with a firearm and establishes objective criteria for making that assessment. Additionally, the bill introduces a training requirement that involves live-fire instruction and demonstration of safe handling of, and shooting proficiency with, each firearm the applicant is applying to be licensed to carry.

HB984 further outlines “sensitive places” where firearms cannot be carried, including child-care facilities and other places frequented by children, city-owned buildings or offices, all forms of public transportation (except as provided for by State or federal law), voter service centers, and first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. Within this legislation, each sensitive place has been evaluated in terms of their individual characteristics. The nature of the activities taking place in each of these locations as well as the presence of certain vulnerable populations warrant each location’s classification as a sensitive place. These are all areas where restricting the concealed carry of firearms only serves to benefit the health and safety of those living in and visiting Hawaii.

These essential safety measures –improvement to the concealed carry permitting system and the creation of sensitive place restrictions – pass constitutional muster. The Supreme Court in *Bruen*



made clear that its holding was “neither a regulatory straightjacket nor a regulatory blank check,” and that restrictions on guns in sensitive places are still permissible, so long as they are objective.

## **Conclusion**

The provisions of HB984 are consistent with *Bruen* and pass constitutional muster. Considering the SCOTUS decision, immediate action must be taken in Hawaii to enhance the concealed carry licensing system. By implementing comprehensive provisions that will prevent reckless and dangerous people from carrying concealed firearms and designating safe spaces where concealed carry will not be allowed, Hawaii will keep its public spaces safe from the threat of senseless firearm violence. **For these reasons, Brady Hawaii strongly encourages the House Committee on Judiciary and Native Hawaiian Affairs to vote YES on HB984.**

Sincerely,

Deb Nehmad

Chapter Lead, Brady Hawaii

The Brady Campaign to Prev



Feb. 13, 2023

Aloha, Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Committee Members:

My name is Erica Yamauchi, and I live and work in the Kaimukī area. As a gun violence survivor, business owner, mother of two children in public schools, and adjunct faculty member at the University of Hawai'i, **I'm writing today in strong support of House Bill 984.**

I don't want to wonder whether someone is carrying a gun when they come into our family's business, every time I go into a boutique or restaurant on Wai'ala'e Avenue, or when we take our children to the beach. The idea that concealed guns could be in these places makes me feel less safe in our community.

Our low incidence of gun violence here in the islands hasn't been by accident.

Here in Hawai'i, we had a strong law in place to make sure people weren't carrying firearms in public unless they had a specific need to do so. Our state law used to require that people had to prove they had an "exceptional" reason to fear injury to themselves or their property before they could get a license to carry a gun in public. Because of this state law, we haven't had guns in public places – which means we've had far lower risk of tense situations escalating into gunfire and fewer risks of guns being used for intimidation, or accidentally being fired, in public spaces.

When the Supreme Court struck down a New York law that was like Hawai'i's law, we no longer have that protective measure in place, and unfortunately, we can expect to see more guns in more places very soon.

The Supreme Court's Bruen decision opened up the floodgates for the possibility that more people will be carrying more guns all around Hawai'i. Hawai'i urgently needs to address this risk by passing a new laws that set clear requirements on *who* is, and is not, qualified to carry a gun in public; *how* our county chiefs of police can vet people applying to carry a gun in public; and *where* people who get permits to carry guns in public can and can't bring those guns.

For example, we need to make sure we don't let people carry guns in public if they've had a recent history of violent and/or threatening behavior, or have been recently cited for being reckless with firearms.

We need to require that people carrying guns in public must have been trained on the specific types of issues that come up when carrying a gun outside the home. This should include how to store their guns safely in cars so more stolen guns don't end up on the street, where they can and can't carry their guns, and when they can and can't legally use lethal force in self-defense.

We need to make sure law enforcement has the right information and authority to identify and deny public carry permits to people who pose a heightened public safety risk.

People applying for carry permits should be carefully evaluated based on objective criteria to ensure fairness and uniformity in the process. With more people now eligible to get permits to carry guns in public, we need to set clear boundaries on where they can and can't bring those guns.

Guns don't belong at playgrounds, parks nor schools, but without this bill, anyone who gets a concealed carry permit can currently bring hidden guns into those places.

Furthermore, it's common sense that guns and alcohol should never mix. This bill will make it clear that people carrying guns in public cannot bring their guns to bars or restaurants serving alcohol.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Erica Yamauchi".

Erica Yamauchi  
Statewide Co-Lead, Hawai'i Chapter

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:32:26 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sue Hornik	HAWAII Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Hawaii Coalition to Prevent Gun violence strongly supports HB984 to insure that the state has clear and unified requirements about carrying guns in public. Our strong gun laws have meant that Hawaii has fewer gun deaths and less gun violence than other states and we must stay vigilant in order to protect our families and public places. We would favor strengthening the measure by prohibiting the carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether it serves alcohol. We also respectfully request that the egregious loophole, allowing assault rifles to be loaned to unvetted people who have no license, permit or background check for 15-75 days, be closed. Thank you for keeping us safe.



**The Institute for Human Services, Inc.**  
Ending the Cycle of Homelessness

**TO:** Honorable Rep. David A. Tarnas  
Chair, House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs  
  
Honorable Rep. Gregg Takayama  
Vice Chair, House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

**FROM:** Connie Mitchell, Executive Director  
IHS, Institute for Human Services, Inc.

**RE:** HB984 – Relating to Firearms

**HEARING:** Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 2:00 pm.

**POSITION:** IHS supports the passing of HB984 with comments.

IHS, the Institute for Human Services has been providing emergency shelter services to adult men, women, and families with children on Oahu for over 40 years. In recent years, we have experienced an increase in conflicts and threats of bodily harm for guests, and even instances of persons threatening gun violence. Thus far, we have been fortunate to have not yet suffered tragedy as a result.

This increase in violence we can contribute to wider distribution of drugs and increased consumption of drugs and alcohol. Given the increase in violence, we want to emphasize the importance and need of keeping firearms in the hands of those trained to use them, and away from places frequented by vulnerable populations, adults AND children alike.

This bill defines the requirements for who is eligible to carry firearms in public: thorough criminal background and mental health review; robust safety training requirements; proof of insurance for gun-related injuries, and restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public. However, to ensure greater safety for our community, we request HB 984 be amended and strengthened to:

- Prohibit the carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol.
- Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) which allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

I'm writing in support of HB 984

I'm proud that here in Hawaii, our strong state gun laws have kept gun violence low. Now that the Supreme Court has forced Hawaii to grant more concealed carry permits, we need you to act to limit the impact and keep us safe.

People should not be eligible to carry a gun if they've had a recent history of violence or threatening behavior, and we need to require that anyone with a permit gets training on how to use their gun safely.

If more people will be allowed to carry guns in Hawaii, we need to have clear rules about where guns are off-limits. Guns don't belong at playgrounds, parks, or schools, but without this bill, anyone who gets a concealed carry permit can bring hidden guns into those places. I don't want to wonder whether someone is carrying a gun every time I go to a restaurant, store, or even my doctor's office. When I take my family to the beach, a park, or a playground, I want to feel as safe as I used to, and the idea that concealed guns could be in these places makes me feel less safe.

I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
ANDREA DE LA TORRE  
KILAUEA, HI 96754

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
EMILY MENG  
HONOLULU, HI 96822

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
ASHTIN HART  
HAWI, HI 96719



Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Paige Senerius  
Ewa beach, HI 96706

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Tania Lynch  
Kailua, HI 96734

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Jenny Rasmussen  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Rukiyah Walker  
Honolulu, HI 96816

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Danielle Perez  
Honolulu, HI 96815

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
ALEXANDRA PALUMBO  
WAIMANLO, HI 96795

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
JESS ELLIS  
KAMUELA, HI 96743

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
IVY CASTELLANOS  
KANEEOHE, HI 96744



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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
LISA KIMURA  
HONOLULU, HI 96817

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Griffith Stecyk  
Honolulu, HI 96814

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
SARAH BISSELL  
KAILUA, HI 96734

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Alexandra Martella  
Kihei, HI 96753

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Christopher Stevens  
Waipahu, HI 96797

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Katie Robinson  
Honolulu, HI 96817

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
STACIA SAGE  
HAUULA, HI 96717

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Nancy S. S. Young  
Honolulu, HI 96819



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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
CHRISTOPHER SELLMAN  
HONOLULU, HI 96816

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
LARISA MAJORS  
MILILANI, HI 96789

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Joanna Staniszewski  
Holualoa, HI 96740

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Phillip Pollman  
Honolulu, HI 96815

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
NICOLE BUCKINGHAM  
KA'A'AWA, HI 96730

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

I'm writing in support of HB 984

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
CECILY KIMURA  
KAMUELA, HI 96743

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
BRITTNEY DRIGGS  
HALEIWA, HI 96712

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Suher Rasid  
Kihei, HI 96753



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Thank you,  
KRISTINE CHUNG  
HONOLULU, HI 96813

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Thank you,  
Krystal Jo  
Mililani, HI 96789

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Thank you,  
PEGGY REISING  
EWA BEACH, HI 96706

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Thank you,  
Kelsey Marsh  
Kapolei, HI 96707

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Thank you,  
McKenzie Johnson  
Koloa, HI 96756

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Thank you,  
Catherine Tenn  
Honolulu, HI 96826

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Thank you,  
CAMRYN LEDDY  
HONOLULU, HI 96826

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Thank you,  
Katie Tulley  
Kapaa, HI 96746



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Thank you,  
ANDREA SUZUKI  
HONOLULU, HI 96813

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Thank you,  
Marie Saunders  
Waianae, HI 96792

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LAUREN ROLLAND  
WAIALUA, HI 96791

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Jan Furuuchi  
Honolulu, HI 96826

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Andrea Birmingham  
Paia, HI 96779

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Ana Bravo  
Honolulu, HI 96825

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Thank you,  
Kortnie Cruz  
Haiku, HI 96708

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Kristi Chun  
HONOLULU, HI 96813



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JACQUELINE ZAMBRANO  
HAIKU, HI 96708

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Thank you,  
DANI MCBRIDE  
KAUAI, HI 96756

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Ronessa Yamase  
Lihue, HI 96766

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SHAYE JACKSON  
KILAUEA, HI 96754

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BARBARA GOMES  
KAILUA, HI 96734

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Thank you,  
Laura Nicholl  
Honolulu, HI 96821

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MARISSA BAPTISTA  
HONOLULU, HI 96818

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Thank you,  
Amy Short  
Makawao, HI 96768



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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Tara Whalen  
Honolulu, HI 96814

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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Thank you,  
Zaheva Knowles  
Kamuela, HI 96743

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Thank you,  
Erik Birkholm  
Keaau, HI 96749

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Thank you,  
WILL BROWN  
HONOLULU, HI 96826

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Thank you,  
PELE BENNETT  
HONOLULU, HI 96821

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Thank you,  
LINDSEY DUGAS  
HONOLULU, HI 96815

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Thank you,  
Paulette Peterson  
Kalaheo, HI 96741

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Thank you,  
Maria Dripps  
Honolulu, HI 96825



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Thank you,  
DIANE WERNET  
PAHOA, HI 96778

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JENNIFER MCGINNIS  
HONOLULU, HI 96825

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Thank you,  
Jessie Hopper  
Kihei, HI 96753

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Thank you,  
CATHERINE COOPER  
PRINCEVILLE, HI 96722

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Thank you,  
LARISA MARINAS  
HAUULA, HI 96717

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Thank you,  
CS Shizuru  
Honolulu, HI 96816

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CHRISTINA LEE  
HONOLULU, HI 96817

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Thank you,  
Lindy Martin  
Kailua, HI 96734



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Thank you,  
Dayna Schultz  
Ewa beach, HI 96706

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Jasmine Beavins  
Naalehu, HI 96772

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Adriana Jimenez  
Waikoloa, HI 96738

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Pedro Maynes  
Honolulu, HI 96816

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Thank you,  
Suzanne Sternlicht  
Pepeekeo, HI 96783

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DELPHINE HOMEROWSKI  
KAILUA, HI 96734

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Thank you,  
Amy Craig  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

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Thank you,  
Darcy Bartoletti  
Kapaa, HI 96746



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Jayme Barton  
Waialua, HI 96791

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Thank you,  
Kelley Lau  
Honolulu, HI 96822

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JANIS SMITH  
KAILUA KONA, HI 96745

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Lily Huynh  
Honolulu, HI 96822

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Susan Palmore  
Honolulu, HI 96822

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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Thank you,  
Kate Keilman  
Kailua, HI 96734

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Thank you,  
YVONNE EUGENIO  
MILILANI, HI 96789

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Thank you,  
Lauren Yee  
Honolulu, HI 96818



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Thank you,  
VANESSA BARKER  
WAILUKU, HI 96793

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Thank you,  
LEAH MCRAE  
HONOLULU, HI 96817

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Thank you,  
DANIELLE DIMARE  
HONOLULU, HI 96816

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Thank you,  
Alyce Dodge  
Honolulu, HI 96816

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Thank you,  
Paul Grable  
Kailua, HI 96734

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Thank you,  
Jennifer Neely  
Honolulu, HI 96826

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Thank you,  
ANDREW SHEINIS  
KAMUELA, HI 96743

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Thank you,  
Christopher Edwards  
Honolulu, HI 96822



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KENNEDY NEUBAUER  
HONOLULU, HI 96822

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Joannah Thomas  
Makawao, HI 96768

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JEANNE SCHULTZ AFUVAI  
KAILUA, HI 96734

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Dustin Stephens  
Honolulu, HI 96815

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CATE WAIDYATILLEKA  
HONOLULU, HI 96821

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KELSEY BAEHRENS  
KAILUA, HI 96734

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JENNY SILBIGER  
HONOLULU, HI 96814

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ALLYSON METZGER  
KAILUA-KONA, HI 96740



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Thank you,  
joan selix Selix berman  
Kula, HI 96790

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Kate Sweetman  
Haleiwa, HI 96712

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DENIS GUERET  
KAPAA, HI 96746

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FREDRICK SANDS  
WAILUKU, HI 96793

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MADISON BYRUM  
HONOLULU, HI 96818

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Nita Tomaszewski  
Pahoa, HI 96778

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Thank you,  
Maricela Huerta  
Kihei, HI 96753

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Thank you,  
Mary Fisher  
Mililani, HI 96789



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People should not be eligible to carry a gun if they've had a recent history of violence or threatening behavior, and we need to require that anyone with a permit gets training on how to use their gun safely.

If more people will be allowed to carry guns in Hawaii, we need to have clear rules about where guns are off-limits. Guns don't belong at playgrounds, parks, or schools, but without this bill, anyone who gets a concealed carry permit can bring hidden guns into those places. I don't want to wonder whether someone is carrying a gun every time I go to a restaurant, store, or even my doctor's office. When I take my family to the beach, a park, or a playground, I want to feel as safe as I used to, and the idea that concealed guns could be in these places makes me feel less safe.

I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Zachary Kruk  
Honolulu, HI 96822

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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Thank you,  
JEN MAGOON  
WAIKOLOA, HI 96738

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Thomas Rau  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
Shannon Gay  
Honolulu, HI 96817

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
WENDY DOENGES  
MAUNALOA, HI 96770

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Honorable Members of the Committee:

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I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you,  
ANDREA MARIE JANAS  
KAILUA, HI 96734

**HAWAI'I STATE CAPITOL; COMMITTEE ROOM 325**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023, 2:00 P.M. HST**

**To: Honorable Members of  
The House Committee On Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs**

**From: Christopher D. Thomas, Attorney at Law  
Hawai'i's Ambassador for Giffords Gun Owners for Safety**

**Re: Testimony In Support; House Bill 984**

Chairman David A. Tarnas, Vice Chair Gregg Takayama, and Members of the House Committee:

My name is Christopher Thomas, I am a resident of Oahu. I am an attorney practicing in Honolulu, and a Veteran of the Air Force. I am Hawai'i's Ambassador for Giffords Gun Owners for Safety, the nation-wide organization founded by former U.S. Senator Gabby Giffords, of Arizona. I am also a State-licensed gun owner. As you may know, Giffords advocates for the passage of common sense, practical, and responsible gun laws as a means to reduce gun violence in our communities.

I believe the current U.S. Supreme Court judicial precedent regarding the Second Amendment mandates States pass common sense and responsible gun laws. I believe that responsible gun ownership is synonymous with reasonable gun safety regulations; and that is why I express my support for House Bill 984.

House Bill 984 is a common sense gun law. This Bill takes vital steps to allow us to secure sensitive locations where the presence of a firearm would place the general public at greater risk of gun violence. Sensitive locations, such as government buildings, parks, schools, and day care facilities should be safe from violence and secure for everyone. This Bill is an extension of what Hawai'i residents have historically become accustomed to; that they can be secure against gun violence because guns are not currently present in these locations. Allowing firearms in these environments will increase the risk of violence, and should be avoided at all costs.

This Bill will also update the rules for how licenses to carry firearms in public are issued. As you know, last year a U.S. Supreme Court ruling changed the standards for concealed carry licensing; Hawai'i must update its longstanding licensure

procedures. These new standards consider the risks associated with firearms, both in the home and in public, to ensure that our government only issues permits to those who are not at an unacceptable risk of harming themselves or others. By setting minimum requirements for licenses to carry firearms and revoking them under specific conditions, this Bill can help prevent weapons from falling into the hands of those who are not trained, qualified, nor fit to possess them.

Regarding private property, HB 984, in requiring gun owners to have express permission from property owners in order to carry their guns onto private property, is again an extension of what Hawai'i residents are used to. State residents already know that guns are not present in retail stores, restaurants, offices, nightclubs, movie theaters, and the like. This Bill merely reinforces what our citizenry is already practicing, and accustomed to. Without this measure, a person who has a State issued concealed-carry permit would be legally allowed to carry their guns with them in most public places. These people could also legally take their guns into a private place unless the property owner expressly tells them they are not allowed. Bill 984 would reverse this assumption, empowering Hawai'i residents and businesses to have more control over their own property. Residents, employers, and businesses have every right under the U.S. Constitution to keep weapons off their property. Bill 984 will ensure their ability to adopt a no-guns policy to protect employee and customer safety.

HB 984 simply aligns the law with expectations; because, in Hawai'i the assumption has historically been that individuals are not carrying firearms, and this default rule will align with those local historical expectations and tradition.

I urge this Committee to find in favor of this Bill. The proposal is a measure of common sense. The Bill is a crucial step toward preventing gun violence and promoting a safer community for residents of Hawai'i.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher D. Thomas

Kailua, Hawai'i



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

**INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION**

11250 WAPLES MILL ROAD

FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030



**NRA**

February 13, 2023

The Honorable David Tarnas  
Chair, Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 442  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Tarnas:

On behalf of the members of the National Rifle Association in Hawaii, I would like to communicate our strong opposition to House Bill 984 (HB 984). This legislation is deeply flawed, and in our opinion, blatantly unconstitutional. This bill runs directly counter to the United States Supreme Court decision in *NYSRPA v. Bruen*.

HB 984 is similar to legislation that has been passed in New York and New Jersey. Litigation has already ensued, challenging these misguided laws with injunctions being issued by Federal Courts in regards to “sensitive places” and abusive permitting conditions. If passed this legislation will be met with a legal challenge and will likely face a similar fate.

For the foregoing reasons and many more we request your opposition to HB 984.

Sincerely,

Daniel Reid  
Western Regional Director  
NRA-ILA



**February 14, 2023 at 2:00 pm**  
**Conference Room 325**

**House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs**

To: Chair David A. Tarnas  
Vice Chair Gregg Takayama

From: Paige Heckathorn Choy  
Associate Vice President, Government Affairs  
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Support**  
**HB 984, Relating to Firearms**

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the health care continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high-quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 30,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **support** for this measure, specifically in identifying healthcare facilities as a sensitive space. Healthcare providers hold a unique space in our society—they are called upon to treat those who are victims of violence, while also ensuring that their premises are kept safe from those who wish to do harm.

We have heard stories from our members over the years about their need to increase security on their campuses to ensure that dangerous weapons are not brought in to cause harm. This takes an incredible amount of resources and vigilance. It is also not foolproof—we have seen in many states the tragic consequences of weapons such as firearms being brought into hospitals and nursing homes, with some documented cases of providers being killed while on the job.

The legislature's efforts to protect Hawaii residents with regard to recent legal rulings is deeply appreciated, and protecting our healthcare workers and patients must remain a top priority in any legislation to identify sensitive places.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our support for this measure.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 11:28:02 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dale Hayama	Young Guns	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Honorable David Tarnas  
Chair, Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

Dear Chair Tarnas:

I would like to communicate our strong opposition to HB984. This legislation is deeply flawed, and unconstitutional. This bill runs directly counter to the United States Supreme Court decision that forced the local county police departments to start issuing CCWs here in Hawaii.

HB984 is similar to legislation that has been passed in New York and New Jersey. Litigation has already ensued, challenging these unconstitutional laws with injunctions being issued by Federal Courts in regards to "sensitive places". If passed this legislation will be met numerous legal challenges that will cost Hawaii taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars and will likely meet a similar fate.

Please stop wasting taxpayer dollars trying pass a bill that infringes on our Constitutional Rights.

I have an out of state CCW permit, which I exercise where I am legally allowed to. Our CCWs, gives my fiance and myself peace of mind, as we are senior citizens, Asians, and the primary targets of many criminals out there.

Many years ago, my fiance and I applied for a CCW here on Oahu and were both denied on the premise that there was no situation that the police department couldn't protect us from; Well needless to say, every single law enforcement officer that I have spoken to since, active and retired said that it was a lie. We now, finally have an opportunity to defend ourselves outside our home, but this bill will give the criminals back the power to do harm to law abiding citizens.

Please do not empower the criminals with this bill. Please understand "SOFT" targets, before you go any further. That's where most, if not where all mass killings take place. Basically they are "GUN FREE" Zones. The bad guys do want to anywhere near where they could be confronted by an armed citizen.

On a final note, many uninformed citizens think of CCW holders as cowboys looking for a gun fight. The fact is, CCW holders are usually the most responsible citizens in society. They hold themselves to a higher standard and the crime rate for CCW holders are far less than Law Enforcement personnel!

Thank you for reading my testimony.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:43:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Martha Kiyabu	Young Guns	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee Members,

In regards to HB984 I am strongly opposed to this bill as written. The places that are proposed to be ban for carry are the places that you need to carry a firearm. These soft targets are the type of places where criminals seek to victimize people and know that the individuals are unarmed.

Currently HPD Firearms Department is short staffed so if you choose to do online registration of your firearm they will tell you it might be late because of that. I had a customer who did the online registration of a firearm last year. HPD contacted him last month and said that his firearm was not registered yet. No fault of his own according to this Bill it would disqualify this individual from getting his CCW.

Please do not pass this bill through. It would be met with legal action and as a tax payer I would like to see my tax money spent more prudently.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Martha Kiyabu

Young Guns

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 3:52:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael I Rice	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I stand in **STRONG OPPOSITION** to this bill. There are many things wrong with it and much of it is blatantly unconstitutional, flying directly in the face of the recent Supreme Court ruling. Many of the provisions have already been challenged in other courts throughout the country with Injunctions and Temporary Restraining Orders issued against them on the grounds that the lawsuits will be likely to succeed on the merits.

There are numerous mainland groups just waiting to sue the City and State should laws like these pass, and they have been winning their cases so far with injunction and TROs issued against the violating entities. I can guarantee you that they are watching, and they already have at least a rough draft of their lawsuits ready. I can guarantee you you do not have the relevant historic laws that will be required to defend them in court. They've already laid out that the laws need to be from the founding of the country, the 1790s, and laws from the Kingdom of Hawaii, Republic of Hawaii, and even the Territory of Hawaii will not be valid.

The US Supreme Court has already said the 5 places that are historically sensitive enough for the carry of guns to be banned from. Those 5 places are Public Schools (Specifically banning students, not staff or teachers), Courthouses, Polling Places, Prisons and Jails.

Existing law already allows private businesses to deny entry or services to anyone for any reason, this includes carrying a firearm. If I were to go into a business with my firearm and they ask me to leave, I must leave or I'll be trespassed by the police and catch criminal charges, potentially losing my right to bear arms. During my CCW class, we were told in very clear language that if you are in a business and asked to leave you are to leave immediately. If one were to raise a stink like some Anti-Maskers did during the Covid Pandemic they would quickly lose their right to bear arms.

Someone has previously mentioned that places that could be made sensitive need to be protected. Will you have security guards at all parks, private businesses, public places and everywhere else you want the carry of firearms banned? We barely have enough police officers and security guards are routinely attacked by unarmed individuals, let alone armed ones.

The places are so broad, and by the wording of the bill, I'm violating the law even if I don't know I'm violating the law. If I go to an office building and I'm unaware that the city is leasing space there for whatever reason, I'm breaking the law. The City and County of Honolulu doesn't even know what all the properties they have, how can I be expected to?

Guns can be dangerous, the danger increases when they are manipulated. If I need to unload and unchamber my gun every time I park my car and put it in a locked case to comply with this law, that increases the potential to have a negligent discharge, to hurt or kill someone simply because I'm trying to comply with the law. Not only that but I expose my gun every time I need to transfer it from storage to my holster and back. If a criminal sees I've got a gun and leave it in my car they're gonna take the risk to get a free gun to either use or sell.

I am heavily against leaving a gun in the car, loaded or unloaded. Even if it's in a 'secure' lockbox there is the high potential for its theft. Some vehicles do not have a proper way to secure a lockbox so a thief could just reach in and grab it and pick or break the lock at their leisure and now they have a free unregistered gun. Even if I were to secure it by bolting the lockbox to my car or having a steel cable to anchor it, we've got criminals walking around with power tools stealing catalytic converters. If they can cut through a catalytic converter and be gone in 2 minutes, they can surely do the same with a gun lockbox.

The ban on carrying on public transport is also discriminatory towards those such as myself who rely on public transportation. I have witnessed and heard of many incidents on buses that became violent. People being attacked, people being sexually assaulted, some being murdered just for waiting at bus stops. I am a railfan and look forward to being able to ride the Rail when it opens. There are no security guards at bus stops, there are none on the bus, there will be one at the rail. If you're lucky the bus driver might pull over and intervene or a bystander might come to your assistance. Not always. I've questioned HART in the past about what would happen if there was a violent incident to take place on the rail. Their response was they will see it on the cameras in the cars and call the police to arrive at the next station. There's quite a few problems with that, first they need to actually see it happen. Each Rail Unit will have 4 cars, and assuming they only have 2 cameras per car, that's 8 cameras just for one Unit, the Project is estimated to have 20 units by project completion. Even if half of them are not in active service, that's 80 camera screens at once someone is going to have to watch and notice something happening, then have whoever is monitoring the situation to determine what's going on and call the appropriate response (Police, Fire, Medical).

You cannot guarantee my safety aboard public transit. I am my own first responder, police might show up 10 minutes after they get the call if I'm lucky.

The next subject is the Insurance Requirement. Quite plainly such insurance DOES NOT EXIST in the form you want it to. There's some homeowner insurance that might cover an accidental discharge, or theft of a firearm. There's self defense insurance that only covers me if I engage in a legal self defense shooting and only pays my bail, lawyer, and up to a certain amount should I be sued in civil court.

Insurance by law cannot cover acts of crime. If someone steals my gun and murders someone, no insurance policy in the World, much less the United States will cover that.

Next subject, Duty to Inform. While I have no problem with informing a police officer that I am armed if requested, having to 'immediately' inform them I have a firearm can lead to some problems, such as with the shooting death of Philando Castile. He told the officer he was armed and went to get his ID and was shot. While training of Police Officers can help to reduce the likelihood of this it won't eliminate it. If I'm riding with someone and they get pulled over for whatever reason and someone in the back seat just randomly says "I've got a gun." How well do you think that's going to end? I carry my gun on my right side, I keep my ID on my right side as well, will I be shot because an officer I just made nervous and aware of the fact I have a gun and where it's located?

Another problem I have is the requirement to have my Registration as well as my carry license, the fact that I have a carry license should be evidence enough that I have a registered weapon as that is required to get a license in the first place. I'm also concerned about things that might be out of my control, what if I forget or lose my wallet? Police should be able to call HQ and run a check on me and see 'Registered Weapon, CCW Permit on file.' as well as see a picture of me from the last time I registered a firearm or got a permit.

Back to safe storage, particularly the wording 'that when locked is incapable of being opened without a key, keypad, combination, or other unlocking mechanism and is capable of preventing an unauthorized person from obtaining access to or possession of the firearm contained therein and shall be fire, impact, and tamper resistant.' Locks can be picked, drilled, and otherwise broken, mechanical and electronic locks can be bypassed. I have a decent safe in my house bolted to the wall, someone with a crowbar can break into it in 5 minutes, with power tools even less. And this doesn't even mention the fire resistance requirement, most vehicle storage options do not have that.

I could write another 5 pages or so of what's wrong with this bill, frankly these 2 and a half pages should be more than enough not counting all the other testimonies you'll be reading today.

And meanwhile, while you're putting all these restrictions on law abiding gun owners, criminals are doing their own thing.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:55:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marcus Tanaka	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I Oppose this bill, except the part about being able to leave the firearm in the vehicle.

It's very convenient how the bill opens with the Buren rulig, but leaves out that any law has to have HISTORY AND TRADITION in it.

Almost all the changes forgets this part and leaves it out. 170 years is not "historical" enough either. It would have to be from 1790-1820ish or so. So this is the states attempt and wrong.

Also anyone who supports the sensitive places portions must love criminals, because only they will be armed and have zero worry about their vicitims having the best tool for the job.

CCW holders and criminals are not the same, which is what a lot of the support testimony will think. We have never committed a felony and have background checks done all the time.

HB984. Measure Title: RELATING TO FIREARMS.

Report Title: Firearms; Licenses; Registration; Enforcement; Insurance

Hi, my name is Lori Fujimoto. I am here today to speak in support of less restrictions for qualified civilians to carry firearms concealed and non-concealed (open carry).

The proposed ban prohibits qualified citizens from carrying in locations such as schools, government buildings, parks, voting locations, public transportation, private businesses, banks, and medical establishments in effect is a “back door ban” or “disguised ban” that violates our Constitutional Rights. Qualified citizens cannot buy food, eat at a restaurant, get medical attention, and cannot withdraw or deposit money at their bank. It is so restrictive that it basically only allows carrying while driving or walking on public streets.

I am 5'3" and a little over 100 lbs. I am no match for a bigger and heavier male or female trying to harm me, my son, or other keiki around me. God forbid, if there is a shooter, the only thing I could do is to run and hide. It would take at least 30 minutes for the police to arrive. Concealed carry would act as an equalizer and allow me to defend myself and others around me. This also goes for other law abiding qualified citizens who are present.

I have been a registered firearms owner for over 20 years. I have followed the Hawaii state laws have always kept my firearms locked up safely in my home.

My husband has been employed as a federal Special Agent, working as a federal law enforcement agent/officer (LEO) for the past 18 years. I, as his wife, am confident that I would pass the same background database checks as him. In fact, my background check would be more stringent than his and most other LEO's in that I live with someone, who as a federal law enforcement agent/officer, conducts background checks. Yet your “back door ban” treats me as a criminal, who has no constitutional right to carry a firearm for self-defense.

Qualified citizens should be able to carry both open and concealed. Open carry serves as an effective deterrent to violent crime. According to a study done by the Crime Prevention Research Center, concealed carry permit holders are the most law-abiding group of citizens in the country. Even more law abiding per capita than police officers.

I urge you remove all sensitive places. If owners sensitive areas are going to prohibit CCW on their property, then they need to have discrete gun lockers to lock up firearms before entering (just like Disneyland does),

I also support qualified citizens to carry high capacity magazines. This will allow the qualified citizen to defend themselves on a more even playing field, when defending against violent criminal attackers who are well-known to disobey firearms laws like the laws restricting magazine capacity.

Gun owners should be allowed to secure their guns in their cars

**All women should be exempt from all sensitive area restrictions. It is statistically proven that women are much more likely than men to be perpetrators of violent crime, and much more likely to be victims of violent crime.**

CCW permit holders should not be required to have insurance, because insurance is not specifically required in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. Insurance is just another way to harass CCW permit holders, and just makes it harder for your everyday working person to protect themselves..

On another note, you could add restrictions such as, 1) the same prohibitions to driving under the influence of alcohol as with carrying a firearm, or 2) require citizens to report that they are legally carrying a firearm, if they are encountered by law enforcement.

Lori K. Fujimoto, 2/7/2023

last four of social security number 7284

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:37:48 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mitchell villarreal	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I oppose the bill HB984. I feel the people of Hawaii are not safe. Criminals have more freedom then the good people of Hawaii and it isn't fair. I want to be able to defend me and my family anytime anyplace if I'm in the legal situation. This island isn't as safe as it used to be. No one wants to go down the street and kill somebody that is the last thing any good citizen wants to do. But I would like to be able to defend me and my family In any situation needed. This bill works in favor of criminals and it isn't right.

I am in STRONG OPPOSITION to HB984. This bill is an attempt by the State of Hawaii Legislature to do an end around to the NYSRPA v Bruen decision which if you have been following the federal cases in New Jersey and New York upon which your bill is a cut and paste, you will see strong federal judge opposition to any so called "Sensitive Places" legislation. I have previously provided the five locations that are meeting with the historical context and analogous too. These locations as defined in Bruen, Heller Caetano and McDonald are as follows: Legislative Buildings, Court Houses, Polling places, Schools (public and historically applying to students), Jails and Prisons.

I strongly oppose the patchwork of hopscotch locations that is created with HB984. This bill is directed at LAW ABIDING gun owners and not the criminal element of Hawaii who on a regular basis violate state and federal gun laws. This is the same

Here is a summary of the latest federal court decision regarding "Sensitive Places" I suggest the legislature take heed of the current court rulings and standings on this issue to reformulate a bill to the "Five Locations"

Case is Segal v Platkin New Jersey Bill A 4769 for reference.

US District Judge Renee Bumb issues a TRO against this bill

"After all, the Supreme Court was clear that in order for ANY gun control legislation to pass constitutional muster under the Second

Amendment, such legislation must be consistent with historical tradition. The State has had six months since Bruen to identify well-established and representative historical analogues."

Certainly, Defendants anticipated challenges to the legislation and should have been better prepared to defend the legislation constitutionality"

"Private property owners have always been able to deny access to people, but to then say as a law abiding person have to ask permission or have the owner give permission every time, is not what the law historically has required"

"And what this does is it restrains the Second Amendment to a right only to carry on public property, which historically is not correct"

US District Court Judge Renee Bumb granted a TRO against the following NJ restrictions:

1. Parks, beaches and recreational facilities
2. Public libraries and museums
3. Bars, restaurants, other places where alcohol is served
4. Entertainment facilities

5. Casinos

6. Private property

7. Carrying of functional firearms in vehicles

"At the same time, the Court implore the Presiding Officers to focus their argument on the legitimate legal issues pending before this Court after the clear dictate from the United States Supreme Court in *NYSRPA v Bruen*."

"But the Bruen Court expressly stated that the government may not simply posit that the regulation promotes an important interest" in the Second Amendment context.

Instead, "the government must demonstrate that the regulation is consistent with this Nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation."

"While the legislature may disagree with Bruen, it may not disobey it."

US District Judge Renee Bumb

It is not in the interest of Hawaii to enter into additional litigation upon which the overwhelming results are against the side stepping of Bruen by introducing "Sensitive Places" laws.

The attempt by the Hawaii Legislature to mandate insurance for the free exercise of a civil right is abhorrent. It doesn't exist as the so called lawyers from the state AG will try to tell you. Insurance at no time would cover illegal conduct. Are you requiring all criminals in Hawaii to get insurance and register with the state? I didn't think so.

Firearms training requirements are beyond the scope of what the legislature is allowed to do. While mandating a hunter safety course and a qualification course for CCW is beyond the norm for most states, you completely fail to mandate a gun safety curriculum in our schools at all levels appropriate to their age. Gun safety leads to responsible gun owners.

Mandating recurrent classroom training is a financial burden in the FREE exercise of a right.

If you want efficiency and standardization you will include the background and mental health checks with a common standard for qualifications for all islands, a five (5) year permit and it will be valid on all islands. No other state has you becoming a felon by going to a different county.

Your "Duty to Inform" is a Forth Amendment violation unless the individual is being detained or arrested for a crime.

Anyone who has not been adjudicated by medical authority cannot be denied based on a non-medical individuals "feelings" Seek medical determination to avoid violating the rights of individuals.

Individuals under TRO who have not be subject to a court proceeding do not have to relinquish firearms without a proper court determination. Get TRO requests and both parties in front of judges



immediately so the system is not used as a means of one party to get back at another. FACTS MATTER.

HPD cannot "farm out" its duty to a third party nor make subjective character determinations. Subjective Moral Character standards are another form of MAY ISSUE which was found to be UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

Any denial by a county police chief should be heard by a judge and not right back to the organization that denied the CCW permit.

If you are going to charge someone, charge them, pending charges is not a reason to deny individual rights.

Signage by businesses has been determined to be coerced speech and a First Amendment violation of the business owner. Don't you think that after the first CCW permits were issued businesses would have put up signs if they wanted too? There are none anywhere. Just as it should be. A CCW holder has a concealed weapon and its use is only in the most dire situations for the protection against death or serious bodily injury, kind of like the Walmart parking lot incident 2 weeks ago.

CCW holders should be allowed to carry any legally owned pistol or revolver they own.

I am in STRONG OPPOSITION to this and all other bills that attempt to INFRINGE upon the 2nd Amendment rights of law abiding citizens.

I am available to further discuss options and remedies to this and other bills proposed this session.

<https://www.uslawshield.com/key-second-amendment-supreme-court-cases/>

<https://www.harvard-jlpp.com/attention-originalists-the-second-amendment-was-adopted-in-1791-not-1868-mark-smith/>

<https://www.talksonlaw.com/briefs/text-history-tradition-test>

<https://fedsoc.org/commentary/publications/bruen-s-preliminary-preservation-of-the-second-amendment>

"To reason by analogy, it is as though [the government] banned all speech, but exempted from this restriction particular people (like current or former political figures), particular places (like private property), and particular situations (like the week before an election). Although these exceptions might preserve small pockets of freedom, they would do little to prevent destruction of the right to free speech as a whole. As the [Supreme] Court has said: "The Second Amendment is no different." *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S. at 635. It too is, in effect, destroyed when exercise of the right is limited to a few people, in a few places, at a few times."

Michael Elliott

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:52:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jon Abbott	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly OPPOSE HB 984. As I sit here and write this I am in disbelief at the level of animosity expressed in this bill toward lawful gun owners. This bill will do nothing to increase public safety, and I am confident it was never meant to.

Instead it makes an effort to punish those lawful citizens who want to express their right to defend themselves and their loved ones with a firearm both inside and outside their home. As the fourth person to receive my concealed carry license here in Honolulu County I can tell you the proposed sensitive places put forward in this bill will make it impossible for me to carry almost anywhere on Oahu. Indeed, the places that this bill would make off limits to legal concealed carry are the very places where I would expect to need to defend myself using my firearm. Let's face it- criminals will not obey this bill if it turned into law. Saying this is almost a cliché at this point but it is nonetheless true.

Case in point - a few weeks ago a young mother and her 6month old infant were brutally run down by a man in a car, who then began beating the woman to death with a tire iron. One good Samaritan tried to stop the attacker but was also beaten brutally. The delay in concealed carry permits over the past six months has prevented hundreds of people from getting their concealed carry license. If the Chief of Police had simply issued permits under the existing rules it is possible an onlooker may have been able to stop the attacker by presenting their legally carried firearm - and hopefully the attacker would have stopped without a shot being fired. Sadly, this was not the case and if this bill is passed into law it will strip the ability of all concealed carriers from legally carrying concealed into Walmart or any other store, park, bank, bus, or rail. Here's the real point - IT WILL NOT STOP THE MURDERERS, RAPISTS, MUGGERS, or other violent criminals.

You will assuredly hear the people in favor of this bill say they don't want to have shoplifters being attacked in their stores by concealed carriers- don't fall for this logical fallacy - for the theft of property does not warrant the use of deadly force to prevent. All gun owners know this already. Also, don't fall for the fallacy that they don't want their employees from having to ask a person carrying a firearm concealed to leave - a concealed firearm literally means no one knows you are carrying it.

This brings me to the next fundamental flaw with this legislation - Changing who can provide the required handgun safety class to citizens. The system that exists works well and does not drain

the resources of the police departments statewide. There is no reason to add another layer of bureaucratic red tape to a system that has worked well for nearly 30 years to educate people on how to safely use a handgun. Personally, as an NRA certified pistol instructor I have trained hundreds of my fellow citizens in the safe use and storage of handguns here in Hawaii.

Lastly there is the issue of cost regarding the concealed carry license. How much should a right cost to exercise? The answer is simple - it should be covered by the taxes we already pay. Requiring a individual person who wants a concealed carry license to pay \$150 for an application and purchase insurance is simply a Poll Tax on one's Second Amendment Rights. The requirement about insurance was also brought up in the discussion of SB1230. It is critical to note that there are NO providers of this insurance available. I can only surmise that the authors of this bill know this and intend it as a way to prevent anyone from legally carrying a firearm in Hawaii.

I urge you to OPPOSE HB984. Mahalo for your consideration.

Jon Abbott

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:34:45 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lynne Johnson	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

My name is Lynne Johnson. I grew up on Oahu and my family has lived in Hawaii for five generations. I have relatives on every major island. I deeply love Hawaii and want to keep it safe from gun violence. Hawaii's low number of gun related deaths is connected to the strong gun safety laws we have in place. I am very proud of that. HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities them to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property, whether or not it's open to the public, without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations. Statistics show the more guns in a community result in more death from guns. Right now Hawaii does not have a strong "gun culture". Just like it is no longer "cool" to smoke as it once was, it should not be "cool" to own a gun. The presence of a gun puts others at risk, jeopardizing not just the physical health, but the mental health of others. The way to keep Hawaii safe from gun violence is to have fewer guns, not more, and to restrict where they can be carried. When I was 11, a cousin of mine accidentally killed a cousin of his with a loaded rifle. It was devastating to all the families. We must keep Hawaii safe from gun violence.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:52:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Patty May	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to register my SUPPORT for HB 948, being heard – appropriately, on Valentine’s Day, February 14.

Going forward, this is much needed legislation given the new law that has been enacted in Hawaii regarding concealed carry. I am particularly concerned with the fact that there still seems to be a few items that need to be addressed and, through crossover, that can happen.

Looking back my 13-year old son, Jason, was killed by a 14-year old neighbor (also named Jason) who had access to an illegal 22 semi-automatic rifle. This rifle was owned by a grandfather who had “loaned” it to his adult son under the guise that he would teach his two boys gun safety. “Loaning” your firearm to someone for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check, is very, very worrisome.

Again, I am submitting my SUPPORT of HB 948 for crossover and further consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty May

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:01:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sheila Walker	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it violates our rights according to the law.

Aloha

My name is Jason Wolford I'm testifying in strong opposition to this bill for the following reasons.

1<sup>st</sup> on the sensitive places in this bill it will render my CCW license worthless since every in public considered sensitive. It would also force people to make political statement that I'm welcome on their property with my ccw. This law is just like the bills in New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Oregon, and Washington state. All of them have been sued and stopped from enacting these same laws. As they are filled with unconstitutional laws that the us supreme court stated in there Bruin V.S, New York.

2<sup>nd</sup> the cost in this bill of 150.00 dollars will price many out of their constitutional rights. Along with all the training requirement in this bill.

3<sup>rd</sup> the bill also has a requirement for gun owners to take mandatory training every 4yrs. This is a added burden and cost on law abiding citizens just to have their right.



4<sup>th</sup> the requirement to just get a permit to acquire forcing 4 personal reference and interviews with police department. To determine if you're a suitable person. This is subjective not objective if someone feels your worthy of your constitutional right. The police departments here in Maui they are so understaffed they are only open 4 days a week. It take 4 months to get approved with current requirements. Adding interview to applications to acquire or for ccw how much longer will it take to get issued a permit.

5<sup>th</sup> the requirement to have insurance for your firearm for ccw there is NO current insurance product for that available anywhere.

6<sup>th</sup> for CCW there is no available option if I do carry my gun and need to store it in my car so I can go into a place that is sensitive. I could not do so without breaking the law.

6<sup>th</sup> allow each county to add to these laws and make even more restrictive. This will lead law

abiding citizen to maybe doing one think in Maui that is legal but in Oahu it is not. Image if this was done and Maui would not allow your driver license for other island like Oahu since we all feel they drive to crazy people and are unsafe. There should be one set of rules for the entire state and one permit just like driver licenses.

There are many more reasons but feel just these alone are reasons enough to not pass this bill as is.

Mahalo for your time.

Jason T Wolford

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:00:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dirck Sielken	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly oppose House Bill HB984 as written. There shouldn't be more restrictions for law abiding citizens to possess and or conceal carry the firearms they own. Sentences 10-13 really speak volumes on the direction the bill should be. They list the sensitive spaces that have historical precedence. Everything else added for sensitive spaces makes it near impossible for a law-abiding citizen to legally carry their conceal carry firearm. The sensitive spaces listed in this bill have already been done in other states like New York and have been found to be unconstitutional. The additional sensitive spaces listed in this bill should be removed. Why would you pass a bill into law when you swore an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

**Section 4.** All eligible public officers, before entering upon the duties of their respective offices, shall take and subscribe to the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, and that I will faithfully discharge my duties as ..... to the best of my ability." As used in this section, "eligible public officers" means the governor, the lieutenant governor, the members of both houses of the legislature, the members of the board of education, the members of the national guard, State or county employees who possess police powers, district court judges, and all those whose appointment requires the consent of the senate. [Ren and am Const Con 1978 and election Nov 7, 1978; am SB 1440 (1992) and election Nov 3, 1992]

For the "License to conceal carry", the license should be one and one only. This one license should be for any and all handguns and revolvers that the licensee has that are registered and it should cover the **ENTIRE STATE** as all other licenses do in other applications in our state. I have only one drivers license, however I have several vehicles, the state does not require me to

have a driver's license for each vehicle. Nothing else in Hawaii requires a license for every individual item you own or thing you do that the state requires a license. Are you going to require that a loan office be licensed and certified for every loan they issue? Or a realtor being licensed and certified for every house they sell? How about a mechanic being license for every operating system on a vehicle and for every manufacturer? All of these type of licenses only require a one and done license, with a license being good and valid for many years. Some with minimal renewal requirements. The conceal carry licensing and permit to acquire should be a one and done process, should not have to go back every year, these should be valid for five years each at a minimum. There is so much wrong with this bill and as so it should not be passed. Go back an write a bill that is in line with the constitution and also supports law abiding citizens along with reducing the additional burden on our police departments and courts. They need to spend their time reducing crime and catching and prosecuting the real career criminals. If they had focused on going after criminal warrants instead of chasing expired safety inspection vehicals, maybe the attacked at the Mililani Walmart that sent two innocent people to hospital wouldn't of happened.

Thank you,

Dirck Sielken

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:55:48 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
steven lee	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

I OPPOSE HB984.

This bill is unconstitutional.

The United States Constitution states that the right to own and bear arms "shall not be infringed".

The Supreme Court of the United States in the recent Bruen case state that sensitive places may be established that restrict guns, however it clearly states that sensitive places may not be so numerous that they effectively restrict the public's right to carry firearms. Allowable restricted places are generally limited to the places where there's a long-standing history of such restrictions going back to the time of the Constitution.

The overly extensive list of sensitive places listed in HB984 clearly violate the Constitutional rights of the people and the Bruen decision of the Supreme Court.

It is also unconstitutional to arbitrarily and subjectively deny a person's rights own and bear guns under the Constitution. HB984 also violates the Constitution in this regard.

Law enforcement officers and lawmakers should know and understand the laws that govern our all of us. Furthermore, they should abide by those laws and not intentionally violate the law.

On the mainland where other states adopted similar laws that violate the people's rights guaranteed by the Constitution, entire law enforcement departments have refused to enforce such unconstitutional state laws because they would force them to violate their oath to obey and uphold the Constitution.

If this bill becomes law in Hawaii, it will require our law enforcement officers to decide either violate their oath to defend the Constitution enforce this law and, or to keep their oath to defend the Constitution and refuse to enforce this law.

As our elected lawmakers, you are held to a high standard to know, enforce and obey the law. If you knowingly pass the unconstitutional provisions of HB984, you would be sending a strong message that you don't think it's important for you to respect and obey the law.

If you don't respect the law, it would be easy for the people of Hawaii to think that they don't need to respect and obey any laws that you create.

PLEASE RESPECT THE LAW AND OPPOSE HB984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:55:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Berta Narbonne	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

As a resident of O'ahu and a mother, wife, educator, and concerned citizen, I am uncomfortable with people carrying firearms in public spaces, and even more upset at the idea of concealed guns. I want my government representatives to limit the impact of the Supreme Court's ruling to weaken public safety in Honolulu and Hawai'i.

Guns do not belong in public spaces including banks, shops, schools and places where children are present, churches, parks, transportation centers, health care facilities, and places where people can exercise their right to vote. I appreciate our tradition of having strong common-sense gun laws, and support this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:32:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Glennon T. Gingo	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas and members of the JHA Committee.

I strongly oppose many elements of Bill HB984.

More specifically at issue is that the bill proposes restrictions that are not only unnecessary for the safe constitutional carry and use of firearms, it goes further to actually create potentially hazardous situations.

Restricting carry in 'Sensitive Places' and defining 'Sensitive Places' that encompass almost all conceivable public and private locations is not only unreasonable, it criminalizes permittees.

The licensed, CCW permitted and lawful citizen should not be subjected to such unreasonable laws in order to exercise ones right.

Aloha from Island of Hawaii

Glennon T. Gingo



Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Representative Gregg Takayama, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs  
Hearing: Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 2:00 PM  
Regarding: **HB984 (Relating to Firearms)**  
Voter Position: **OPPOSITION**

Representatives of the JHA Committee,

I express my **opposition** to **HB984 (Relating to Firearms)**.

### **Overreach with “Certain Locations” and “Premises Prohibited”**

**HB984** subtly leaves out the fact that the so-called “variety” of gun regulations that justify the prohibition of firearms carry must be germane to the text, history, and tradition of firearm regulations as set forth within *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U. S. 570, and *McDonald v. Chicago*, 561 U. S. 742.

“To determine whether a firearm regulation is consistent with the Second Amendment, *Heller* and *McDonald* point toward at least two relevant metrics: first, whether modern and historical regulations impose a comparable burden on the right of armed self-defense, and second, whether that regulatory burden is comparably justified.”

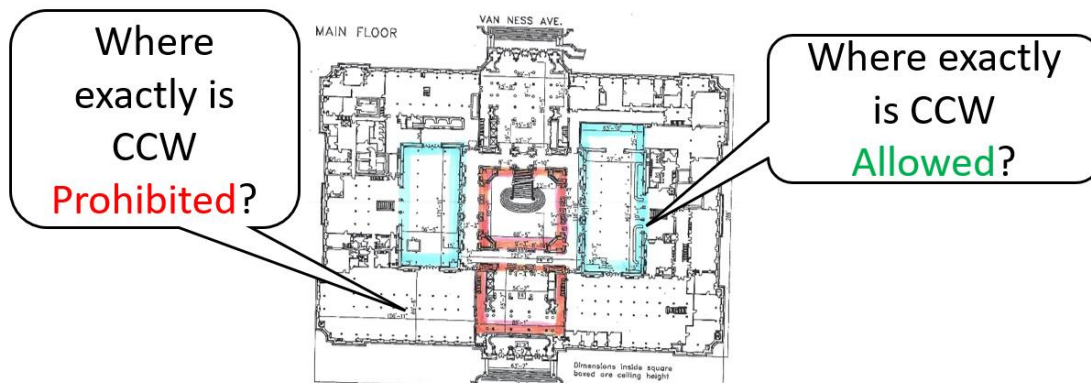
Source: [https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843\\_7j80.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843_7j80.pdf) (Page 3)

Lacking such important context, **HB984** includes firearm prohibitions that supersede historic analogy. The only locations where prohibitions contain a documented historic analogy would include a short list of locations that include state/federal government buildings, schools, voting centers, and courts.

### **Problem with “Opt-In” by Default**

**HB984** bans CCW island-wide by default and simultaneously coerces speech by forcing private proprietors to advocate their personal political views by advertising admission of concealed carry weapons (CCW) license holders. Such coercion should not be placed upon private businesses. If a private business wishes to exclude admittance of CCW license holders, they may do so, but on an opt-out basis. Some businesses owners may not want to advertise their permittance of CCW license holders and likewise would not wish to absorb the added financial burden of creating signage or investing extra time by advertising the admittance of CCW license holders onto their property.

### **Problem with “Prima Facie” Evidentiary Basis**

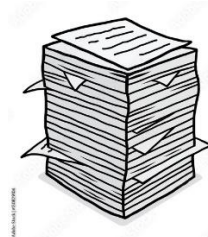


<sup>1</sup> Image Source: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/349591989798757704/>

The inclusion a presence-based prima facie evidence foundation for determining what constitutes a violation of CCW carry is out-right egregious. Members of the public do not have unlimited amounts of time to determine whether they are breaching an invisible property line and thereby committing unauthorized CCW carry. Merely being at a location is not a viable justification for prosecution since not every location on any island displays clear demarcations of all property borders. Businesses, government agencies, and property owners alike would likely become exhausted by repetitive requests for maps and floorplans specifying clear property lines. Moreover, there will be a de facto cost associated with the production of such property line documentation, and neither business owner nor CCW license holder would be willing to absorb the cost of documentation generation forced by **HB984's** enactment.

Prosecution based upon a prima facie basis constitutes criminalization of a right based upon unavailability of information. If someone truly does not know they are in violation of carrying a concealed firearm by due to the ambiguity of an undefined location with an undefined boundary, **HB984** creates an artificial prosecution platform due to such ambiguity.

### **Forcing Constituents to Purchase Non-Existent Insurance Coverage**



2

A recent hearing on **SB1230** revealed that insurance for concealed carry of firearms does not exist in the state of Hawaii. Supporters of the CCW insurance coverage requirement imposed by **SB1230** purported that the firearm carry insurance market will eventually come into existence without providing definitive timeline for such creation or the projected cost of such mandatory coverage. It is imprudent to even entertain the idea of forcing constituents to purchase a product that does not even have a viable market under **HB984**.

There is an additional hidden cost to coercing a CCW license holder to retain a full copy of their respective insurance policy. Aside from the cost of the policy itself, a CCW license holder would be forced to print out a policy document that may be hundreds of pages long. This adds additional cost to the CCW license holder and additionally diminishes paper-based resources that could be saved by not requiring such policy presentation requirement. Even if a CCW license holder's insurance policy were transmitted electronically, resources are still used in such transmission, thereby negating any cost savings made available via electronic dissemination since such dissemination would use up a CCW license holder's internet or mobile cellular data. Neither internet services nor mobile cellular data policies are free, after all.

### **A Charge for the Exercise of a Right is Not Justifiable**

Citing inflation and cost increases, **HB984** attempts to justify the added cost of background checks and stipulates that such increased costs must be compensated by the constituent via CCW license fee increases. This is an artificially self-generated problem and such cost-absorption must not be placed upon the constituent seeking to exercise a human right. If additional cost-bearing is not desired by the state, then background checks should be discontinued for all firearms sales, just like they have been abandoned by 29 other states throughout the nation<sup>3</sup>. The states that don't impose artificial background check requirements aren't complaining about increased background check costs.

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<sup>2</sup> Image Source: [https://as2.ftcdn.net/jpg/01/30/82/91/500\\_F\\_130829106\\_6CsEg8IERJ0EflSluj9Cnlveys6IFU6B.jpg](https://as2.ftcdn.net/jpg/01/30/82/91/500_F_130829106_6CsEg8IERJ0EflSluj9Cnlveys6IFU6B.jpg)

<sup>3</sup> [https://maps.everytownresearch.org/navigator/trends.html?dataset=background\\_checks](https://maps.everytownresearch.org/navigator/trends.html?dataset=background_checks)

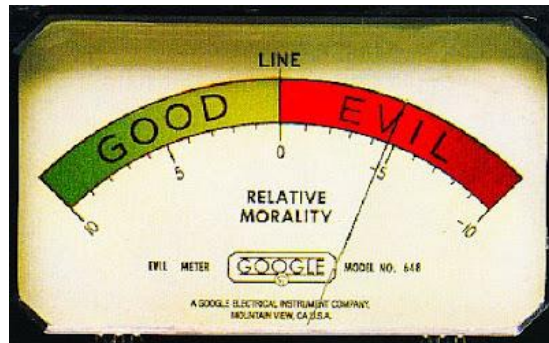
### Added Cost of Storage

**HB984's** proposed §134-D creates a bizarre situation by forcing CCW license holders to purchase an expensive vehicle safe and thereby, absolve the state with its responsibility to produce sites of firearm deposit at government-owned premises where firearms are prohibited. Such cost is instead placed upon the CCW license holder and would add, at the least, a \$40 or \$130 added cost to carrying a firearm<sup>4</sup>. Such act of negligence forces constituents to pay for their own disarmament and curtails exercise of their own human rights.



Source: <https://www.forbes.com/wheels/accessories/best-vehicle-gun-safes/>

### Essential Character and Temperament Requirements Constitute Moral Relativism



**HB984** repeatedly refers to so-called “essential character” and “temperament” requirements that CCW license holders must uphold without explicitly defining either in an objective, measurable, or replicable manner. **HB984**, thereby, imposes de facto moral relativism since “essential” character and “temperament” are inherently subjective matters that are both subjected to another person’s views concerning what constitutes “essential” character or “proper” temperament. This provision can be construed to mean whatever a government official desires and therefore, must be eliminated due to its easy potential for abuse.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.forbes.com/wheels/accessories/best-vehicle-gun-safes/>

<sup>5</sup> Image Source: <http://advocatusatheist.blogspot.com/2011/03/do-you-practice-moral-relativism.html>

### Abuse via Hearsay

**HB984** permits hearsay by not explicitly identifying what constitutes the supposed “other information” under proposed **HRS §134-2 Permits to acquire (e)(3)**. “Other information” can mean almost anything, including personal opinion not based upon objective, substantive, or evidence-based reality. Moreover, “intention” or “likelihood” cannot determine the potential unlawful use of a firearm since they concepts that are not clearly defined or measurable. Both “intention” and “likelihood” can be construed to mean whatever a hearsay-driven government official may seek to utilize in order to deprive a citizen of their human rights.

### Do Not Place Constituents at Risk

Passage of **HB984** does not enhance public safety. The only result enactment of **HB984** will achieve is the encroachment of a human right with no substantive criminal activity mitigation. Criminals will continue to defy all of **HB984**’s provisions while additionally breaking other laws that have nothing to do with firearm prohibitions.

**HAWAII CRIME**

**LIST: 700+ crimes reported to HPD in past week**

by: Kaile Hunt  
Posted: Feb 13, 2023 / 11:02 AM HST  
Updated: Feb 13, 2023 / 11:02 AM HST

**Top reported crimes on Oahu this past week:**

- Larceny - 241
- Vandalism - 104
- Vehicle break-in / Theft - 92
- Assault - 79
- Burglary - 51
- Motor vehicle theft - 66
- Fraud - 26
- Drugs / Alcohol - 19
- Sex crime - 21

**Source:** <https://www.khon2.com/hawaii-crime/list-700-crimes-reported-to-hpd-in-past-week-11/>

It is disheartening to see headlines with hundreds of crimes transpiring just about every week. It’s also interesting to note that **HB984**’s focus on “serious hazards associated with firearms and gun violence” is misguided. Firearm-related crimes do not even show up on KHON2’s listing of “Top Reported Crimes” for the past week.

The people of Hawaii deserve better than a violation of their basic human rights. They deserve the assurance of public safety that is always promised year after year, but has never delivered.

Thank you for your time and consideration of your constituents’ safety by voting **NO** on **HB984**.

Respectfully,

Ryan C. Tinajero

Constituent of **House District 48**

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 2:47:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE: Geographical restricts may prove to be Unconstitutional. The 2nd Amendment guarantees an "individual right o possess and carry weapons in case of confrontation." 'Confrontation that can take place outside the home. Refer you to Cornell Law School: New York State Rifle & Pistol Assn., Inc. v. Bruen for interesting details.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 3:12:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Patricia Mcmanaman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in **strong support** of HB984 and urge its passage.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 3:57:28 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alan Urasaki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in opposition to this measure. Thank you.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 4:11:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support.

Also, if a permitted gun carrier is convicted on felony charges, their firearm(s)/munitions are confiscated and permit revoked indefinitely.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 4:13:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We need tighter requirements for people who think they need guns. Please support this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 4:38:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gaye Chan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Bruen decision has serious negative impact on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. HB984 ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 4:49:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Estella Berg	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 6:06:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joel Berg	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Concealed carry permits have already been issued for months and the myth of the enraged legal gun carrying vigilanti has never materialized. This bill is reactionary, wasteful, and shortsighted. It solves no problems, criminalizes citizens trying to take responsibility for their own safety, and emboldens our criminal class with locations that they can be sure they will be able to ply their trade unimpeded. Males in their 20's to 30's should not have a monopoly on violence to terrorize the rest of our society.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 4:55:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Carol Maxym	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants, and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 6:31:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jane Davis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 6:51:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dawn Morais Webster Ph.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Bruen decision has potentially grave impacts on the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors. HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors.

1. Two additional provisions would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for rallies and marches. Please include a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57. We need to learn from the needless loss of life that we hear about every day that is tied to gun violence. Please let's make sure we do all we can to keep Hawaii safe from that scourge. Thank you.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 7:19:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STONGLY oppose this Bill and its infringement on the 2nd Amendment.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 8:13:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ryan Arakawa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Overly broad and clearly unconstitutional. Already tried in other states and lost. A waste of taxpayer money and does nothing to reduce crime

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 9:16:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Klayton Kubo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly in opposition to this measure. Government overreach majorly

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 9:56:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Pcola_Davis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors. There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 10:20:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nancy Taylor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly urge support of HB984 which sets clear requirements for:

—who is, and is not, eligible to carry a gun in public;

—how our county chiefs of police can assure that permits for concealed carry are approved only after a thorough background and mental health review

—locations where people who get permits to carry guns in public can and cannot carry those guns

It is particularly important that the provision that provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner be passed.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 10:50:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Fred Delosantos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE. This bill amounts to leaving virtually no places where a person is allowed to defend themselves. It flies in the face of the Supreme Court Bruen decision.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 12:27:06 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Donovan Sun	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and committee.

I oppose HB984. This bill is unconstitutional and will open up a can of lawsuits that the taxpayers will have to pay. Why do you continue to enact bills that are unconstitutional knowing that they have been struck down in higher courts? I saw a woman get beat up and abducted in Chinatown. I called the police but the criminals were gone by the time the police showed up. I get it they cannot be everywhere. But give us law abiding citizens our right to protect ourselves and others. I want my family and I to have the right to protect themselves everywhere. Women need to protect themselves and you are taking that away from them.

Thank you for your time,

Donovan Sun

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 5:24:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Lau	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984. This bill lacks the text, history and tradition needed to become law. I am not opposed to new gun laws and or regulations. What I am opposed to. is laws that are unconstitutional and that DON'T follow the Supreme Courts ruling. (Bruen) The burden is on the government to prove that it follows this new ruling. History, text and tradition is nowhere to be found on this bill. HB984 is only written to infrindge upon law abiding citizens and will have no affect on criminals who don't (and will never) follow the law.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 6:39:23 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
NOAH DRAZKOWSKI	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as is does nothing but infringes on law abiding citizens.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 11:00:55 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Helemano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

I oppose this attemp to issue more **Blatant May issue scams** on our law abiding citizens!

**"LETS FACE IT "HERS THE FACTS AND THE TRUTH! ! NO OTHER STATE ATTEMPTS TO DO WHAT YOU ARE ATTEMPTING!**

**YOU ARE ATTEMPTING TO VIOLATE OUR 2ND AMMENDMENT RIGHTS. AND YOU KNOWI**

**REMEMBER THE LAW!!! "SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED!"**

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 6:40:12 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
I. Robert Nehmad	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a resident of the Honolulu City & County and support this legislation.

I hope you agree that this is a meaningful and significant legislation which such be passed.

Mahalo

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 8:26:02 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tristan Kasprzycki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is unconstitutional. We don't have firearms problems in the state of Hawaii. I don't see a reason to implement such strict regulations. Since concealed carry permits have been issued there has been zero shootings which is why there is no reason to restrict law abiding citizens from carrying. Stop being ignorant and trying to skirt the Supreme Court ruling. It's criminal what the drafters of this bill are doing and in violation of their oath.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 8:24:05 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Atom Kasprzycki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is unconstitutional and anti-American. The drafters of this bill are either ignorant of the Constitution and our rights as Americans or they are knowing attempting to violate rights of American citizens. Either way they are unfit to serve in the best interest of our state and our country.

Drafters: Direct your efforts toward any of Hawaii's actual problems like our homeless epidemic, or fighting to help keep home prices affordable for our local residents and their children in the future.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 8:31:52 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stephen Kobayashi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 8:48:31 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Karen Sullivan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Members of the House Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee, Thank you for the opportunity to express my views as well as my husband's and son's regarding HB984.

We have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which we strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

1. are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. We support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. We support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

Please support this bill and keep our keiki's and families safe,

Karen, Paul and Tom Sullivan



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 9:20:08 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nandita Sharma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB 984 and encourage you to do the same.

HB984 ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also lists sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried in order to better ensure the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors.

I also support two addition that would further enhance the list of sensitive places. I support the “default” provision currently included in SB1230, which respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. Instead of placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants, and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed, however, the onus should be on these persons/entities to explicit state that firearms can be carried on their private property.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

Thank you for your consideration.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 9:39:29 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jay Henderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please respect the Hawaiian way of life. Vote for HB984.

Queen Lili'uokalani was a devout Christian whose faith was opposed to violence. She was also the symbol of the heart and soul of Hawaii. The Aloha Spirit infused her and the culture of the people of Hawaii. It was for these precise reasons that the Queen herself went to meet the first armed American soldiers who arrived to overthrow the monarchy in 1898. Above all else she wanted to tell them to leave their guns on the ship because guns were not needed in Hawaii. That was when the Queen along with all Hawaiians believed it is their basic right to live here without being surrounded by guns. Hawaiians who owned guns kept them inside the house and only took them out for hunting or other socially benign and unthreatening reasons.

Now, over a century later, the US Supreme Court is telling us just the opposite: Ignore our traditions and turn our backs on the peaceful culture of our island paradise. Instead, we are ordered to allow people who are afraid to go outside without a gun on hand in case something comes up to shatter the public's peace by carrying guns openly, where their mere presence fouls the air as much as rotten eggs. A gun carried in public is an obscene sign to all who know it is there that they had better act right ... or else! Nothing could be more destructive to the peace and calm we've always felt in our society. Open Carry is Satan's dream come true.

If we absolutely, positively, inevitably and without further delay no matter how much it disrespects our culture must allow our neighbors to carry guns in public, it is essential to pass HB984 because it ensures that licensing for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a comprehensive list of "sensitive places" where firearms cannot be carried.

That said, I urge the amendment of HB984 in two ways that would enhance the list of sensitive places: add the default provision in SB1230 that automatically bans all guns on private property unless authorized by the owner; and add the provision in SB1230 and Honolulu City Council bill 57 that bars guns from being carried to free speech events like rallies and marches.

If Queen Lili'uokalani's example is insufficient to persuade you to support this very important bill to help keep Hawaii safe, I urge you to recall what Marshall Wyatt Earp did when he moved to Tombstone after it had been overrun by open carry gun lovers. He banned all guns from town. Period. It is no coincidence that the Queen asked the soldiers to leave their guns on the ship and Earp told cowboys to leave them at city limits. Both of them knew how guns poison society and

ruin a people's way of life. Before too long, gunslingers from out of town decided to ignore the warning and openly carry their guns wherever they wanted. The result was a shootout with Earp and his deputies near the OK Corral. Earp won and the town went back to being its normal, peaceful self in the absence of guns. This can happen here, too, hopefully without need for a showdown on Kalakaua Avenue. A return to sanity starts with the amendment and passage of HB984. Thank you for supporting it.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 10:04:13 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Esther Geil	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB984 is important to keep our residents and visitors safe. It is important to do what is possible to prevent weapons from going to individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It is also helpful by listing some sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried, for the purpose of protecting the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions important to be added to the list of sensitive places. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. That default is important to make it such that those who want guns on their property will be the ones who must record that change from the default of no guns unless desired. Please add the specification of this default provision to match the senate bill.

I also strongly support inclusion of a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57 relating to including rallies and marches in protected spaces. That protection is essential.

Thank you for passing this bill with the amendments I mentioned to make Hawaii safer and better for all of us!

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 10:30:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mary Mulhall	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support HB 984.

Hawaii has plenty of guns for responsible gun owners (such as hunters) right now.

We don't need to loosen restrictions so that gun crazies can obtain guns.

we have seen the results in other states.

Mahalo, Mary Mulhall

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 10:58:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diann Karin Lynn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am extremely concerned about the effects of the Bruen decision for Hawaii. HB984's provisions for safe licensing procedures for concealed guns and identifying sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried. I STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS BILL.

I ALSO SUPPORT Indivisible Hawaii's push to also include the "default" provisions of SB1230 for private property owners regarding whether or not to allow carry of guns on their property (defaulting to requiring express permission vs requiring express denial, which is disingenuous at best).

I ALSO SUPPORT adding specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches by including a provision similar to that included in SB1230 or Honolulu City Council Bill 57.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Diann K Lynn

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 11:09:30 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kathleen Keilman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kathleen Keilman, Kailua, 96734 (Oahu resident since 2005)

I support HB984. I am not personally a survivor of gun violence, and I would like to keep it that way! I would like LESS guns on the street, not more.

Thank you!

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 11:17:12 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Martha Nakajima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is very good on concealed-carry licensing and sensitive places. It is important to weed out applicants who pose a threat to others or themselves. The list of sensitive places is comprehensive, but the provision for private property in SB1230 is better. "Gun-free" should be the default option on private property. . Moreover, SB1230 is important in protecting First Amendment places such as marches and political rallies from guns. HB984 should be amended to reflect this.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 11:16:05 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lisa Eller	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a mother and community volunteer on Hawai‘i Island, I'm concerned about the safety of our keiki, educators and broader community. Sadly, this past year, our community lost 11-year-old Manny Carvalho to irresponsible gun ownership and lack of safety measures. He was shot and killed by another child who had access to guns. Guns don't belong at schools, parks, or other places where children play, but without this measure that's exactly what will happen. One of the many common-sense steps that HB 984 would do is to identify safe spaces. I'm proud to be a resident of Hawaii, where we have some of the best gun safety laws in the country. With your leadership, we can continue to be a leader in this space! Mahalo nui loa!



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 12:07:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert Douglas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hi, my name is Bob Douglas and I live in Hilo. I am ex-military. I'm here in support of SB1240.

I don't want to wonder whether someone is carrying a gun every time I go into a local business or when I take my family out to eat. The idea that concealed guns could be in these places makes me feel less safe in our community. Keep Hawaii Hawaii.

Besides we've all seen it or experienced road rage, public displays of anger and rage, adding guns makes no sense.

- Here in Hawaii, we had a strong law in place to make sure people weren't carrying firearms in public unless they had a specific need to do so. Our state law used to require that people had to prove they had an "exceptional" reason to fear injury to themselves or their property before they could get a license to carry a gun in public.
- Because of this state law, we haven't had a lot of guns in public places - which means we've had fewer risks of tense situations escalating into gunfire and fewer risks of guns being used for intimidation, or accidentally being fired, in public spaces.
- After the Supreme Court struck down a New York law that was similar to Hawaii's law, we no longer have that protective measure in place and we can expect to see more guns in more places very soon.
- Hawaii urgently needs to address this risk by passing a new Public Carry Bruen Fix law that sets clear requirements on:
  - who is, and is not, qualified to carry a gun in public;
  - how our county chiefs of police can vet people applying to carry a gun in public; and
  - where people who get permits to carry guns in public can and can't bring those guns.
- We need to require that people carrying guns in public must have been trained on the specific types of issues that come up when carrying a gun outside the house. This should include how to store their guns safely in cars so more stolen guns don't end up on the street, where they can and can't carry their guns, and when they can and can't legally use lethal force in self-defense.
- We need to make sure law enforcement has the right information and authority to identify and deny public carry permits to people who pose a heightened public safety risk. People applying for these permits should be carefully evaluated based on objective criteria to ensure fairness and uniformity in the process.
- With more people now eligible to get permits to carry guns in public, we need to set clear

boundaries on where they can and can't bring those guns.

- Guns don't belong at playgrounds, hospitals, public transportation, parks, or schools, but without this bill, anyone who gets a concealed carry permit can bring hidden guns into those places.

- Guns and alcohol should never mix. This bill will make it clear that people carrying guns in public cannot bring their guns to bars or restaurants serving alcohol.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 11:19:34 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Leah McRae	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Leah McRae, zip code 96819. I am a parent, educator and I have been a Hawai'i resident for 13 years. I support HB984. I don't feel comfortable knowing someone could be carrying a gun when my family and I go out to local businesses and especially within public spaces for children: schools, childcare, parks, and playgrounds. Guns don't belong in these spaces, but without this bill anyone who gets a concealed carry permit can bring hidden guns into these spaces.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 12:32:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lisa Metzger	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support the passage of HB984. There needs to be common sense limitations on concealed carry so that those of us who do not want weapons of war on our playgrounds, school grounds, state parks, office buildings and other private property can get some protections too. While there is a second amendment right to bear arms, there is also a right in the first line of our constitution to LIFE. Guns make nothing safer and at the very least, leaving these weapons unsecured in one's car or carrying a gun while intoxicated should absolutely be made illegal.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 1:07:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lois Langham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 984 to keep Hawaii a safe Aloha state.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 1:21:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Bernstein	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Members of the Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I **strongly support**, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Surely with all the recent gun violence, we need to do all we can to keep people out of harms way.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

Respectfully,

Paul Bernstein

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 1:13:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Peter R Daspit	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Along with many other friends of mine, I am quite extremely concerned about the effects of the Bruen decision for Hawaii. I think HB984 does a good job of providing safe licensing procedures for concealed guns and identifying sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried; because of that I and my friends REALLY REALLY SUPPORT THIS BILL.

Also, I support including a "default" provisions of SB1230 for private property owners regarding whether or not to allow carry of guns on their property.

As well, I also support the addition of specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches but including a provision similar to that included in SB1230 or Honolulu City Council Bill 57.

Mahalo for your consideration, as always.

Aloha,  
Peter Daspit

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 2:27:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jordan Au	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I strongly oppose HB984. Requiring insurance to exercise a constitutionally protected right violates everyone's rights and all the sensitive places will make those places a target. No other rights require insurance in order to exercise it. Is insurance required to go to church or to speak in public? Next, most mass shootings have taken place in areas where firearms are prohibited. Obviously making it illegal to have a firearm somewhere does not keep anyone safe. Finally, the Bruen decision said that laws need to comply with the text, history, and tradition of the second amendment. Requiring insurance to carry a firearm in public and making almost everywhere a sensitive place does not comply with the text, history, and tradition of the second amendment.

Thank you



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 2:43:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rodney Rego	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I opposed HB984 on the grounds that it is aggressively against law abiding citizens who simply want to exercise their second amendment right. Criminals don't abide by any anti gun law this only targets law abiding citizens .

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 2:44:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert Brem	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 2:52:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
tony lee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

A RIGHT provided by the Constitution , should not be required to carry insurance!

**Charla Teves**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii 96817**

TO: House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

DATE: February 14, 2023

TIME: 2:00 PM

PLACE: Conference Room 325 & Videoconference  
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

BILL: HB 984, Relating to Firearms

POSITION: SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and members of the committee!

My name is Charla Teves and I am testifying in support of HB 984, relating to firearms. I am a lifelong resident of Honolulu, a graduate of Maryknoll High School, and a college student pursuing a degree in political science.

My generation has grown up under the pervasive threat of gun violence in our schools and in our communities. Gun violence is currently the **leading cause of death** for young people. Every day, more than 110 Americans are killed with guns and more than 200 are shot and wounded. The effects of gun violence extend far beyond these casualties—gun violence shapes the lives of millions of people who witness it, know someone who was shot, or live in fear of the next shooting.

When I was in high school, I met a Hawaii gun violence survivor at the state capitol. His first-hand account of being shot five times and surviving inspired me to get more deeply involved in gun violence prevention. I founded the local chapter of a student gun violence prevention organization and represented Hawaii at a national rally at the U.S. capitol to pass federal legislation where I met many more survivors of gun violence. I have also worked as an intern in the Hawaii state Senate which showed me the power of policy to make a difference in the life of every resident. I strongly believe in the importance of designating sensitive places where guns will be prohibited. Please pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 3:07:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mary True	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB984. A nasty can of worms has been opened and we need strick requirements to carry guns and we also need to limit where they are acceptable. As a retired mental health professional this concerns me very much. If guns made people safe, we'd be the safenest nation in the world and we're not even close.

Thanks for reading, Mary True, Pepeekeo

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 5:21:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eric Hammond	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Eric Hammond and I strongly oppose this bill. If this bill passes, it will form a de facto ban on concealed carry and severely restrict our Second Amendment right. The founding Fathers of our nation were very well aware of the importance of keeping the populace armed. They had just finished defeating the strongest army/navy of the time using a ragtag group of people who valued freedom at all costs.

SCOTUS ruled in the Bruen ruling that we, the citizens, have the right to carry and bear arms. And now our Hawaii Government is doing its best to sabotage that ruling by submitting this extremely restrictive bill.

If passed, this bill will create a confusing maze of allowable and non-allowable areas to conceal carry. I can carry in one area, but as soon as I enter another area, I have to magically make my gun disappear. I can't leave it in my vehicle, so therefore, I can't carry. A de facto ban.

If I need to get from point A to point B, I need to travel from point C to Z to avoid banned areas. A simple 10 min walk through downtown can now turn into 45 mins to an hour walk to avoid breaking the law. A de facto ban.

If I live in a rough neighborhood, but can only travel by bus, I can't carry to protect myself as I can't carry on The Bus. What do I do with my CCW gun? Make it magically disappear when I board The Bus? A de facto ban.

Law abiding citizens are being treated like we will all be potential criminals one we have a gun in our possession, and that is a straight falsehood.

We love this land and it's "rule by law". Stop treating us citizens like the criminals and start treating us like the responsible citizens we are.

Mahalo

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 5:34:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Holcomb	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

They should rename this bill the **Conservative Punishment Act**. Everyone knows that this is a childish attempt to end run the Second Amendment and drag it out in court as long as possible at the expense of taxpayers. The question is what happens when you convince 40% of your citizens that their government is lawless and out to get them? Governance requires consent of the governed and you are carelessly squandering your legitimacy for virtue signal points and temporary gratification.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 7:07:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kevin Kacatin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in opposition to HB984 as it has many components to it similar to recently DEFERRED SB882. The Hawaii Senate committee chair for Public Safety Glenn Wakai stated publicly on February 10, 2023 that SB882 and its components on expanded training and concealed carry application requirements is "a solution to a problem in Hawaii THAT DOESN'T EXIST". SB882 was deferred. HB984 is essentially SB882 on "steroids" and fueled by malicious politically-driven spite to simply punish vetted and licensed gun owners for finally being able to protect themselves outside the home thru concealed carry.

Proposals in HB984 to increase concealed carry permit costs from \$10.00 currently to \$150.00 is detrimental to those on limited fixed income and to do this in a state with a horrendous high cost of living is an absolute insult and it truly shows exactly what public officials think of ordinary citizens wanting to defend themselves. It's essentially saying "sorry, but not sorry".

Honolulu Police Department Major Joseph Trinidad of the Records and ID Division with the Firearms Section testified on SB1230 on 02/06/2023 that the broad listing of "Sensitive Places" is literally unenforceable and again HB984 takes the list of sensitive places in SB1230 and even further expands on that to the point of absolute pettiness on the part of the crafters of this clownish proposed bill.

Furthermore it will become incumbent on the Government of the State of Hawaii to show, in the court of law, that there is HISTORICAL precedence (as defined by the US Supreme Court's ruling on Bruen vs New York Rifle and Pistol Association) to even proceed with ANY of the proposals in HB984. This is where the State of Hawaii will ultimately fail and the cost of litigation will then ultimately fall on the pockets of tax payers. This is not a game for political gain and amusement. These are rights inherit upon all of us at birth and NOT given in any way by the US Constitution and certainly corrupt Hawaii politicians and their sponsors.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 7:24:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
PAMELA SUMMERS	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB984.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HB984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 7:33:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kyle Hara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 8:12:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Xavier Baker	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm very opposed to bill HB984. The idea of feeling vulnerable practically everywhere I go on the island scares me. We cannot control when someone else's mind just snaps, we do not know when and where an individual could possibly choose to commit an unlawful act. However we can take our own precautions to protect our family. Limiting where a law abiding citizen is allowed to go if he/she (who went through all the requirements and training) is in possession of a valid concealed carry license feels counterintuitive. Limiting where someone can carry is against americas constitutional rights. Not only that but you again give the upper hand back to criminals and leave the law abiding citizen as an easy target. The only place listed I would agree with not having a concealed firearm is at a bar/club. To clarify I am not talking about restaurants that serve alcohol, because having to tell my family I cannot attend a dinner at a restaurant because it serves alcohol is just ridiculous. Someone who has gone through the long process from the start, with paperwork, screening, classes/training, just to be granted their 2nd amendment right to concealed carry for their own self protection is the last person one should be worried about. It's the individuals who scoff at the rest of us trying to follow the law one should be worried about. As for requiring a ccw holder to have insurance....it should be recommended, not required. I myself have insurance, but I would never tell someone else they need insurance too or else they shouldn't be allowed to have their 2nd amendment right.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 9:13:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
francine less	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 9:20:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I live in a high rise condo, with more than 1,000 others, including children, infirm, elderly. We have three main elevators plus two in the garage. I do not want to be stuck in an elevator with someone carrying a firearm, unless they are law enforcement. You need a provision in this bill which protects us. If necessary, it can be up to the landlord or governing association to post a notice permitting the carrying of firearms, and if that notice is not posted then the firearms cannot be carried on property.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 10:23:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Scott Nagai	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in opposition of HB984. All I see is laws that infringe on our 2nd amendment rights for law biding citizens, When will you stop criminals from walking on to our schools with ill intent? When will you stop criminals from robbing a bank? When will you stop criminals from shoplifting? When will you outlaw cars, hand tools, kitchen knives, gardening tools or any other inanimate objects used to harm or kill another person? You should have the same reaction when a person is killed by the above mentioned as you do with a gun which is another inanimate object. When a car was used to plow through individuals on Ward avenue why wasn't a cry made to outlaw vehicles? Have cars become to convenient to have? To have a drivers license is a privilege not a right. You don't need car to get around. Bottom line, these laws you propose only hurt law biding citizens, criminals don't care. Why keep creating laws that don't work? And at the end of the day we the law biding citizens endure the hardship of taking care of these criminals while they are incarcerated with our tax money. Where paying for them to get housed, eat three times a day, access to rehab, all at no charge to them. Let us the people protect our selves and loved ones as we see fit as it is our right given to us by the constitution of the United States of America.

V/r

Scott Nagai

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:08:26 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
marcy katz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Why why why would anyone be allowed to carry a "concealed" gun in hawaii? whether on public or private property, the innocent will have to dodge bullets flying in all directions when caught in cross fire from Crazy's who carry concealed weapons and could draw and shoot them at anyone anywhere? This is NUTS

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:15:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Linda White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Committee members,

I am writing to strongly support HB 984.

I am a long term Hawaii resident, military spouse, mother of 3, step mother of 3 and grandmother of 2.

I also was the best friend of Kristine Cass and her daughter Sandra (13) who were murdered by a person with a firearm in Makiki on 8/20/2010.

Bills like this one that help keep our community safer from gun violence will always have my enthusiastic and full support.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:38:45 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
laurie boyle	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support HB984 for the urgent reason that this bill is a major step in preventing those who are found unsafe to themselves or society at large from purchasing and being permitted to carry there guns in public.

Also, residents and tourists should not have to feel threatened by open gun toters as we go about our business moving through town, dining at restaurants, praying in houses of worship, traveling by public transport, earning a living as a small business owner who is currently responsible for asking permission to make an exception to anyone bringing in a permitted AR-15 or some other gun of mass destruction. We live ALOHA. We welcome all. We do NOT welcome unstable people carrying guns in our state and we do NOT welcome the wild west into our public spaces. We need to be a safe State with safe places everywhere.

Mahalo for your time.

Laurie R. Boyle

Mahalo for your attention to this critical matter.

Laurie R. Boyle

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:42:10 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shana Brown	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to you in support of HB984. As a public school teacher, I have seen firsthand how boundaries with the public have changed over the more recent years. I am always on alert, particularly when dealing with an upset parent, student, or someone who shouldn't be on our campus. Besides schools, there are many sensitive places that guns do not belong and this bill would protect those places. In addition, I support the right of private property and business owners to create gun-free zones and post signs stating this. Also, people who wish to carry guns should be mentally and emotionally sound. This is for the safety of the public and themselves. HB984 would help to ensure this. Lastly, those with concealed carry licenses should be required to notify police officers any time they are in a traffic stop or other situations to prevent dangerous situations. This protects the officer and themselves. While I know some people feel safer carrying a gun, I feel less safe when guns are around for many reasons. Please do your part to keep people safe! Mahalo.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:17:17 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chad Cummings	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. It is unconstitutional and goes against the Bruen decision. It infringes on our rights and will try to make it harder for a law abiding citizen to practice a Constitutional right as an American. It makes a law abiding citizen pay money for something that we are guaranteed as Americans. What other rights do we pay for? Freedom of speech? Do people pay insurance and take classes for that? Even though words have caused irreparable damage to others and caused people to take their lives. People are being sued because of what they say also. Do we have to pay \$150 to vote? And \$50 every year to vote? This is crazy. New York has failed multiple times in the courts for what this bill is trying to introduce. Brazil has made it easier for its citizens to obtain and carry firearms and made it so even lower class citizens could obtain. And now their crime has dropped 35%. And they don't have a Constitution like ours. Yet our leaders are trying to restrict law abiding citizens Constitutional rights here. We already have to jump through hoops to obtain a firearm legally yet criminals easily obtain them illegally. Criminals will never follow the law that is why they are criminals. They don't care about what bills like these say it doesn't affect them at all, it only affects law abiding citizens.

























**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:21:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Laura Friedman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB984. The legislature has an important opportunity to minimize the harm that concealed guns will bring to the people of Hawaii.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:35:25 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Beth Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB984 relating to firearms. We know the Bruen decision will result in increased gun violence because we know the fewer gun restrictions there are, the greater the amount of gun violence that occurs. Statistics bear this out. We need only to compare the shocking amount of carnage from gun violence across the United States to the relatively miniscule stats for gun violence in other Westernized democracies such as New Zealand, Australia, Great Britain, Sweden, etc.

Because of this, I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. It is absolutely necessary we pass legislation now that restricts gun use in our state, keeps guns off of our streets, and keeps guns out of the hands of individuals who are a threat to themselves and others. HB984 does just this by ensuring the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawai'i's residents and visitors.

In addition, I would urge that two additional provisions be added that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides the ruling that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations. Please remove this potential very real threat and danger.

In addition, HR984 is negligent in not providing specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support and strongly urge inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB1230 and the Honolulu City Council Bill 57.

Mahalo for considering my views and working to keep Hawaii residents safe from gun violence.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:53:27 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kamalu Han	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly oppose this bill. I just don't understand why you "lawmakers" keep trying to infringe on our 2A rights. Everything you are trying to pass has already been proven to be UNCONSTITUTIONAL!!! Stop wasting your time on trying to make law abiding citizens criminals, and go after the criminals.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:57:16 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Salm	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors.

1. are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:22:35 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rodney Salm	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is absolutely essential to safeguard Hawaii's residents and visitors by passing HB984 that sets clear requirements for:

—who is, and is not, eligible to carry a gun in public

—how our county chiefs of police can assure that permits for concealed carry are approved only after a thorough background and mental health review

—locations where people who get permits to carry guns in public can and cannot carry those guns

Please prioritize the rights and safety of the majority over the interests of an extremist minority.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:25:19 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Philip Tong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this.

NO on HB984!

Strong opposition to this typical Hawaii legislator fascist authoritarian garbage.

Virtually every provision of this bill is absurd, preposterous, unconstitutionally illegal, illogical, irrational, immoral, unethical, a deep violation of the Natural Right of Self-Defense, and an egregious affront to any and all U.S. citizens who hold the words and values of the U.S. Constitution to be of paramount importance for the successful continuation of our country as a place of individual liberty and inherent rights.

And it's clear from the proposals of many Hawaii Democrats that they oppose the successful continuation of the U.S. as they mock the meaning and intent of the Constitution in bills such as this one.

You should all be recalled. Oh, wait, that's right Hawaii, in it's true anti-democracy guise doesn't allow for recall. There should be an initiative or referendum to vacate Hawaii's preposterous and unconstitutional "gun laws". Oh, wait, that's right Hawaii, in it's true anti-democracy guise doesn't allow for initiative or referendum. At the very least these anti-democratic anti-Natural Rights fascist authoritarians should be limited to just a few terms in office, since there is no other way to remove them. Oh, wait, that's right Hawaii, in it's true anti-democracy guise doesn't allow for term limits. Hawaii is the only state in the entire United States that doesn't allow for any of those provisions for citizens to attempt to correct the madness of fascist authoritarians ruling over them.

Those who vote for this bill are traitors to the United States and it's Constitution and to every human being, all of whom are born with the Natural right to self-defense.

NO on HB984!

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:39:35 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bradd Haituka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm writing in opposition to yet another unconstitutional bill, and another attack on lawful gun owners. A bill similar to this has been ruled unconstitutional in new york, and new jersey. Please end attacks on law abiding gun owners.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:49:19 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
K Tom	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose bill HB984

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:00:01 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dayton Quintal	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984 for many reasons. It un constitutional and tries to make a law abiding person into a criminal. The bill is also vague and one sided looking at anyone who wants protect them self as a criminal. It guilty until proven innocent in hawaii Hawaii is not what it was 50years ago there is a drug problem, crime and homelessness problem all the more reason people want to protect themselves. All the officials who think of this laws have noreason to worry have security at work some with personal security who all use fire arms to protect themselves and the contracted person. The law abiding citizens just want the same oppportunity to protector self and family with the best possible tools. The police department is not some magical department that can be everywhere all the time. They will be there after the need arises for a person to defend themselves they will take statements and try to figure out what has happened after everything is done.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:06:23 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kenny Wusstig	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I do not believe this bill will work in terms of public safety. This bill will only further weaken a citizen's right. A right to lawfully defend themselves against any type of dangerous threat. Especially when law enforcement may not be readily available. It is a great travesty for such a bill as this one to be purposed. I believe a right to self-defense should be left in the hands of the citizen rather than the government. I employ you not to have this bill pass. It's bad enough crime has increased throughout this nation especially here in our state. Rather than increase crime any further. Not having this bill advance will be a step forward in ending these tyrannical crimes. Please heed my words through my testimony. Do not pass this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:12:13 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
gabrielle davidson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:03:22 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ross mukai	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill looks like spaghetti thrown at the wall to see what sticks. Most of the restrictions proposed here have already been struck down by other courts. These kinds of feel good measures only waste public money losing on litigation

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:25:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Yu Xian He	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is an infringement of our Second Amendment rights. While we already have laws in Hawaii that allows us legal possession of firearms, adding additional restrictions defeats the purpose of our rights to own firearms. As there are already rampant crime around and a shortage of law enforcement, there is no point in continuing to restrict citizens' their rights to defend themselves and their property.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:32:13 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Matt L	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To All Concerned,

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property, whether or not it's open to the public, without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations. I believe full disclosure of anyone carrying a concealed weapon in a public place or where a private property becomes a public place become mandatory. With this disclosure they must show a current valid license.

In addition, HB984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:40:56 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrew Lum	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is clearly a measure to try to legislate out the Supreme Court's ruling in New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen case. If this passes, it will only be met with even more litigation, wasting even more of the taxpayers time and money. Please stop doing this, Hawaii is the most expensive place to live, and we don't need to waste our legislative dollars trying to defend lawsuits that are known to be ruled against. Instead invest in the root cause of the issues at hand. Rampant homelessness, increased violence, and lack of affordable housing. As someone who is born and raised in Hawaii, this is disgusting.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:42:54 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Blaine Stuart	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill has so many problems that they are too numerous to mention. The first problem is literally in the first sentence. It describes a "compelling government interest" to enact these second amendment restrictions. However, a "compelling government interest" is no longer sufficient in the wake of the NYSRPA v Bruen decision. The legal test for the government is that they must show an analogous legal restriction in the history, text and tradition of the Second Amendment when it was ratified in 1791. That's it. It's a very high bar, and the this bill admits it doesn't understand that in the first sentence.

Here are some additional problems:

- Sensitive places are much too broad. The only sensitive place restrictions that existed in 1791 were restrictions on polling places, courthouses, some government buildings, and students in a school. That's all that will resist a legal challenge.
- Insurance cannot be required to exercise a God given civil right. This isn't analogous to drivers licenses. Driving isn't a Constitutionally protected civil right.
- Affirmative permission to carry on private property open to the public has been preliminarily enjoined in every state and federal court in states that have attempted it post-Bruen.
- Character requirements are subjective criteria that are expressly prohibited in the Bruen decision.
- I can loan any personal property that I lawfully own to anyone else that can legally possess that item. There is no historical analog restricting the loaning of firearms.
- This bill only allows residents of Hawaii to carry. The Forteenth Amendment specifically states: "No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States;" this includes the Constitutional right to bear firearms.
- This bill grants special rights to individuals that work in certain occupations like a security guard. There's nothing in the history, text and tradition of the Second Amendment that grants special rights to specific occupations.

I only got to page forty before I realized that if somehow this bill passes into law, then civil rights activists will easily and immediately enjoin it from ever taking effect.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 12:04:09 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Donald Correia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Violation the fourth amendment unconstitutional



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 12:13:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gavin Heideman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I deeply oppose bill HB984 in all of it's contents. It would effectively nullify our second amendment right. Make it extremely difficult and expensive to lawfully protect ourselves. It also demands we obtain insurance which does not exist, participate in classes and training that are not offered. And cost a significant amount of money many people do not have.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 12:27:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Allegra Giacchino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of HB984 and am asking for your support as well. As a Honolulu resident, I care about the health and safety of our community. It is essential that there are clear permitting requirements in place before someone is allowed to carry a gun in public. We have seen time and time again, the tragic deaths that occur when guns are in the hands of the homicidal and suicidal.

There also needs to be clear boundaries regarding where someone can and cannot bring guns.

Additionally, it needs to be a requirement that guns are stored securely -- not left where another individual can access them (in a car, for example). Putting a gun out of sight is not enough to prevent use by children or unauthorized adults.

Please, let's act proactively to keep our citizens safe from senseless gun violence. Thank you for your consideration.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 12:41:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stephen T Hazam	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please OPPOSE HB984. This voluminous hodgepodge of anti Second Amendment proposals would do nothing to enhance public safety and is clearly unconstitutional as it ignores the recent Bruen decision by SCOTUS. It is wrong on so many accounts that no simple amendment can correct its deficiencies. This bill must never see the light of day. Please OPPOSE HB 984

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 12:41:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Wayne Asam	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is a clear violation of the 2nd amendment post Bruen. Why do these lawmakers keep trying to deny law abiding citizens our God given rights. Laws such as this are being struck down all across the country. Why would our lawmakers waste our hard earned tax dollars on bills such as this. This bill would make the 2nd amendment in Hawaii an elitist right and not attainable for all but the most elite of its citizens. Please do not move this bill forward.

Mahalo

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 12:46:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Montague	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

Thank You,

Paul Montague

Ocean View

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 12:50:28 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brent Uemae	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in opposition to HB 984. The SCOTUS decision in NYSRPA v Bruen clarified that laws and court decisions should be based on text, history, and tradition.

- The list of prohibited places is too broad and restricts carrying to sidewalks.. The section below was taken from the NYSRPA v Bruen ruling which addresses this concern.
  - It is true that people sometimes congregate in “sensitive places,” and it is likewise true that law enforcement professionals are usually presumptively available in those locations. But expanding the category of “sensitive places” simply to all places of public congregation that are not isolated from law enforcement defines the category of “sensitive places” far too broadly. Respondents’ argument would in effect exempt cities from the Second Amendment and would eviscerate the general right to publicly carry arms for self-defense that we discuss in detail below. See Part III–B, *infra*. Put simply, there is no historical basis for New York to effectively declare the island of Manhattan a “sensitive place” simply because it is crowded and protected generally by the New York City Police Department.
- The change to the licensing/renewal fee, addition of training requirements, and addition of insurance will make obtaining/maintaining a carry license cost prohibitive to a lot of people.
- Carry licenses should be valid for more than one or two years and should be recognized statewide instead of by individual counties.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:01:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
DOMINIC CHOW	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a concerned citizen of Hawaii, it is VITAL to the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors to pass this bill so we will have clear requirements for eligibility for carrying a gun in public. We need tighter gun laws that thoroughly evaluate the criminal background and mental health of gun owners. We need restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public. Firearms should be banned from all commercial establishments.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:02:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joan White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members;

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

1. However, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property, whether or not it's open to the public, without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

2. In addition, HB 984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

I urge you to strengthen and pass this bill, which I believe will protect the people of Hawaii. With appreciation for your hard work on this bill, and my aloha,

Joan P White





**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:02:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Howard J. Wolff	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB984. We need to keep Hawaii safe from the gun violence infecting the rest of the country.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:05:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eduardo Bravo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984 because it's a clear violation of the people of Hawaii's 2nd Amendment. The hard working people of Oahu already have the highest cost of living in the nation and now they're expected to take 3 days off of work if they want to purchase their first hand gun. Do the individuals who wrote these bills know what regular life is for the average working man and woman here? Firearms insurance? Again, this bill is putting a financial burden on people who work hard in the most expensive state in the union to give up even more money if they want to use the right to the 2nd Amendment . A 40 day waiting period also means an individual has to take more time off work in order to pick up their purchased firearm. This whole bill simply ignores the social economic problems that the people of Oahu have . The people who wan't to use their 2nd Amendment right are put in a hard place that should not even be there. " Do I take time off work and get less money these next few paycheck in order to purchase a firearm or do I not miss work because I can't afford to go through the process of legally buying a firearm?". The people of Oahu should not be restriced to their right to bear arms because of their social economic status.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:05:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Glenn	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To our elected leaders and representatives,

It is amazing the creativity you guys have in inventing more ways to infringe upon the rights of your constituency.

Shame on you who proposed this bill because you have just violated your oath of office once again.

You are probably gonna get tired of hearing this but NYSRPA v Bruen clearly outlined what is permissible in any legislation that deals with the Second Amendment and that is the need for the government to provide justification in the form of historical analogues during the founding of the Second Amendment which is 1791 or founding era up until the ratification of the 14th Amendment. If no appropriate analogues are found, then the bill does not meet constitutional muster.

Furthermore, creating a law that is unconstitutional, violates the constitutional avoidance principle and clearly makes no sense. It is frustrating to see you guys take the approach of pushing something through that violates what is sacred.

I get that your desire is for public safety--please realize that we, the law abiding gun owning community, want the same thing. You will not find a better trained, better equipped more responsible group of people in your community than us. We know what is going on in our communities, where we live and work and go about our daily lives. Do you? We would not be fighting for this if we knew what was at stake.

I oppose the mandate for people to have insurance to carry. While I don't disagree that having liability insurance may be a good idea, it should not be mandated from the government. This is government overreach and a responsibility of the private citizen.

The additional requirements for people to meet to have a CCW are unreasonable and unnecessary. Let me remind you that requirements need to be few and objective. Anything subjective like social media or character references or an interview with HPD that gives anyone so called discretion as to whether someone is fit to carry is unconstitutional. Furthermore, there was a gentleman, that testified on behalf of the HPD Records Department during the SB882 hearing that expressed concerns about the department's ability to be able to process all these applications

in a timely and thorough manner. Also had questions about the efficacy of such a process to meet the objective it is supposed to. Remember any delay in processing is in violation of our rights to have this done in a timely manner.

Any sensitive place legislation needs to be limited to 4 possible places, court houses (which already have heightened security), election polling places, government buildings where laws are made and schools but only to restrict students not faculty, staff or other workers. Anything beyond this is in clear violation of NYSRPA v Bruen and the Constitution of Hawaii and the US.

The bottom line is, you are not trying to do what other jurisdictions like NYC, NJ and CA are trying to implement as well and if you have kept up with the rulings they are being defeated in court. Why are you proposing something that will ultimately be determined to be unconstitutional after a huge waste of tax payer dollars, not to mention time to ultimately come to this end.

Fact of the matter is, no anti gun legislation will affect who you want it to affect. Criminals are gonna do what they do. They care nothing about any law you pass. You are only hurting the law abiding, tax paying person who elected you into office. Why don't know you right by us and throw this out. If you go through with this, you are really don't what favors the criminals in our communities.

I want to share one more thing with you regarding the most comprehensive and recent study done on this issue <https://thereload.com/podcast-georgetown-professor-on-his-groundbreaking-survey-of-gun-owners/>. Dr William English of Georgetown University conducted a study that substantiates that fact that guns are used lawfully more than 1.6 million times annually to prevent crime and loss of life. Many times without the gun ever being fired.

If you restrict the law abiding gun owner, you are putting the public in more danger. Guns save lives, you may not believe or want to believe this but it is FACT! And even if you don't choose to believe this we are talking about a RIGHT not a privilege. The right to keep and bear arms publicly is not going to go away. Its time that everyone learn how to live in this new reality.

Thanks for hearing us.

Aloha,

Glenn

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:06:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Luka Dayton-Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Luka Dayton-Smith oppose this bill

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:13:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Calvin Flores	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:15:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nadine Ferraro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Additional to the bill, please include default provision in SB1230 respecting right of individuals and entities to allow or restrict firearms on their property.

And, Protection measures are needed for expressive spaces, i.e., rallies, marches as stated in SB 120 and Council Bill 57.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:18:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Vasconcellos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

· it is VITAL to the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors to pass this bill so we will have clear requirements for eligibility for carrying a gun in public; thorough criminal background and mental health review; robust safety training requirements; proof of insurance for gun-related injuries, and restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public.

· I request HB 984 be amended and strengthened to:

o Prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol

o Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:21:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ryan Fuller	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it is against our 2nd ammendment rights and SCOTUS decision

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:22:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jefferson Foust	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

An a retired navy veteran who fully supports and defended the constitution I oppose this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:31:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Casey Nakama	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:32:48 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rajan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill directly violates the inalienable rights we have to keep and bear arms.

the point of possessing a firearm on one's person is to defend themselves in a life threatening situation.

A situation that may happen anywhere at any time. Restricting this right goes against the constitution, which every member of the house, senate and legislative body has sworn to abide by, protect and perpetuate. Yet at every chance the legislative bodies chooses to go against in Hawaii.

adding further restrictions to obtain a firearm or placing any limitations hampers any citizens ability to exercise their right.

So to the facts stated here, I oppose.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:35:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kaz Hanna	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose this bill that only inconveniences the law abiding citizens to practice a fundamental right.

criminals do not follow laws. This bill only forces more citizens to be helpless victims in the face of rising criminal activity due to the government's inability to tackle inequality that stems from greed and corruption.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:38:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kathy Fay	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

I testifying in support of HB 984. It is VITAL to the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors to pass this bill so we will have clear requirements for eligibility for carrying a gun in public; thorough criminal background and mental health review; robust safety training requirements; proof of insurance for gun-related injuries, and restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public. It is important to note that Hawaii has only one Level 1 Trauma Center (Queens Medical Center). Any type of mass shooting will quickly overwhelm our existing health care resources and Hawaii's geographic location means that we cannot rely on neighboring states for support. Therefore, it is imperative that we have the strictest gun laws allowable.

· I request HB 984 be amended and strengthened to:

o Prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol

o Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Kathy Fay

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:48:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Thomas K. Beck	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it infringes on a citizens Second Ammendment right of the Constitution of the United States. This bill puts an extremely unjust burden on citizens to be able to lawfully keep and bear arms.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:46:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Kikukawa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill grossly violates citizens basic human rights to self defense. By restricting the places to carry to nearly everywhere and making concealing a firearm so expensive and time consuming that it restricts most people from being able to do it, you are simply stating that only the rich elite have the right to self defense. This bill would take hawaii back instead of moving us forward to a safer Hawaii. The criminals are not going to follow the law regardless of this bill. The only thing you are doing is making it easier for them by disarming citizens. Please, i employee you to research the instances in which concealed carry has saved lives, do your research on this and don't just create laws out of emotion.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:55:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Will Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Although the United States Supreme Court has held that the Second Amendment provides for an individual right to keep and bear arms for lawful purposes, this right has limits and is subject to regulation to protect public health, safety, and welfare from the serious hazards associated with firearms and gun violence.

States retain authority to enact a variety of gun regulations, such as prohibiting the carrying of firearms in sensitive locations and adopting laws and regulations designed to ensure that those who carry firearms are law-abiding, responsible citizens.

We need to update Hawaii's firearms laws to mitigate the serious hazards to public health, safety, and welfare associated with firearms and gun violence, while respecting and protecting the lawful exercise of individual rights.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:58:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert Pitman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 2:01:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Edward Hampton	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

What a sad and transparent attempt at limiting law abiding citizen's ability to exercise their RIGHT to self defense.

Are those that put forth this vile, unconstitutional piece of garbage really so terrified of legal firearms owners that they must resort to what can only be called fascism?

What does this say about them, and their true intentions towards the citizens they supposedly represent? They obviously have no concern for their welfare, as these same people have voted to put criminals back on the streets to endanger our families by eliminating the need for bail. Yet they turn around work their hardest to remove ANY effective means for them to defend themselves.

I urge any and all public servants to maintain whatever shreds of self respect you still have and vote against this bill.

Those of you that support it, should be ashamed of yourselves.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 2:19:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara Ritchie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

February 12, 2023

Representative Tarnas and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs,

It is vital to the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors to pass this bill to ensure clear requirements for eligibility for carrying a gun in public; thorough criminal background and mental health review; robust safety training requirements; proof of insurance for gun-related injuries, and restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public.

I request that HB 984 be amended and strengthened to:

prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol; and

close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important bill.

Mahalo,

Barbara Ritchie

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 2:16:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diane S. Martinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this legislation. With the Supreme Court expanding the right to carry firearms, this legislation establishes safety guidelines for the possession and use of firearms in Hawai‘i, e.g. criminal and mental health review for gun access, safety training requirements, proof of insurance, restrictions where firearms can be carried in public. In addition, I support the following amendments to strengthen the bill:

- o Prohibit the carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol
  - o Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.
- Thank you for tending to this issue and keeping residents and visitors, gun owners and non-gun owners safe in Hawai‘i.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 2:26:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ed Au	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Sirs,

Oppose this, extremely large bill against our 2A rights. All you are doing is creating easy target for criminals and violent individuals. Do you really believe a criminal will follow your laws? You have an Attorney writing things for the government against law abiding citizens who would need their own Attorney to understand SB984. You already have lack of HPD officers, people have the right to protect themselves. Sensitive places (ban on carrying anywhere except public sidewalks) how does this help a law abiding citizen to protect themselves. Firearms class for all firearms including rifles. Why now? Why for rifles? For years there was no training for rifles, is the Government just trying to make it harder for individuals to get a rifle. Firearms class every 4 years, there hasn't been required before. More roadblocks created by Anti-gun politicians. Duty to inform when carrying a firearm, invasion of privacy for exercising a right. Redefines crime of violence to include no violent acts, is prohibiting more people from owning firearms. Providing information to all doctors, medical providers and insurance companies. Why, violation of private medical information. Removing the standardization of forms, further red tape to our rights. Extending the waiting period to 40 days, it is currently 2 weeks. Why the extension, no justification for this, for years 2 weeks have been sufficient. HPD to have 3rd party non-law enforcement to review permit processing. I see many HPD officers in the gun application offices, they are staffed and can be trained. They are competent with helping with paperwork. Forces people to appeal denials with the police department as opposed to the courts. Courts make the laws, not HPD, appeals goes to courts. Prohibits people with "pending charges" from possessing firearms, oppose this. What if that person is innocent, takes months or years to settle. Oppose new definition of mental prohibitions to be more inclusive and open to broad interpretation and does not require a medical diagnosis. Expands license to carry requirements, Supreme Court permitted individuals to carry. All that was done in Hawaii is delay our rights and change the requirements. Now you want to change it again. Why requires residency for CCW, it's our right, Supreme Court permits this. Requires signing an affidavit agreeing to rules/laws, only law abiding citizens will do his if passed. Criminals will not. A person should carry enough firearms as they need. Not just one.

Thanks,

Ed

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 2:22:49 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marianne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety or Hawaii’s residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 2:39:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Payton Boyd	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is an infringement on our right to defend ourself wherever need be. Once again this only hurts lawful citizens and encourages criminals. This bill doesn't help any party involved.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 2:44:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rita Kama-Kimura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Rep. Tarnas, Chair / Rep. Takayama, Vice Chair**

**Committee Members: Reps. Ganaden, Hashimoto, Holt, Ichiyama, Ilagan, Kong, Mizuno and Souza.**

**Please note that I stand in strong opposition to this Bill HB984 re: “conceal carry.”**

**Once again, yes another bill that targets law abiding citizens, not criminals but law-abiding citizens. Those who have meet all the requirements, background checks and training and licensing. Now additional requirements are being considered, some very interesting ones at that!**

**What is the real purpose of these types of bills? It appears to be another attempt to disarm lawful citizen and limit their ability to defend themselves, their families and others should the need arise.**

**May I suggest legislators look at bills that actually target law breakers and criminals! If there are any.**

**Please do not move this bill forward, I ask that you stop it now.**

**Respectfully,**

**Rita Kama-Kimura**

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 2:46:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brendan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED. What's so hard about understanding this? Lately all I see is bills wanting to restrict right if the citizens who are LAWFUL, why aren't you this passionate about the Housing Crisis pushing all of the residents and Kanaka Maoli out? Or how about war on criminals not law abiding citizens. All I hear from this legislation is any way to suppress its people. I can't think of a bill that was passed that benefit the PEOPLE and not the officials who are getting there pockets bought by lobbyists who are domestic and foreign. I feel like a broken record saying things over and over. I OPPOSE THIS BILL. I hope some of you Pilauticians come to your senses. Aloha.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 2:47:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kamana'o Chun	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Myself and my family fully oppose this bill, not only for its disastful manipulation of the courts rulings to uphold the constitution but also for the safety of my family and our right to protect ourselves. In a Hawaii we live with unchecked rise in violent crime, it is vital that it's citizens , old , young, strong and weak have the freedom to defend themselves. Please uphold your solemn oath and defend the constitution.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 2:47:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
JB	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY oppose this bill as it is currently written. This is a sweeping bill that attempts to attack the Second Amendment rights of the people of Hawaii.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:04:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chester Barayuga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:04:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shane	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:06:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Richard Tillotson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I urge you to support HB984.

it is VITAL to the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors to pass this bill so we will have clear requirements for eligibility for carrying a gun in public; thorough criminal background and mental health review; robust safety training requirements; proof of insurance for gun-related injuries, and restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public.

I request HB 984 be amended and strengthened to:

Prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol

Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

Your support for this bill could save lives while still upholding the second amendment.

Thank you for considering my testimony and mahalo for your service.

Richard Tillotson



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:08:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kyle Miyahana	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB984 and the additional requirements placed on law abiding gun owners who want to carry caoncealed.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:08:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
alfred janneck	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose the proposed bill that infringes on law abiding citizens rights to keep and bear arms. As a contributing member to society It is my right ... not priveldge.. to be able to exercise my second ammendment right as recently ruled by the supreme court. The state of Hawaii may try and limit Second Amendment rights for law abiding citizens while allowing criminals to break laws with little to no consequences.. all the while blaming legal gunowners for the criminals actions. If legal gun owners were a problem these proposed regulations would be easily justifiable...However looking at legal gunowners in Hawaii and their responsible firearm ownership it is clear that criminals are the problem and criminals need to be prosecuted and held responsible for their actions. Stop blaming law abiding citizens for criminal actions. Do not impose limits on legal CONCEAL CARRY permit hoiders who have applied and passed all background checks .. WE are not the problem...prosecute those who break the law. Do no enact new laws/regulations. Enforce the current laws and hold criminals accountable. Chicago, California, Philadelphia, Washington D.C, Baltimore have the most anti second amendment regulations and they are all failures. Criminals will always be criminals. DO NOT be fooled ...when seconds count..help is only minutes away. Thank You for your attention to my testimony.

Al Janneck

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:09:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sterling	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:12:10 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Edelio Gerola	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

I respectfully oppose this bill. Please vote to oppose this bill from passing. We have a constitution that protects our unalienable rights and that prohibits these types of bills repugnant to our constitution.

Thank you.

EG

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:16:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cheryl Bellamy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 894. However, I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:17:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Edward Inn	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill and any bill's that includes firearms because it's my constitutional rights to bare arms I'm a law abiding citizen and will exercise my rights

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:19:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shyla Moon	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support effort to make licensing more than just one year, it is not polite to keep charging a person every year for something to make money off of us. Ideal would be every 5 years to renew. Most people getting ccw now days in Hawaii are women, who are by far the most vulnerable.

im not sure I agree with storing any firearm in a car, personally I do not trust anyone anywhere on these islands to not break into cars.

No safe locations should be allowed, wouldn't be enforceable and would make law enforcement jobs way harder than it is.

Being asked by law enforcement to a registered licensed ccw carrier is not an issue. Law abiding citizens are not who you should be worried about. Criminals carry illegally everyday and everywhere. These are facts.

I support our rights to carry.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:20:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Addison K Caluya	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I wish to voice my objection to HB984 as written. The actions being proposed do very little other than attempting to make the right to self defense increasingly burdensome for the average citizen.

The broad scope of locations that are prohibited and the inclusion of a liability insurance requirement does nothing to address underlying gun violence root causes and only serves to attempt to burden lawful owners from from exercising their 2nd amendment rights and previously issued CCW permits.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:25:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Peter Roa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose hb984. More than 90% of mass shootings happen in these so called "sensitive places" or "gun free zones". Evil doers want an unfair advantage over their victims. This is why they use firearms to do harm in the first place. Making "sensitive places" where law abiding citizens can't defend themselves is not only unconstitutional, but it's also giving the evil doers the unfair advantage that they desperately seek. I'm not entirely opposed to "gun free zones". I think places like the courthouse, where there's metal detectors at the entrance and armed law enforcement officers present is okay to make a "gun free zone" because there's active enforcement of such rules. This means the evil doers and law abiding citizens are on a level playing field. Evil doers are much less likely to do evil if they don't have that unfair advantage that they want.

I'm not entirely opposed to banning alcohol consumption while carrying a firearm. I can understand the safety concerns behind this one. What is troubling about this is how law enforcement officers were caught shooting people in public, while intoxicated, off duty, while carrying their firearm to a bar that they're drinking at. Google "Anson Kimura" for details on this. It's troubling that there was no push back then to ban the combination of alcohol and firearms. However, now that the Supreme Court has ruled that law abiding citizens have the right to carry, all of a sudden there's all this energy to ban such things? Interesting...

I honestly think that immediately notifying a police officer that a firearm is present can complicate a situation that could have been uncomplicated. Perhaps we can reword that portion to say that "A person must declare a firearm if a law enforcement officer asks". This will ensure that our law enforcement officers will lead the conversation and not be interrupted by someone that feels urgently to disclose such information immediately.

I oppose renewal every 2 years. I think that we could go with the national standard of 5 year renewal, or go with the majority of the rest of our nation and just go with permitless carry. I understand asking for permitless carry is asking much. Every five years is adequate.

Mahalo for reading my testimony

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:25:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alan Medeiros	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose bill HB984. This bill violates so many of our Constitutional rights. Government is over reaching again!

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:35:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Casey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:37:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Amy Monk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: JHA Chair David Tarnas, Vice Chair and Committee members

Date: Feb. 14, 2023, Rm 325, 2 p.m.

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of HB984

Thank you for considering my testimony in SUPPORT of HB984.

HB984 promotes gun safety and protects the public from civilians who carry firearms in public.

1. to the Pew Research Center, the U.S. gun death rate was 10.6 per 100,000 people in 2016, the most recent year in the study, compare that to gun deaths in Canada (2.1 per 100,000) and Australia (1.0), as well as European nations such as France (2.7), Germany (0.9) and Spain (0.6).

Sadly, last year the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reported that guns are the leading cause of death for children and teens in the United States.

The proposed bill will clearly lay out the requirements to be able to carry a gun in public, review both the criminal background and mental health, as well as insurance requirements for those seeking to carry guns.

The bill should be strengthened to define where firearms can be carried. I have seen people carry guns into stores in the mainland, and not knowing if they were there to cause violence or rob the store, I found it disturbing and frightening. Guns should especially be banned from establishments that serve alcohol, places where people sometime lose control of their behavior.

Please also close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

Sincerely,

Amy Monk



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:39:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rob Mihada	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose hb984. More than 90% of mass shootings happen in these so called “sensitive places” or “gun free zones”. Evil doers want an unfair advantage over their victims. This is why they use firearms to do harm in the first place. Making “sensitive places” where law abiding citizens can’t defend themselves is not only unconstitutional, but it’s also giving the evil doers the unfair advantage that they desperately seek. I’m not entirely opposed to “gun free zones”. I think places like the courthouse, where there’s metal detectors at the entrance and armed law enforcement officers present is okay to make a “gun free zone” because there’s active enforcement of such rules. This means the evil doers and law abiding citizens are on a level playing field. Evil doers are much less likely to do evil if they don’t have that unfair advantage that they want.

I’m not entirely opposed to banning alcohol consumption while carrying a firearm. I can understand the safety concerns behind this one. What is troubling about this is how law enforcement officers were caught shooting people in public, while intoxicated, off duty, while carrying their firearm to a bar that they’re drinking at. Google “Anson Kimura” for details on this. It’s troubling that there was no push back then to ban the combination of alcohol and firearms. However, now that that the Supreme Court has ruled that law abiding citizens have the right to carry, all of a sudden there’s all this energy to ban such things? Interesting...

I honestly think that immediately notifying a police officer that a firearm is present can complicate a situation that could have been uncomplicated. Perhaps we can reword that portion to say that “A person must declare a firearm if a law enforcement officer asks”. This will ensure that our law enforcement officers will lead the conversation and not be interrupted by someone that feels urgently to disclose such information immediately.

I oppose renewal every 2 years. I think that we could go with the national standard of 5 year renewal, or go with the majority of the rest of our nation and just go with permitless carry. I understand asking for permitless carry is asking much. Every five years is adequate.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:56:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tyler foster	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Everything in this bill is completely unconstitutional. There have been other attempts of bills like this being passed in other states and they were instantly put on TRO. I believe this bill should not pass. It is just a waste of time and money to attempt anything like this.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:56:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Justin DeGuzman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill and the infringement into my second amendment rights as a United States citizen. With the way the state has become we as citizens should have more rights to carry firearms for personal protection not have more laws making it harder.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 4:03:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kahana Kauahi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Kahana Kauahi Oppose bill HB984. This bill is unconstitutional and an infringemnet to my 2nd amendment God given rights.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 4:05:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Duke malczon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly opposed. Criminals don't care how many gun laws you put in place. This bill only further endangers the all ready helpless public.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 4:10:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
chris p pang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I oppose HB 984 because it is written to make the ccw permit holder sound like a criminal. It seems that people writing the bill already have the permit holders judged as a guilty criminal. They should remember that people that can own and carry a gun legally are good citizens and not scum buckets who rape, rob, or murder. People like us just want to protect ourselves and family members. We respect the police and the right to own a firearm. The people that write the bills sound like they support the criminals.

Again, I oppose this bill.

Thank you,

Chris

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 4:16:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Anuhe Maeda	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs,

I strongly oppose HB984. Making it more difficult for law abiding citizens to obtain a firearm for self-defense does nothing to stop criminals from obtaining firearms illegally. This is common sense.

Respectfully,

Anuhe Maeda

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 4:26:49 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Edwin Wise	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill and any bill's that includes firearms because it's my constitutional rights to bare arms I'm a law abiding citizen and will exercise my rights.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 4:29:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lynn Otaguro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of HB984 because I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors. To help alleviate the impact of Bruen, HB984 addresses two areas of concern. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed risks unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations. This default can help avoid such conflict.

In addition, HB984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57. Please support HB984 with those inclusions.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 4:34:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Doris Segal Matsunaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My family strongly supports HB 984.

Doris Segal Matsunaga

Waimea, Hawaii 96743

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 4:41:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alan Miller	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. There is so much in this bill that is far overreaching what a state in the United States of America is allowed to restrict of the rights of their citizens. The sensitive places are far too broad and the definitions are similar to other states (I.e. NY) sensitive places law which are currently being challenged and will likely lose in court. He sensitive places outlined in this law are many of the most likely places for criminals and mass shooters to illegally use firearms. They will not follow these rules even if this bill is passed. All it will do is restrict law abiding citizens and ccw permit holders from being able to defend themselves and stop such attacks. Many of these sensitive places in this bill are not actively controlled by law enforcement at all times. Courthouses and airports are a good example of acceptable sensitive places because they have metal detectors and very active law enforcement control at all times, so that criminals and mass shooters will never attack these hard targets. Many of the other sensitive places are not controlled as strictly by law enforcement and therefore the public is not as safe in these broader definitions of sensitive places.

Permits should be valid for at least 3-5 years similar to most of the other states in the USA. And the permitting processes in Hawaii are already some of the strictest in the nation so we do not need to change them and further infringe on Hawaii residents 2nd amendment rights.

Last, I believe that businesses and private property should be allowed to make their own decision and be able to choose on their own if they want to post signs and deny CCW. It should not be a blanket CCW ban everywhere unless specifically authorized. This is currently being challenged in court and will likely be deemed unconstitutional.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 4:41:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Romeo Yadao	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. This bill will not address the non-law abiding citizens or prohibited people to the same rules this bill will put upon others. Contents in this bill will strain Honolulu Police Dept. staff, licensed firearms instructors, physicians, excess cost to citizens, due process thru the court system, and one's right for privacy.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 4:47:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jake Hanawahine	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Jake H Resident of Kailua Oahu strongly oppose this bill

Aloha, my name is Jessica Malia Tamaribuchi and I am a resident of Kailua-Kona on the island of Hawaii. Today I am submitting written testimony strongly opposing HB 984 relating to firearms.

As stated in previous testimony, please be reminded that the US Constitution's Second Amendment guarantees the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed. As elected officials, you have sworn an oath to support and uphold the Constitution.

I firmly oppose HB 984 because it does not take into consideration the rights of the law-abiding individual. This measure is extremely broad in the sense that it places the law-abiding individual under undue scrutiny to obtain a firearm permit. Isn't this provision already on the books with background checks? Also, how would the issuing authority determine if a person has or lacks the essential character or temperament necessary to be entrusted with a firearm? This is obviously subjective and could be applied in such a way that would exclude an individual who has absolutely no criminal history from obtaining a firearm permit.

HB 984 is requiring that issuing authorities to consider the risks associated with firearms in the home and to consider the likelihood an applicant would bring the firearm outside of the home to engage in violence or carry unlawfully in public. So, does this mean that the issuing authority is going to be responsible for assessing each home with firearms and making a determination that the "likelihood" an applicant would engage in a violent activity is eminent? What qualifies this issuing authority to make this determination? Once again, this is broad, subjective, and at minimum, government overreach. You cannot predict whether or not someone is going to commit a violent crime based on a broad assessment.

With regard to sensitive locations, HB 984 seeks to expand what is to be deemed "sensitive" beyond what was already decided on in the 2022 Bruen Supreme Court case where Justice Clarence Thomas said that there are a handful of places where guns could be constitutionally banned. Places considered to be sensitive would include courthouses, jails, and similar establishments as these locations are more inclined to be violent. These places also have metal detectors which makes it difficult for anyone to bring a gun. Expanding the definition of sensitive locations to include malls, shopping centers, schools, public transportation, otherwise known as "gun free zones," would essentially leave these locations as targets for potential mass shootings for the simple fact that they are considered "gun free zones" and anyone seeking to inflict the most carnage will not abide by the law.

Requiring the Attorney General to publish an annual report on licenses to carry firearms is nothing short of violating someone's right to privacy and places individuals at risk of being doxxed and targeted.

In short, all I ask is to stop demonizing law abiding people who have the right to protect themselves, their families, property, and their fellow Americans. HB 984 seeks to take that away basically leaving law abiding individuals at risk to violent criminal activity.

These are some of the many reasons why I strongly oppose HB 984 and any other bill that seeks to strip or infringe upon an individual's right to bear arms as clearly stated in the US Constitution's Second Amendment.

Thank you for taking my testimony into consideration as you vote on this bill.

Mahalo,

Jessica

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 5:06:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Corinne Solomon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 5:10:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bradly Baker	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose hb984. More than 90% of mass shootings happen in these so called “sensitive places” or “gun free zones”. Evil doers want an unfair advantage over their victims. This is why they use firearms to do harm in the first place. Making “sensitive places” where law abiding citizens can’t defend themselves is not only unconstitutional, but it’s also giving the evil doers the unfair advantage that they desperately seek. I’m not entirely opposed to “gun free zones”. I think places like the courthouse, where there’s metal detectors at the entrance and armed law enforcement officers present is okay to make a “gun free zone” because there’s active enforcement of such rules. This means the evil doers and law abiding citizens are on a level playing field. Evil doers are much less likely to do evil if they don’t have that unfair advantage that they want.

I’m not entirely opposed to banning alcohol consumption while carrying a firearm. I can understand the safety concerns behind this one. What is troubling about this is how law enforcement officers were caught shooting people in public, while intoxicated, off duty, while carrying their firearm to a bar that they’re drinking at. Google “Anson Kimura” for details on this. It’s troubling that there was no push back then to ban the combination of alcohol and firearms. However, now that that the Supreme Court has ruled that law abiding citizens have the right to carry, all of a sudden there’s all this energy to ban such things? Interesting...

I honestly think that immediately notifying a police officer that a firearm is present can complicate a situation that could have been uncomplicated. Perhaps we can reword that portion to say that “A person must declare a firearm if a law enforcement officer asks”. This will ensure that our law enforcement officers will lead the conversation and not be interrupted by someone that feels urgently to disclose such information immediately.

I oppose renewal every 2 years. I think that we could go with the national standard of 5 year renewal, or go with the majority of the rest of our nation and just go with permitless carry. I understand asking for permitless carry is asking much. Every five years is adequate.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 5:18:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Noel Baker	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We who are seeking concealed carry permits are law-abiding citizens who will make the community a safer place. Crime is increasing in Honolulu. As a senior citizen we are being targeted by criminals. I am in opposition of HB984 that restricts our ability to protect ourselves.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 5:43:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christopher Braun	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose bill hb984 because any restrictions on where licensed concealed carry is allowed is more opportunity for individuals looking to do harm can go without having to worry about being stopped by a lawfully armed citizen. Schools, parks, malls, churches, hospitals, banks etc., are all places where a mass shooting has occurred in the past and there for those places especially, should allow responsible and licensed civilians to carry firearms. Hawaii has not yet had a mass shooting (thankfully) but we should not put laws in place that would restrict someone from stopping such an event if one was to occur. There is always that "would've, could've, should've," after terrible events like that take place. Let's not be the ones to take that approach.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 5:48:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justinkainoa kealanahele	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose hb984. More than 90% of mass shootings happen in these so called “sensitive places” or “gun free zones”. Evil doers want an unfair advantage over their victims. This is why they use firearms to do harm in the first place. Making “sensitive places” where law abiding citizens can’t defend themselves is not only unconstitutional, but it’s also giving the evil doers the unfair advantage that they desperately seek. I’m not entirely opposed to “gun free zones”. I think places like the courthouse, where there’s metal detectors at the entrance and armed law enforcement officers present is okay to make a “gun free zone” because there’s active enforcement of such rules. This means the evil doers and law abiding citizens are on a level playing field. Evil doers are much less likely to do evil if they don’t have that unfair advantage that they want.

I’m not entirely opposed to banning alcohol consumption while carrying a firearm. I can understand the safety concerns behind this one. What is troubling about this is how law enforcement officers were caught shooting people in public, while intoxicated, off duty, while carrying their firearm to a bar that they’re drinking at. Google “Anson Kimura” for details on this. It’s troubling that there was no push back then to ban the combination of alcohol and firearms. However, now that that the Supreme Court has ruled that law abiding citizens have the right to carry, all of a sudden there’s all this energy to ban such things?

I honestly think that immediately notifying a police officer that a firearm is present can complicate a situation that could have been uncomplicated. Perhaps we can reword that portion to say that “A person must declare a firearm if a law enforcement officer asks”. This will ensure that our law enforcement officers will lead the conversation and not be interrupted by someone that feels urgently to disclose such information immediately.

I oppose renewal every 2 years. I think that we could go with the national standard of 5 year renewal, or go with the majority of the rest of our nation and just go with permitless carry. I understand asking for permitless carry is asking much. Every five years is adequate.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 5:50:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bernice Jarra	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose hb984. More than 90% of mass shootings happen in these so called “sensitive places” or “gun free zones”. Evil doers want an unfair advantage over their victims.

Living and raised in Hawaii, crime has raisin over the years. I do not feel safe in our community anymore. 3 years ago, a man walked into my uncle’s home & stabbed him to death. If my uncle had a firearm, he could’ve protect himself and be alive today.

As a citizen how do we protect our family and ourselves from criminals? Please tell me. I would like to practice my 2nd amendment rights as well as protect my children.

Thank you

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 5:54:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eric Tash	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Honorable David Tarnas, Chair, Grett Takayama, Vice Chair and Members of the Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee,

My wife and I strongly support HB 984.

We have grave concerns about the impact of the Supreme Court’s faulty Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii’s people. Among the other important provisions, which we strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed firearms weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of special places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of protected places. The first involves private property. We support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the rights of private individuals and entities them to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. We support the inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

Mahalo,

Eric Tash and Renee Iijima

MEMORANDUM In Support of HB 984

To the House of Representatives, State of Hawaii:

It is VITAL to and for the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors to pass this bill so we will have clear requirements for eligibility for carrying a gun in public; thorough criminal background and mental health review; robust safety training requirements; proof of insurance for gun-related injuries, and restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public.

- I request HB 984 be amended and strengthened to:
  - Prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol
  - Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

Sincerely,

William Aldinger

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:01:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sharon R Keith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- it is VITAL to the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors to pass this bill so we will have clear requirements for eligibility for carrying a gun in public; thorough criminal background and mental health review; robust safety training requirements; proof of insurance for gun-related injuries, and restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public.

- I request HB 984 be amended and strengthened to:

- o Prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol

- o Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:05:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eric Akiyama	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB984. Please stop making it difficult for the law abiding citizens to protect themselves by passing bills like this. Most gun bills seem to benefit the criminals that will not obey these laws if passed.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:10:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kehaulani matsumoto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984 because it's unconstitutional and would make it harder for me as a woman to defend myself against criminal predators.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:12:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Judith White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Gun safely legislation is critical to maintaining a safe Hawaii,with one of the lowest firearm death rates in the country. Please pass!

Dr. Judith White,

Psyvhologist, mother, Tutu



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:12:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Zoran Cullinan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill violates the constitution by adding more restrictive laws to Hawai'i's already restrictive firearms regulations. Legislators in Hawai'i have already passed unconstitutional laws for years in our state and enough is enough. Bill includes unnecessary additions to laws here as well, due to the fact that it is already illegal and wrong to use firearms under the influence of alcohol and drugs. This bill effectively creates rules and regulations for firearm ownership that resembles that of car ownership. This is wrong as it is a right to bear arms and not to drive a vehicle. In conclusion I will state again that Laws pertaining to firearms in Hawai'i are already to restrictive and any more laws would infringe on the rights of the Hawai'ian people.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:13:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Anderson O'Mealy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property, whether or not it's open to the public, without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:49:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laurie L Tanner	Hawaii Resident, HSTA Retired	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I support HB984. BUT CHURCHES MUST ALSO JOIN THE LIST OF SENSITIVE PLACES WHERE CONCEALED WEAPONS CANNOT BE CARRIED, a list comprehensive enough to ensure safety for all, along with private property restrictions.**

**I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on Hawaii's residents (especially children and young adults) and visitors. Among other strongly supported provisions, this Bill contains two areas of major concern to keep residents and visitors SAFE: It ensures a licensing procedures for concealed guns that will hopefully weed out individuals who are a threat to themselves or others. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where concealed weapons cannot be carried: THIS LIST MUST INCLUDE CHURCHES AND CHURCH PROPERTIES (have we forgotten gun carrying US men have carried and murdered church members in the past five years?).**

**Additional provisions to ensure the SAFETY OF THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII (which is a policymakers first duty, I believe, as it was my main duty as a State employee and teacher) would include private property. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the rights of individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that FIREARMS SHALL NOT BE carried onto private property without the expressed authorization of the owner.**

PLEASE KNOW: If someone is licensed to carry a concealed gun, chances are he owns multiple firearms, and would not be carrying deadly weapons unless they were willing to use them, whether they were at times sick, crazy, well or irresponsible just once, unable to keep such guns out of the hands of children, even their own. My second 6 yr old cousin found a loaded gun inside the glove compartment of a truck, and discharged it, bullet entering his body and thankfully he was spared, but is never the same. **PLEASE ENSURE NOBODY HAS A DEADLY WEAPON UNNECESSARILY, CARELESSLY, WITHOUT A LICENSE, BACKGROUND CHECKS, PROPER TRAINING. MAHALO, mahalo nui loa.**

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:45:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Levi Ligsay	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha. I am submitting testimony on bill Hb984. I am opposed to this bill which basically takes away the right to carry my firearm and protect the ones that I love and care about from criminals that do not follow these laws that are in place like myself. A aw abiding citizen. I don't understand how these bills are thought of and written up. The people that think of these things should put more effort into passing bills that heighten the consequences of the people that don't follow the laws of getting a firearm and following the laws for it. It's the 2nd amendment which is the right to bare arms and shall not be infringed. It's what this country has been built on and shall be upheld. Stop punishing the people that follow the law and start putting away criminals that do. People that are afraid of concealed carry will not be once something happens where a person saves them or their loved ones that are threatened by others that don't follow the law. Also, do you think these criminals will not attack, hurt, or prey upon others if this bill is passed? Wouldn't you want someone who will fight fire with fire? Think about it. Be smart. No just another politician.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:49:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Russell Takata	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE this bill. The extensive list of prohibition in public places, parks, entertainment venues, parking lots, etc. essentially negates the reasons for CCW for our citizens. In addition, this list provides just about all places where shootings have historically occurred by persons who are mentally ill and detrimental to our society. This bill does not support public safety but rather mandating administrative requirements on law abiding citizens. Many of the proposed provisions of the bill are quite subjective and opens up conflict on interpretations by each county. In essence the bill is poorly written and opens the door for more litigation, instead of supporting the right of citizens to protect themselves.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:50:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elisabeth Sherman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HB984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.





**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:51:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jerry Ilo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I very strongly oppose this bill. This does nothing to help law abiding citizens. Please turn your attentions to criminals.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:52:28 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Reid	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB984.

This bill will make pretty much make everywhere a sensitive place except for some public sidewalks. Bruen decision says you can't make everywhere a sensitive place. Only courthouses, some schools, polling places, & government buildings. This bill also invades our rights to privacy .

Requirements to take a maditory class to even purchase a firearm is unconstitutional. There are no other rights that require people to pay for & take a class.

extending the waiting period dose nothing but delay our rights. A right delayed is a right denied. Other states have tried to add a morality clause ( good moral character) and have been struck down by the courts.

Banning carrying more than one gun is also unconstitutional. Nowhere in the text of the 2nd Amendment states that. There is no history or tradition at the time the 2nd Amendment was passed.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:02:03 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Renny	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill would be unconstitutional with examples from other States where similar bills were defeated.

In addition, this bill targets vetted, law-abiding citizens for subtle nuances that would turn them into criminals. Crime is up and law enforcement staffing is down. The only logical solution is to empower the law-abiding, tax paying citizens by giving them the tools to defend themselves against criminals.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:02:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shirley Lam	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors.

1. are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities them to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property, whether or not it’s open to the public, without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

**I support HB984!!!**

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:08:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Craig Kashiwai	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this as it infringes on my Constitutional rights.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:22:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brett McHenru	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I will keep this short and direct... this same bill (almost exact wording even) was passed through in New Jersey and immediately overturned by the Supreme Court. That is exactly what will happen if this unconstitutional bill passes here. Please stop wasting tax payers time and money by pushing through a bill that already has been overturn. This is nonsense at this point. Thank you and have a good day.

Sincerely,

Brett McHenry M.Ed

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:29:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Timothy Soderholm	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

I strongly oppose passage of HB984. The measures proposed in this bill fly in the face of established case law, and are completely inconsistent with the text, history, and tradition of the Constitution of the United States. Similar measures have been passed in other states, and were very quickly subjected to temporary restraining orders and/or preliminary injunctions because the courts with jurisdiction believe the plaintiffs are likely to succeed on the merits of the cases; that is, it is likely that these types of restrictions will be held to be unconstitutional. The right of self defense exists everywhere; as such, the right to possess, bear, and use, the most effective means of self-defense also exists everywhere.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:37:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Aaron Puahala	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as the requirements that legal gun owners will go through will require money unnecessarily lost in this time of economic struggle. Lower class citizens are left defenseless as some will not be able to afford insurance, time off, cost of classes and training. I also oppose the need to disclose when someone is armed to protect themselves or loved ones.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:41:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
jayson guzman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Criminals do not follow rules. All of these rules and guidelines just empower criminals and make it much harder for law abiding citizens to be able to protect themselves and their families.

Why is there the need for all of these rules that just infringe on peoples rights? The normal citizen are being made easier targets and victims by all of these rules that are introduced.

There are so many rules and guidelines in this bill, that it is such a massive undertaking to refute each point that it tries to address. This entire bill just needs to be shut down, as it is just a massive blanket bill that tries to take away the ability for law abiding individuals to arm and protect themselves from harm.

I oppose the defining of sensitive places, and prohibiting persons from carrying a firearm in those areas. Criminals break the law, they will not adhere to any of those rules and it just leaves innocent people defenseless. Also, requiring people to have insurance just punishes the law abiding citizens with more expenses, while the criminal won't bother getting proper insurance for it. Also, private property should not have to explicitly list that they allow firearms- if said property doesn't want firearms on premises, then it should be stated as such- not the other way around.

all of these rules just make the citizen defenseless. Take a look at aerial fireworks here in Hawaii. Illegal, yet every new years, each year is a more spectacular show than last years. All these restrictions do is create a market for it. Rules do not work, and people find a way around them. Those who want to do the legal way of doing things are the ones who suffer.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:48:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this very important measure to responsibly and legally help control the misuse of guns in Hawaii.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:52:17 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
LL	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. No more infringing on law abiding citizens right's especially the 2nd amendment. A better idea would be to introduce a stand your ground bill and give more ability to law abiding citizens to protect themselves and others.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:00:49 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Samuel Webb	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is a state wide ban on concealed carry, and insurance is not available, giving the state another way to ban concealed carry.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:04:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stephen Yuen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Most of these laws are unconstitutional based on the ruling from NYSRPA v Bruen, especially with regards to sensitive places.

None of these laws will prevent a criminal wanting to use a gun for a crime. It'll just prevent law abiding citizens to carry concealed which this bill is intending to do.

It's amazing that those who are writing these bills think there will be a wild west. We just got the ability to carry concealed, why would we do something to haphazardly use our gun to lose this ability?

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:13:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stephen Medeiros	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

For the Right of each Individual to Bear Arms in the Home and to Protect one's self and others. IAW The Second Amendment Rights, Shall Not Be INFRINGED. Hawaii is dragging their feet to obstruct Law Abiding Citizens from their God Given Right to protect themselves Family and property

Band areas except sidewalks is stupid. Criminals don't care about anything. Yet you strive to ban from carrying within areas of shopping malls restaurants places of business. Yet you have not even taken the time to research other States in their process of CCW. where can be carried and not carried. Once the pistol is in the car in a locked secured case. That is the Individual Right to storage. Insurance is based on the Individual and Not Dictated by Government. Invasion of Medical records to a third party is wrong. And why Hawaii is not accepting ANY other States CCW

EXAMPLE. Nevada CCW is good for 5 years 8 hour class and a life fire qualifying exam done with their qualified instructors.

Stop being like New York and other States that INFRINGEMENT of the Right to Bear Arms

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:27:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
J Ching	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There are 2 good things in this bill:. 2 year licensing and allows carriers to store their guns in the car. Everything else is bad.

Increase to 5 year statewide permits per carrier licensing. This makes it cheaper in time and money for licenses and classes/qualifications, and saves police manpower.

Thank you.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:29:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kathleen Triolo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is VITAL to the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors to pass this bill so we will have clear requirements for eligibility for carrying a gun in public; thorough criminal background and mental health review; robust safety training requirements; proof of insurance for gun-related injuries, and restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public.

I request HB 984 be amended and strengthened

to:

Prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol

Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:34:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chad Amasiu	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:42:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Taz Gample	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in opposition to the proposed changes that aim to infringe upon our constitutional rights as law-abiding American citizens. The current proposal does nothing to deter anyone already intent on committing crimes based on all of our currently established laws. Instead many of the proposed changes aim to infringe upon already law-abiding citizens from practicing a right embedded within our constitution and only aims to embolden criminals knowing that individuals are limited in their ability to protect themselves.

Please do what is Pono and allow the citizens of Hawai'i to practice their rights as American citizens, not as subjects of an emotional agenda.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:45:10 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
moses keola toledo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose bill HB 984

I believe some of our law's and bill's are created, to disable the people who are responsible and law abiding. Criminals will get their hands, on guns regardless of what laws you create. Making it harder for the people that want to enjoy the 2nd amendment, will not stop criminals from being criminals. Going against our constitutional right is a criminal act. Laws are supposed to be created to protect us, and benefit all involved not just some. How is this bill protecting us or benefiting us? Or is this bill being designed to further waste our tax payers money, with out truly doing research? This bill and its agenda; it's plans and ideas that will not stop criminals from owning guns. As a US Army Veteran I believe I have the right to not be interrogated through a process of ridiculous and outrageous requirements, in order to purchase, own and enjoy my right to bare arms.

Thank you,

Keola

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:46:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Richard Frey	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:03:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mike Harrington	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose bill HB-984!

It's just another example of government overreach. This bill will only make it harder and more expensive for law abiding citizens to obtain legal firearms. Criminals will always be able to get firearms. They are criminals. Illegal activity is what they do. Why would the state make it harder for law abiding citizens to protect themselves and their families. The police are already understaffed and spread thin.

Also we are forgetting one thing. The United States Constitution guarantee's my right as a law abiding citizen to keep and bear arms.

Mahalo,

Mike

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:04:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Kern	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this common sense legislation to ensure we have clear requirements to be eligible to carry a gun in public. These requirements should include thorough criminal background and mental health reviews, robust safety training requirements, proof of insurance for gun-related injuries, and restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public.

Furhtermore, I believe this legislation should be strengthend by amending this bill to prohibit the carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments and especially to close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check. This loophole circumvents the measures to keep our community safe and should be addressed immediately.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:13:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bonnie Tokita	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe Hawaii has historically had low gun deaths because of our strict gun safety laws. I support HB984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:14:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jill Tucker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

House Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee

Hawai'i State Legislature

SUBJECT: Please vote YES on HB984

Dear Honorable Members of the Committee,

I am a longtime Hawai'i resident, raised in Hawaii, but I pursued a career overseas in Asia for 30 years. I have recently returned for good to Hawaii.

During my time living in Asia, it became increasingly difficult to explain to my colleagues from other countries why and how Americans could allow our neighbors, family members, friends and strangers to be gunned down in grocery stores, schools, concert venues and other public places. And even though I found every mass shooting in America heartbreaking and perplexing, I took solace in knowing that Hawaii had the lowest number of firearm deaths per capita of any other state.

We need to not lose this distinction and we need to set an example for other states. HB984 helps to do this.

I urge you to vote YES on HB984 and keep Hawaii safer for our keiki, our kupuna, our friends, our visitors...for everyone in our community.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jill Tucker". The signature is written in a cursive style. The "J" is large and loops around. The "i" has a small dot. The "l" is a simple vertical stroke. The "T" is written with a horizontal top bar and a vertical stem. The "u" is a simple curve. The "k" has a vertical stem and a diagonal stroke. The "e" is a simple curve. The signature ends with a long horizontal line that extends to the right edge of the page.

Jill Tucker

45-677 Halekou Road, House F, Kaneohe, 96744

(808) 729-4044

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:14:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Vivien Woo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB984 to close all loop holes with concealing weapons, so that all people in Hawaii and our visitors will be kept safe from gun violence and be prevented from gun deaths.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:17:10 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chester Barayuga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. I am a law abiding citizen. Limiting areas to law abiding citizen is ridiculous. Do you think criminals care about this bill? No. By doing so you will be putting people at a great disadvantage by not being able to defend themselves. The right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:33:03 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cole	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Im opposing this bill because you fail to understand and have lack of knowledge of the of "sensitive places" in regards to what I mean is that you need case by case information that's places have been attacked but the state hasn't had a mass shooting since 1999 at Xerox. Hawaii gun violence is at all time low. I say to you criminals will find a way to obtain weapons illegally while law abiding citizens have go through hoops to obtain legally. Also this bill violates some hippa because you want to look further through medical history with out me giving consent. I don't believe so we already have a system here in the state of Oahu that is good and doesn't need to be changed. Needless to say you violate a lot of constitutional rights 1-5. So I say to you please sweep away this bill and let us the people who can help law enforcement in a time where if they can't arrive on time at least someone who is there can help until our local law enforcement can arrive.

HB984. Measure Title: RELATING TO FIREARMS.

Report Title: Firearms; Licenses; Registration; Enforcement; Insurance

I am writing to submit written testimony for less restrictions for qualified civilians to carry firearms concealed and non-concealed (open carry).

The proposed bans from carrying in locations such as schools, government buildings, parks, voting locations, public transportation, private businesses, banks, and medical establishments in effect is a “back door ban” and portrays the corruption of the public officials making these restrictions. You use your authority to violate our Constitutional Rights.

Qualified citizens cannot get buy food, eat at a restaurant, get medical attention, cannot withdraw or deposit money at their bank. Basically, the above-restrictions only allows carrying while driving or walking on public streets. Furthermore, public officials do not have the authority to restrict what private property owners allow on their property.

I have been employed as a federal Special Agent working as a federal law enforcement agent/officer for the past 18 years. My wife would be passing the same background database checks as me. In fact, my wife’s background check would be more stringent than mine in that she lives with someone, me, who as a federal law enforcement agent/officer, conducts background checks. Yet your “back door ban” treats my wife as a criminal, who has no constitutional right to carry a firearm for self-defense.

Qualified citizens should be able to carry both open and concealed. .Open carry can serves as an effective deterrent to crime.

I urge you remove all sensitive places. If owners sensitive areas are going to prohibit CCW on their property, then they need to have discrete gun lockers to lock up firearms before entering (just like Disneyland does),

I also support qualified citizens to carry high capacity magazines. This will allow the qualified citizen to defend themselves on a more even playing field, when defending against violent criminal attackers who are well-known to disobey firearms laws.

Gun owners should be allowed to secure their guns in their cars

**All women should be exempt from all sensitive area restrictions. It is statistically proven that women are much more likely than men to be perpetrators of violent crime, and much more likely to be victims of violent crime.**

CCW permit holders should not be required to have insurance, because insurance is not specifically required in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. Insurance is just another way to harass CCW permit holders, and just makes it harder for your everyday working person to protect themselves.

On another note, you could add restrictions such as, 1) the same prohibitions to driving under the influence of alcohol as with carrying a firearm, 2) require citizens to report that they are legally carrying a firearm, if they are encountered by law enforcement.

Rory K. Fujimoto, S/A, 2/7/2023  
last four of social security number 7680

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:35:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jason Sembrano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. This bill completely goes against the spirit of what the 2nd amendment was meant for, the individual being able to defend him or herself in imminent danger. Police, while doing the best they can, can't be at a potential victims side at an instant. Forget most of male demographic that are pro 2nd amendment, what about all our women that would like to carry but are deterred by the discouraging process and restrictions. Kidnapping and trafficking have been getting worse and I would hate to see willing women give up on chasing their legal CCW permit because of bills like this. This bill is NOT the representation of this honest tax payer. Please oppose this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:56:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joshua Leonard	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

These new laws that are trying to be passed are not in the best interest of the people. Not only will this bill be unnecessary, but it is completely unconstitutional and clearly violates our 2nd ammendment right. New laws are created and affects law abiding citizen, not criminals. Laws only affect the people that follow the law. There's are reason why criminals are criminals. These laws will take away the ability for people to defend themselves against these criminals.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:00:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bryston Tanigawa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this unconstitutional bill. Supreme Court and many lower courts have already ruled against these over generalized sensitive place restriction bills. Stop trying to burden lawful citizens who wish to carry firearms for self defense. I have already jumped through hoops to purchase a firearm I don't need more hassle when it comes to my firearms. The SCOTUS has already ruled on this issue. Stop wasting time and money on this nonsense.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:02:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bunnie Harrington	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly oppose bill HB984 in its entirety!

How can our law making officials in Hawaii, who is a part of the United States so blatantly ignore our Nations constitutional laws? The very thing that every one whom is voted into office swears to uphold. From HPD, through every law making seat up to the Presidential seat of our country; that is your JOB, to uphold and protect the US constitution. This bill goes directly against it.

“Sensitive places” are everywhere. Here in Hilo, Walmart, Target, Home Depot, and the only Mall on Hawaii island are all on “Private property” opened to the public. So the places I could possibly be the most vulnerable, I am not allowed to protect myself? HPD does not have the man power to keep every individual safe, so it MY RIGHT and my RESPONSIBILITY to make sure I KEEP MYSELF SAFE!

Having such sensitive information, (medical, Mental, & physical access) on individuals sent to a third-party is not ok!

Wanting to extend the waiting period is unnecessary and just an excuse to have our county officials continue to drag their feet because a lot of the voted in officials simply disagree with the 2nd amendment. But you personal opinions DOES NOT stop my RIGHTS.

With all these laws already in place, has it stopped the criminals from getting firearms, absolutely not.

So I ask each one of you, if it were your daughter, mother, or wife being attacked while walking back to their vehicle, do you feel confident enough to say HPD will save them? Will the commands of the victim truly Stop the criminal from their ill will intentions towards them? If you have that much confidence in criminals and HPD, I ask each of you, stop locking you homes, vehicles, and anything of value to you. Only then will you see why we protect everything of value and of importance with Firearms including ourselves.

Mahalo,

Bunnie

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:21:03 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bernardo Soriano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose certain measures in bill HB984. Hawaii already has self-reported one of the strictest gun measures in the country. Currently the process to acquire a firearm legally in Hawaii is very thorough. increasing the difficulty for a law abiding citizen to acquire a firearm will not reduce gun related violence/crime as criminals do not listen/obey any law. Rather you are making law abiding citizens potentially more of an easier target. sensitive places - schools nationally are already a gun-free zone yet that's where a majority of these mass killings are happening. Criminals are very aware where guns "aren't allowed" and will target those areas. law abiding citizens who have the right to bear arms should be able to in public to protect themselves and their loved ones from a potentially violent crime. i am against increasing the cost to \$150 to obtain a concealed carry license. it unfairly targets those who are not financially well. as the 2nd amendment is our constitutional right, our financial status should not determine whether or not we can practice our right to bear arms. also - why is everything listed specific on expiration dates of registration, permit pick up, etc except for the issuing of concealed carry licenses where it simply states "within a reasonable time". very one sided and unethical to require strict guidelines for law abiding citizens to abide by but give the city and county (and/or state) significant leeway/vagueness as to when they have to perform their duties.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:32:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kasy Newman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose Hb984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:36:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tracy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill and all laws placing restrictions on my 2nd amendment right are illegal. You took an oath to serve and protect thoes rights. Forcing any infringement is treason.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:41:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ted Baldonado	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE HB984. I disagree with a number of items in this measure. I believe that the majority of the items in this measure do nothing to protect the citizens and is merely to prevent law abiding citizens from exercising their rights under the second amendment.

The number of places designated as restricted places impedes everyday situations. The areas presently designated as restricted places should remain the same: Schools, voting places, government buildings only and airports. I oppose to the OPT IN method of business to display concealed carry. If a business chooses to not allow concealed carry, then they should OPT OUT and have signs stating so. Criminals do not use signs to determine what businesses to perform criminal acts.

I Oppose the idea of carry insurance. This form of harassment to concealed carry holders places unnecessary financial burden to simply defend oneself. This addition does nothing to deter criminals from carrying a firearm but only law-abiding citizens.

I disagree with the section referring to unattended firearm. The safe container should not include fireproof. Fire proofing scarifies concealability of the storage device. Due to the nature of the location, no safe container would be hidden from plane view as fire proofing only limits the amount of time that heat will eventually penetrate or compromise the container. You would need 5 inches around the container to have 2 hours of fireproofing which make no sense for just securing the firearm/pistol. If the previous mentions about places to carry we not in this measure, the safest place it to have the firearm/pistol on your persons.

I disagree to firearms class for type of firearm and the requirement for class every 4 years to keep the firearms I already own. Advanced training should not be a requirement as we are only using firearms for sport and self-preservation. I Oppose the face the bill has a duty to inform as this is seen as invasion of my privacy. Firearm ownership should not include infringement to my rights. There are simply too many items in this bill to fit into my testimony. I hope to have a better measure as this measure has not taken in account the law abiding citizen. I again OPPOSE HB984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:58:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sean Loo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this Bill because it infringes on our Second Amendment Right to keep and bear arms. All these proposed rules and regulations will only jeopardize the safety of law abiding citizens from being able to defend themselves against criminals. Criminals do not follow the law. Criminals will still be in possession of a deadly weapon ie. firearm even though they are prohibited from having one. You should focus more on catching and locking up these criminals with multiple convictions instead of slapping them on the wrist and releasing them back out into the community only to terrorize innocent people over and over again.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:01:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Cabjuan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly OPPOSE this bill. Criminals do not care about sensitive spaces. We need to uphold our 2nd amendment right to bear arms. Please do not vote to pass this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:10:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shaun Duldulao	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984. Mass shootings are more likely to happen in so called “sensitive places” or “gun free zones”. Criminals will utilize every opportunity to gain an unfair advantage over their victims. This is why they use firearms to do harm in the first place. Law abiding citizens not being able to defend themselves is not only unconstitutional, but also gives the evil would be doers, the unfair advantage that they desperately seek. I’m not entirely opposed to “gun free zones”. Areas that already have armed law enforcement officers present is okay to make a “gun free zone” because there’s active enforcement in the local area. Evil doers are much less likely to do evil if they don’t have that unfair advantage.

Carrying a concealed weapon and alcohol consumption must never go hand in hand. Safety above all else takes precedence over everything else. I can understand the safety concerns behind this one. Law enforcement officers are not above the law, they are there to enforce it. What is troubling about this is how law enforcement officers were caught shooting people in public, while intoxicated, off duty, while carrying their firearm to a bar that they’re drinking at. Google “Anson Kimura” for details on this. It’s troubling that there was no push back then to ban the combination of alcohol and firearms. However, now that that the Supreme Court has ruled that law abiding citizens have the right to carry, all of a sudden there’s all this energy to ban such things? Interesting...

I honestly think that immediately notifying a police officer that a firearm is present can complicate a situation that could have been uncomplicated. Perhaps we can reword that portion to say that “A person must declare a firearm if a law enforcement officer asks”. This will ensure that our law enforcement officers will lead the conversation and not be interrupted by someone that feels urgently to disclose such information immediately.

I oppose renewal every 2 years. I think that we could go with the national standard of 5 year renewal, or go with the majority of the rest of our nation and just go with permitless carry. I understand asking for permitless carry is asking much. Every five years is adequate.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:28:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tyler Matsuda-Yamamoto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this full heartedly and respectfully.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:45:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Jaworowski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill, and amend it to also:

Amend the proposed new section, HRS 134-D, on leaving an unlocked gun in a car, to include "negligently" doing so.

Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:47:09 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Lono	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I *oppose* bill **HB984**. This bill pretty much *bans* CCW by default. Raising fees on license and renewal is too much...especially for struggling citizens in the State of Hawaii. Bill **HB984** is an overreach. This bill only looks to restrict my rights as an American Citizen.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:56:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
kimo galon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB984

I oppose HB984. This is another bill that will deny CCW holders their constitutional right to carry outside the house as "Heller vs DC" stated. This bill will criminalize all CCW permit holders. This bill will not do anything to deter any criminal activity. If you are not hardening our schools, offices and etc..Criminals will hit all areas that are anti-gun.

We should not be "required" to have insurance. As a hard worker that is still trying to recover from Covid lockdowns I cannot afford paying for insurance. I barely have any time to I have a hard enough time paying for auto insurance. In time I would like to purchase insurance but I'd like to do so on my time.

Waiting for a permit any longer than a day is terrible and bad policy. There was an instance where a woman had a TRO on her Ex-husband and applied for a CCW permit. Her Ex found her and killed her before she could even get her CCW permit approved.

All these minute micro managing rules makes no sense. As a gun owner we already hold ourselves to a higher level where we take every step with responsibility

If we can safely keep our firearms in holster, we should be able to do and carry as we please.

All of these rules and sensitive places will only create safe haven for criminals and they will never stop stealing and ruining lives. As I stated before we need more laws and focuses to make it more difficult for these people to stop committing crimes.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:58:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ian kauwe	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

These bills are un constitutional and infringe on our second amendment rights. It basically makes it so a ccw holder cannot carry his/her firearm anywhere. I oppose HB984. You guys should no longer infringe on our second amendment rights after bruen. It's hard enough as is for the 2A community in Hawaii with the shut down koko head range. I OPPOSE HB984. Thank you

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:40:08 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Roby	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The language and implications of HB984 are an obvious violation of the 2nd amendment, and the Supreme Court of the United States 6–3 decision in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen*, June 23, 2022. The places that are being classified as gun free zones are ludicrously overreaching, and a blatant attack on the people of Hawaii's constitutional rights. Any support for HB984, and any and all other bills that would directly infringe upon a lawful citizen's right to bear arms and practice self-defense, should be shamed as borderline tyrannical behavior.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:42:35 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jarek	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984.

Public spaces and government operated facilities are the very places where government should not be able to restrict a citizen's right to carry as it is space owned by the people, paid for by the people. More so such places are most likely to be a target for an Evildoer to commit atrocities - making it the very place where citizens should have their right to bear arms to defend themselves and others against such acts. The only person(s) who can tell another when and where they can carry is the lawful, free of government influence, private owner(s) of an establishment(s) of concern. A Public Servant's duty is to protect this owner's decision - not make it for them.

It is a joke to demand citizens to retake and renew firearms classes/licenses periodically. Automotive related facilities account for a great deal more than firearms related fatalities and yet a driver's education class is not needed for a driver's license renewal.

yes, I feel taking such classes and practicing proper safety, and even having insurances in place should have a role to play here. but its not something that should be mandated. that is an issue for us, the very people partaking in our rights, to police and hold ourselves accountable. Same as how authority cannot dictate our Freedom of Speech, they must not dictate our right to carry. If taking and retaking firearms classes are to be necessary for citizens to practice our constitutional rights, taking and retaking civics classes should be necessary for politicians/public servants civics classes periodically to refresh their civic duty to uphold the constitutional rights of the people they were elected to serve.

We are also private citizens. What right does any governing body have to use our medical records, more so to extent that is propose here, against law abiding citizens' ability to aquire a firearm? an insane and/or ill person is drastically different being than a violent person. so if authorities would not only be violating our right to privacy, they're wasting their own time and and taxpayer dollars looking at the wrong place. If you wanted the people's medical information, maybe universal healthcare would have been a better idea.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:44:38 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cheryl Tanaka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

How being a female and now disarmed againsts a bigger attacker due to sensitive places. You will be disarmed everywhere but the sidewalk. It violates the "History and tradition" in Bruen.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:48:13 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rik Rutt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am strongly opposed to this bill. This bill has far too many things in it for one short testimony. This bill has a lot of items that cover a wide range of aspects crammed into a 74 page bill. Each aspect should be approached in their own bill so that they can be debated on their own merits not hidden in a sea of papers. Also many parts of this bill have been challenged in court by way of other states laws and have been found unconstitutional and are in the process of being overturned. This bill would be enacting unconstitutional laws that would cost the tax payers in the process of being challenged and thrown out in court. While there may be a item or two that I would support there is so much more that I oppose and the bill is broken that it is not remotely salvageable. I hope that tis committee uses logic and does what is right and ends this bill here.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:07:21 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Manahel Al-hozail	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill and it is unconstitutional. Hawaii already has strict gun laws and no open ranges to safely practice. Focus on providing a place for law abiding citizen to utilize the range.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:38:20 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barry Aoki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE HB984. This bill places unconstitutional and onerous requirements on lawful citizens who decide to carry a concealed firearm for protection. What other constitutional right requires a citizen to have liability insurance? None. Also, the places deemed as sensitive areas are areas most targeted by criminals as they know lawful citizens will not be able to access firearms for protection. Just because there are restrictions on firearms possession doesn't mean criminals will follow the law, that's why they are criminals. To think criminals will follow laws is naive and fantasy. Please OPPOSE HB984.

Barry Aoki of Lahaina, Maui, HI

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:50:05 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Linda Howe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a 60+-year resident of Hawaii, I strongly support this effort to protect citizens of all ages in schools, public parks, places of worship and work, hospitals, and anywhere where alcohol is served/consumed, from the unintended consequences of loaded firearms. Please pass this legislation.

Mahalo.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:19:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marlee Kamakaala-Miller	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. It is a massive government overreach and features many similarities to the laws that other east coast states are currently losing in court for when relating to sensitive places and limitations on ccw. And these limitations of our second amendment rights will lose in future court according to the SCOTUS Bruen decision.

Our Hawaii firearm laws are already more than strict enough.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:25:35 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nathan Soriano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose. Thank you for this opportunity. I would like to say please stop violating and infringing my rights as a law abiding citizen. criminals do not care about laws. The police department does not have enough resources to handle the rise in crime. So please stop the abuse of our constitution. Let us citizens be able to protect our families and friends.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:27:04 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dwayne Lim	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose house bill 984. This act is restrictive in its language and overreaching by politicians in preventing one's right to self-protection against death, serious bodily injury, kidnapping, rape, or forcible sodomy. The author(s) of this bill don't seem to understand the relationship between gun-free zones and crime, and that these two things are complex and influenced by many factors for example, the overall level of crime in a given area. Criminals don't abide by laws or have any regard for public safety. Thank you for receiving my opposition to HB984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:28:41 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kelly Lim	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose house bill 984. This act is restrictive in its language and overreaching by politicians in preventing one's right to self-protection against death, serious bodily injury, kidnapping, rape, or forcible sodomy. The author(s) of this bill don't seem to understand the relationship between gun-free zones and crime, and that these two things are complex and influenced by many factors for example, the overall level of crime in a given area. Criminals don't abide by laws or have any regard for public safety. Thank you for receiving my opposition to HB984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:40:00 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marc Silvester-thomas	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am against the bill

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:43:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Katie Baldwin-Gomes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a resident of Oahu. As both a parent and an educator, I have become very concerned about keeping our Hawaii Nei one of the safest states in the country. Please support this bill so we have clear boundaries state-wide. Guns surely do not belong at playgrounds, parks, or schools, but without this bill, anyone who gets a concealed carry permit can bring hidden guns into those places.

Additionally, guns and alcohol should never mix. This bill will make it clear that people carrying guns in public cannot bring their guns to bars or restaurants serving alcohol.

Thank you VERY much for your careful consideration of this important bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 6:26:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jaelan S.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 6:58:36 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Justin h	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this unlawful bill

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:28:52 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lissa Cockett	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in strong opposition to this proposed house bill. It restricts the right to bear arms of law abiding citizens including the right to defend/protect self. It is government over reach and unconstitutional. State leaders show no ALOHA to it's citizens by continually putting obstacles in place that seek to do rob constituents of their legal rights. Common sense does not include allowing criminals to be illegally armed while leaving law abiding citizens vulnerable to harm including death.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:31:06 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Scott Fong Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please uphold the 2nd amendment rights!



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:35:37 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michele Nihipali	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB984 would set up clear permitting requirements before someone is allowed to carry a gun in public and clear boundaries on where someone can and can't bring those guns. This is the rational and common sense procedure for anybody wanting to publically carry a firearm.

**Please Support HB984**

Thank you for your consideration,

Michele Nihipali

54-074 A Kam Hwy.

Hauula, HI 96717

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:39:57 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ramiro Noguerol	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

oppose because law abiding citizens should not have more restrictions to exercise their constitutional right to carry a gun for self defense and protection of family members.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:46:30 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nancy Marker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama and Committee Members,

I support HB984 because it addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe from gun deaths and injuries. It provides for the licensing procedure for concealed guns. This would help prevent individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves to carry a weapon in public. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

I respectfully suggest additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB 1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific safety protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy Marker

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:13:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Richy Chang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose bill HB984 relating to firearms as it introduces a series of complications and invasion of privacy and liberty.

Such issues include the cost prohibition of individual to pay for classes on each firearm, and if it is a class paid for by the state then it will affect the state taxes and treasury. This bill would draw a line in the constitution and a definition of wealth classes and gatekeeping solely based on money.

An individual's right would also face a higher likelihood of denial by the police department based on vague welfare checks that don't provide accurate reports and interpretation.

Reporting to security and law enforcement should be considered as invasion of privacy if the individual with a conceal carry permit is rightfully concealed carrying a firearm in a space.

There are many other reasons this bill should be opposed. I insist that this bill is denied and removed as it makes presumptions, cost and time prohibitive, and complicates the system.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:14:09 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Coralie Matayoshi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB 984. It is a very good and comprehensive bill that is supported by the major national gun safety organizations and is essential to safeguard public safety regarding persons who will be carrying firearms in public.

It is VITAL to the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors to pass this bill so we will have clear requirements for eligibility for carrying a gun in public; thorough criminal background and mental health review; robust safety training requirements; proof of insurance for gun-related injuries, and restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public.

To further strengthen HB 984, I request the following amendments:

- Prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol
- Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:14:46 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ron Matayoshi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 984.

I request that HB 984 be amended to prohibit carrying of firearms in ALL commercial establishments. Also close the loophole in HRS 134-4 (c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15 - 75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

**TESTIMONY OF ELLEN GODBEY CARSON IN SUPPORT OF HB984,  
WITH REQUEST FOR AMENDMENTS**

**I write in strong support of HB 984, with a request for amendments to strengthen the bill.**

While I write as an individual, I have served as president of the Hawaii State Bar Association, the Institute for Human Services (IHS), and the Sex Abuse Treatment Center. In these capacities, I have strived to strike the right balance for safety of our community and protection of individual rights. I believe HB 984 strikes that right balance, but could be strengthened.

This bill creates numerous measures to better protect our community, while complying the unfortunate US Supreme Court's mandate that public carry permits be allowed. I especially support the bill's efforts to:

- require thorough background checks of criminal and mental health history;
- require proof of insurance for firearms injuries;
- require robust safety training for all firearms permits, transfers and licenses;
- prohibit the carrying of firearms in Sensitive Places.

**I request HB 984 be amended and strengthened to:**

- **Prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol.**
- **Incorporate the "default" provision in SB1230 for private properties and require both express owner consent AND "clear and conspicuous posting" at the entrances to all properties open to the public where the owner consents to the presences of firearms being carried, so the public can know and choose to avoid places where firearms may be present. (The Bill currently allows posting as an alternative to express owner consent, but the public has no way to know of that fact if there is not clear and conspicuous posting).**
- **Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.**

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony and helping protect the safety of our community.

Ellen Godbey Carson  
Honolulu, Hawaii

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:28:05 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Letha DeCaires	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to offer written testimony in support of HB984 Relating to Firearms. I am a retired Captain from the Honolulu Police Department. I appreciate that the legislature is taking on the important task of crafting guidelines in support of the concealed carry laws.

I believe that the legislature has a responsibility to protect our citizens in government operations, public government buildings, public government transportation, and public education settings. Thank you for making this clear.

I am wary of all encompassing language presented which may provide more difficulties to enforce and reduce the likelihood of passing.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:31:30 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
William pacatang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Law abiding citizens especially ones who is registered legally should be able to carry anywhere.  
If anything it would lower crime in our state.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:35:20 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
mark fergusson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

This bill infringes on the rights of the individual to protect himself and others. Our federal constitution says "shall not be infringed". This bill seeks to usurp our constitution and give more power to the state. It does not protect law abiding citizens but rather it gives cover to criminals who will ignore these laws just like all the other laws they ignore. Criminals ignore laws against stealing, laws against murder, and they will ignore this too. This law does nothing to protect law abiding, tax payers. It protects criminals and gives power to the government to ignore the constitution and harass the very people it says they want to protect.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:40:09 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alexander Allen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB984 is too restrictive. And, no matter its intentions, I guarantee you the criminals will not follow this proposed law.

The State of Hawaii should reciprocate other state's CCW permits.

America was created because revolutionaries were able to revolt against and suppress the oppressive and tyrannical reign of England with the help of guns. I know you love America. So do I. We need to keep our 2A Gun Rights, protected by the Constitution, and those rights shall not be infringed.

This is not a political issue. There is no interpretation needed. If you don't understand "shall not be infringed" then you shouldn't be in government.... unless its your mission to suppress the rights of American citizens and ignore the Constitution.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:42:13 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maria Y Song	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- it is VITAL to the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors to pass this bill so we will have clear requirements for eligibility for carrying a gun in public; thorough criminal background and mental health review; robust safety training requirements; proof of insurance for gun-related injuries, and restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public.

- I request HB 984 be amended and strengthened to:

- o Prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol

- o Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:44:43 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lisa Toriki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

"...the right of the people to keep and bear arms, SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED" "The right of self defence is the first law of nature: in most governments it has been the study of rulers to confine this right within the narrowest limits possible." (St George Tucker)

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:45:43 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Derek Sato	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There are so many things wrong with this Bill.

**Sensitive Places:** If you create a list of sensitive places, what will the benefit be? If you fear firearms, do you really think a criminal will care? If you think criminals are so dumb that they won't use a list of sensitive place against the public, you are mis-informed. A declaration of sensitive places will only provide the risk averse criminal with a list of places they should go and commit a crime.

**Duty to Inform:** This is a immature position to think this is a great idea. Do you inform everyone when you have had an alcoholic beverage? If you did consume one, you are a risk. All it takes is one. Do you inform a business owner if you are at risk of falling due to age, injury or otherwise? A business owner would most likely prefer that you not be on their property and open themselves to liability. Duty to Inform is not the correct way to make sure legally armed citizens manage their firearms nor is it beneficial to business owners.

**Disclosure of medical information and history:** Is your Pediatrician still working? Is your first Primary Care Physician still working? This is not how the medical profession works. Your current Primary Care Physician is the best judge of your current well-being. The existing system works. The problem is that society is too soft on mental illness. How do I know? Try walk through Kakaako. It's not safe. Walk through Iwilei. It's not safe. I no longer can visit the stores in the area without placing myself at a high-risk of being assaulted.

**Redefining Metal Prohibitions/Morality clause:** This is directly tied to the above paragraph. Instead of placing a restriction of firearm ownership. Redirect your efforts to management of mental health as it affects all of the citizens of this State. Will you unpopular for doing it? Probably, but politicians don't get elected for the satisfaction of their ego. It's to serve the people.

**Firearms Insurance:** This is a poorly thought out idea. Does everyone that rents a home have renters insurance? Does everyone that owns a home have umbrella coverage? Does everyone that drives a car have un-insured and under-insured coverage? If a legal firearms owner wants to make poor choices and become a criminal there already exists laws for that. Its the same trouble that I am going through suing someone for having stabbed my daughter. It won't help, it won't solve or prevent anything. It will only add to the legal challenges for a victim of a crime. Keyword being crime. People who use firearms to save others should actually be

included into the Good Samaritan law. Imagine if someone was stabbing someone and you had the opportunity to stop that with a firearm. Because of the way the laws are currently written, unfortunately you would have to let that person get killed or face persecution if you did something to help a fellow citizen. Protecting criminals and demonizing law abiding citizens is a clear sign that our society is failing. If it was a law abiding's spouse or child, that citizen would definitely intervene. But without a firearm, it would most probably cost the law abiding citizen their own life instead of the criminals. The law abiding citizen loses. This is not a structure of a thriving and happy society. I fear going to Walmart now. That's not great.

The bottom line: I implore our politicians that if they don't want people carrying firearms, do something about the criminals. Create a 3 strikes law. Maybe 10 years with no parole. 5 strikes, 20 years with no parole. 7 strikes, life with no parole. Round up the mentally ill on our streets and force treatment. Would that be unpopular? Sure. If your child came home doing drugs, would you intervene (which would be unpopular to the user and stressful for all) or would you say that's their choice? Do these things. I would still have the right to carry a firearm, but will be much less likely to feel the need. Stop persecuting law abiding citizens because their interests are different than your own. What do they call that kind of Government that persecutes its citizens with differing interests? Hmmmm....

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:46:55 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shannon Matson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee,

While I support this Bill to increase firearm safety measures I also have some comments I think would improve this legislation. I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

Two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places are as follows:

1) Involving private property: I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. I have seen firsthand the confusion that results from the opposite regulation, which is what is occurring in Hawai'i County based on their bill that passed last year regarding sensitive places. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

2) Protection of keeping rallies and marches gun-free zones: HB984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation. It is a fine balancing act to provide rights for those who wish to bear arms and also keep intact the safety and wishes of the general public that do not want more guns in public spaces.

Mahalo,

Shannon Matson



Hawai'i Island Resident

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:47:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jacqueline Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- it is VITAL to the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors to pass this bill so we will have clear requirements for eligibility for carrying a gun in public; thorough criminal background and mental health review; robust safety training requirements; proof of insurance for gun-related injuries, and restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public.

- I request HB 984 be amended and strengthened to:

- o Prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol

- o Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:59:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
JoAnn Salakielu	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:02:56 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marcus Young	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony. I appose the bill because sensitive places, as listed would be in violation of the of the carry laws protected by recent court decisions. Already similar restrictions are being dismantled by courts around the country like in New York. The attempt that the bill proposes will be met with lawsuits not in the city/state favor.

Requiring every business or organization to "approve" a lawful action is backwards, whereas the standard across the US is for a private establishment to prohibit entering with a lawfully concealed firearm.

Requiring insurance has no proven evidence this is needed for safety. It is more an individual's right to do so.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:16:01 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Younghee Overly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass HB984 to keep Hawaii safe from the gun violence. Mahalo.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:18:02 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dallin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB984 regarding CCW application process and permitting. This bill came out to be restrictive on our ability to obtain CCW permits as well as where CCW permit holders are able to carry. Such strong regulations should not be implemented on the premises of public safety. Hawaii is already seeing an increase in crime and it is imperative that the citizens of Hawaii should be able to protect themes. The Supreme Court has already issued rulings on NY for implementing strict laws and procedures on acquiring CCW permits. Therefore I strongly oppose this bill and that such strict rules and regulations should not be imposed on to law abiding citizens.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:21:16 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brandon Allen Kainoa Leong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I oppose HB984.** Turning every place into a sensitive location is not the answer and will be challenged in court should this bill pass. Maui has had people carrying firearms after the Bruen ruling longer than Oahu and nothing has changed. There is not rampant gunfights in the streets as anti-Second Amendment politicians and activist claim will happen. Everyday across America law abiding people are carrying a firearm in public and nothing bad happens to them nor do they misuse their firearm while in public. At some point a lawful CCW holder will be forced to use their firearm for self-defense. When this happens the facts of the case will come out whether it is justifiable or not. Requiring a lawful carrier of a firearm to get insurance to be able to exercise their right to carry makes the act no longer a Constitutional right. The Heller case guaranteed our right to keep and bear arms in the home and the Bruen case guarantees our right to carry a firearm for protection outside of our home. The second Amendment guarantees the right to keep and bear arms just like our rights to free speech and the right to vote. Do we require a license or insurance to practice the first Amendment or to vote? No, because doing so no longer makes it a right and makes it a privilege. When you have to ask for permission it is a privilege. Rights are guaranteed and not granted by another person.

Brandon Leong

VP Hawaii Rifle Association

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:23:39 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robin Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

If responsible ccw holders are able to carry their firearm freely, it could potentially save lives in a public space. If you deem places "safe places", only law abiding would adhere and criminals (who never follow laws hence why they are criminals), would illegally carry in safe places anyway. Law abiding citizens should be able to protect the life of themselves and their family and loved ones anywhere they go. We deserve protection since nothing seems to be progressing about other topics which breeds crime. Police showing up after the fact to take a report and a body count is useless. Thank you



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:25:56 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Page	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha committee members,

I am writing to oppose this proposed legislation related to concealed firearms carry and additional requirements on individuals exercising their second amendment right. This bill is frivolous as it would be dependent on the integrity of the individuals to notify law enforcement they are carrying a firearm during a stop. It would seem this bill is only targeting law abiding citizens and cause undue work for law enforcement.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:26:45 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eric Kaneshiro	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Supreme Court has ruled that Americans have a right to carry firearms in public for self-defense. This bill establishes a default rule with respect to carrying firearms on private property open to the public that is contradictory to the Supreme Court ruling. Hence this bill should be rewritten to provide for private entities to "opt-out" of the Supreme Court's ruling.

The maintenance of liability insurance coverage is sound advice however it should not be a legal requirement as the right to self-defense should not be limited to only those who are affluent enough to pay for it.

The list of prohibited places is overly broad, e.g. any restaurant serving alcohol. §134-E already states a person carrying a firearm shall not consume or be under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance.

I support the two-year expiration of a concealed license.

Mahalo

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:44:52 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Matt Uchida	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a law enforcement officer in Hawaii and this bill is unconstitutionally broad. Because of this I do not think I would be able to enforce it as it is currently proposed.

This law is overly broad. There can be a good argument made for certain locations such as courthouses, prisons, schools, bars, etc. where firearm carry can and should be banned but the amount of places included in this list so broad that they effectively prevent concealed carry nearly everywhere.

Banning concealed carry on The Bus for example basically prevents people who commute by bus from carrying their firearm without good reason. Parks pose no unique circumstances justifying banning firearms. Private businesses can put up their own signage, there is no need for the law to control that. If I ride my bike to work and want to stop at a store, the DMV, or a library, I can't secure the gun in a vehicle and I can't carry them inside. Additionally, if there were an active shooter incident the laws would prevent a legal firearm carrier from entering and stopping the threat.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:46:35 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Fukuzawa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Representatives,

I am very opposed to HB984. I am retired State of Hawaii, Dept of Public Safety employee and fire arms owner. While I am owner of firearms, I have resisted applying for a permit to carry to see how our state would deal with this issue, and to see who would be entitled to be permitted. And although I believe the state should take the lead in how permits should be issued vice the countie chiefs of police, I think this bill in its current format is totally and unequivocally as confusing and restrictive as just stating no permits. The way you have written this bill totally violates the US Constitution 2nd Amendment once more. It is so restrictive that only place I can conceal carry would be my own house. After reading this - even law enforcement officers that are off duty at all levels of law enforcement would be in violation. I know our state is against the 2nd amendment, but this bill is appalling and embarassing. Basically, the way it is written is spitting in the face of the US Supreme Court. The legislature needs to go back and rethink what they have submitted. I know that this piece of legislation came from the State Attorney General's Office. They made every where illegal to carry and also changed ownership policies and procedures as well. This is unsatisfactory to say the least. They were supposed to address concealed carry not the entire piece of legislation. It is insulting, and meant to trick current gun owners. It makes it so the legal gun owner may also be in violation even if they don't want to conceal carry. Even going to the gun range could be considered agains the law except at that location. You cannot even drive there. What the hell?! Come on - if you are going to write a piece of legislation, at least do it well. The way this is right now, I would rather just let the Chiefs do it and if a person has to get a permit in every county - so be it. It would still be better than what we have here. Go back to the drawing board and do this correctly and don't violate the 2nd Amendment for the law abiding citizen.

Sincerely,

David Fukuzawa, SAS-V (Retired OCCC Officer)

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:52:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Aaron Kobiella	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Oppose Bills.

Without providing and proving precise and factual historical analogies relevant to each Bill it is in direct violation of the recent Bruen decision and other Constitutional Amendments/Protections which clearly outlined the States burden to do so... you have not. It is dishonorable not to do so, even if under the guise of "Public Safety"!

The US Constitution is the Supreme Law of the Land which All public servants took and oath to uphold and defend, to violate one's Oath and Our Constitution is the equivalence of administrative crimes.

These Bills are an infringement on my personal and Our unalienable rights to self-defense by creating an excessive burden on law-abiding Citizens and does not prove it's effective at ensuring Public Safety nor limiting criminal acts. You should be ashamed at your cowardice, negligence and disrespectful actions.

Mahalo.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:52:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kent Kurihara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This testimony is to OPPOSE BH984.

Sensitive places, as listed would be in violation of the spirit of the carry laws protected by recent court decisions around the country, to include those made by the United States Supreme Court. Similar restrictions are being dismantled by courts around the country, such as in NY. Actions like those proposed will be met with lawsuits not in the city/state favor.

Requiring every business or organization to "approve" a lawful action is backwards, whereas the standard across the US is for a private establishment to prohibit entering with a lawfully concealed firearm. And if an individual is found to have acted outside of the business' policy, the remedy is for the individual to leave. The actions of the individual would not be criminal unless he refuses to leave the premises.

Brandishing or "printing" laws across the country also standardize the remedy as "covering up better", as accidentally allowing the weapon's silhouette to be visible isn't malicious or with criminal intent.

Placing such limitations on law-abiding citizens, exercising Constitutionally protected rights, is outside the purview of the duties the legislature is tasked with.

HB984 should not be allowed to pass, as written

Gratefully,

Kent Kurihara

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:52:54 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Ho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I strongly support HB984!** I request that this bill be **amended** to prohibit the carrying of firearms in all commercial businesses, regardless of whether the business serves alcohol or not.

Please close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles days. be loaned to persons without license, permit, or background check, for 15-75 days.

Sincerely,

Cheryl O. Ho, Nu‘uanu

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:58:03 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elizabeth Cooper Lowrey	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors.

1. are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities them to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property, whether or not it’s open to the public, without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:01:52 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
bridget scott	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB984 to keep our community safe and as a reminder that we are the Aloha State

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:21:04 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elizabeth Nelson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 984 and feel it is essential to safeguard public safety regarding persons who will be carryint firearms in public.

It is vital to the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors to pass this bill so we will have clear requirements for eligibility for carrying a gun in public; thorough criminal background and mental health review; robust safety training requirements; proof of insurance for gun-related injuries and restrictiona on where firearms can be carried in public.

Please pass this bill.

Thank you, Elizabeth Nelson

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:27:04 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andy ozie	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is an illogical and tyrannical bill.

Forced procedures on law abiding citizens will not stop an illegal firearm or mass shootings.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:32:44 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Raelyn Reyno Yeomans	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support for HB984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:35:21 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christopher Koike	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I opposed this bill in its entirety. It is another way cripple the ability of law abiding citizens, who don't pose a threat to society, to protect themselves in public. As you law makers, and your system continue to fail at lowering violent crimes, and protecting citizens. The citizens need an effective way to protect themselves, and loved ones.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:35:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
kamakani de dely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:36:32 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
James D Howe Jr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB984 WITH A REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT TO SECTION 134-17 PENALTIES**

JAMES D. HOWE, JR. as an individual

In my capacity as the former (2017-2020) Director of the City & County of Honolulu Emergency Services Department (HESD), the issue of gun violence and mass shooting events brought constant concerns about the safety of HESD's personnel.

The issue quickly elevated to the front of our agenda upon a mass shooting event at Pearl Harbor and, shortly thereafter, the ambush death of two Honolulu Police Department officers at Hibiscus Drive. HESD personnel were on scene and had personal exposure during both of these events in their capacity as medical first responders.

Gun violence has and continues to be of major concern for communities nationwide. Mass shootings have increased and the life safety exposure of medical first responders (and the community at large) during these events has become greater.

For this reason, I strongly support all reasonable efforts to manage gun and ammunition purchase, ownership, storage, and use. HB984 is a strong measure in support of this effort.

There is, however, one important aspect of weapons management and permitting which is not currently addressed in the proposed legislation. In section 134-17 Penalties, there is no mention of any penalty associated with the cancellation, disposition, or management of permits, permitted weapons, and/or ammunition upon the death of the Permit holder.

In the Hibiscus Drive event, both the weapon and ammunition used by the assailant were the property of a deceased owner — property that had not been removed from the owner's home upon his death.

I would request that the Committee add provisions that:

1. gun permit holders' estate and/or personal representative be required to notify the County Chief of Police of the death of the permit holder
2. the permit and any and all weapons and ammunition of the deceased permit holder be collected by law enforcement and held for proper disposition by the estate and/or personal representative.

Thank you the opportunity to submit this testimony and provide the comments above.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:50:41 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chad K Taniguchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB984 and other common sense gun laws for safety of our community.

I request HB 984 be amended and strengthened to Prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol. Also to Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

Keep Hawai'i as safe as possible.

Mahalo!

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:52:59 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Evangelos Skoubis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. It is already strict enough for law abiding citizens to legally acquire and carry a firearm in Hawaii. This law would only punish those who intent on protecting innocent lives from the criminals who already carry guns illegally.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:56:35 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dr Marion Ceruti	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill, if enacted, will place too many conditions, regulations, and restrictions on our God-given constitutional right to keep and bear arms. Criminals who want to carry a firearm, concealed or otherwise, will not bother with insurance, nor will they tell a police officer when they are carrying concealed. Criminals will not bother to register firearms. Criminal will not bother with paperwork of any kind, or obey any other laws for that matter. This is why they are criminals. Only the normal people will renew a carry license or register a firearm and jump through any of the other hoops designed to discourage people from protecting themselves. This bill, if enacted, will put the normal people at a disadvantage compared to the criminals. Stop helping criminals and start supporting citizens! Kill this bill NOW.

Instead, support bills that legalize "constitutional carry," meaning that the second ammendment is our permit. Half the states in the US have some form of constitutional carry. Hawai'i should also.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:58:04 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert Marks	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

chair and members -- This a good bill that appears to meet the Bruen majority's unfortunate reading of the Second Amendment. Please pass this measure.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:04:34 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
joshua	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as written.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:13:39 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tanner Fetui	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

What does "thou shall not be infringe" mean? This bill is unconstitutional. We have the right to bear arms. We the people have a right to protect ourselves and our love ones.

Aloha,

I am providing written testimony in opposition to HB984.

The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS), through the NYSRPA vs. Bruen decision, recently established “text, history, and tradition” as the new standard for jurisprudence regarding the Second Amendment. Any precedent analyzed using the text, history, and tradition method must have its origins rooted near the creation of the Second Amendment in 1791.

In regards to sensitive places, the SCOTUS ruling specifically mentioned polling places, schools, and government buildings as examples of sensitive places that historically prohibited the bearing of arms. Additional proposed locations noted in HB984 fail to provide historical context or justification for inclusion on a list of sensitive areas.

New York included all of the sensitive areas defined in HB984 in the Concealed Carry Improvement Act (CCIA), which was a response to the SCOTUS decision. U.S. District Court Judge Glenn Suddaby, among other judges, have already ruled large parts of the (CCIA), particularly many of the sensitive locations, are unconstitutional and do not adhere to text, history, and tradition.

Further, U.S. District Court Judge Renee Marie Bumb ruled New Jersey’s list of sensitive locations, which are very similar to New York’s, unconstitutional. Bumb also blocked the enforcement of carrying firearms on private property without the “express consent” of an owner or signage indicating firearms are allowed. The State’s default ban for firearms on private property essentially made a decision for an entire population. HB984 aims to replicate the same directive for private property.

HB984 does not indicate conformity to the text, history, and tradition method set forth by SCOTUS. Banning the bearing of arms in various proposed sites, which mimic New York’s CCIA, has already been ruled unconstitutional. Given these facts, HB984 will not pass constitutional muster.

Thank you.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:23:06 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Catrina Nesper	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety or Hawaii’s residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:24:23 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jon Gushiken	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I am opposed to this bill.**

**It is widely known the “Terrorist Watch List” casts too wide a net and includes individuals who may share a name with an accused terrorist. One shouldn’t lose a constitutional right based on an unfortunate coincidence, with no due process and very little legal recourse.**

**Sincerely,**

**Jon Gushiken**

**Kahului, Maui**

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:25:20 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
mitchell weber	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE HB984,

The proposals within HB984, conflict directly with the states constitution and the Bruen decision. You cannot designate sensitive places that are outside of historical precedent.

Mitchell Weber

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:28:38 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Martin Marcello	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because of the sensitive places that are being ruled. Criminals don't care about your rules, so i because of this rule I'm not able to protect me and my family because I'm not allowed to carry a firearm in certain areas. Like schools for example in the mainland where do most mass shooting occur, in gun free zones like schools and shopping malls and retail stores. Your rules only hurt law abiding citizens not the criminals who end up shooting the innocent. I already have a ccw license from the mainland and the process you guys are trying to do is too excessive in my opinion.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:45:30 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jeannette P Hereniko	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Let's keep Hawai'i one of tthe safest places in the United States! I urge you to vote YES on HB984. Thank you.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:47:25 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mary Babcock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities them to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property, whether or not it’s open to the public, without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:49:08 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Iric Viscarra	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My Dearest Legislator's,

As an individual citizen I opposed the HB 984 which is restricting our ability for self protection and the protection of our love ones against evildoers.

every gun owners including myself have undergone an extensive background check,training and qualification test.instead we should focus on arresting and prosecute all criminals and locked them up.

Thank you!

Iric Viscarra

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:50:10 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joe OMealy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:52:04 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mike Stensrud	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB984. We need fewer guns on the streets, not more.

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:52:36 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kanani Kai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 984

February 13, 2023

Re: HB 984, Relating to gun safety

Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

sets clear requirements for:

—who is, and is not, eligible to carry a gun in public

—how our county chiefs of police can assure that permits for concealed carry are approved only after a thorough background and mental health review

—locations where people who get permits to carry guns in public can and cannot carry those guns

**Below is a short statement you can cut and paste.** Feel free to write your own or just write “**I support HB984**” in the text box on the testimony submission form.

I have grave concerns about the impact of the Bruen decision on the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors. Among other important provisions which I strongly support, HB984 addresses two areas of major concern about how our residents and visitors can remain safe. It ensures that the licensing procedure for concealed guns weeds out individuals who would be a threat to others or themselves. It also sets forth a list of sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried that is comprehensive enough to protect the safety of Hawaii’s residents and visitors.

There are, however, two additional provisions that would enhance the list of sensitive places. The first involves private property. I support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It providing that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Placing the burden on Hawaii’s residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:08:10 PM

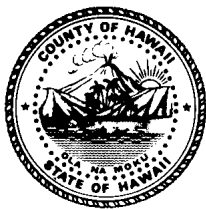
Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John D'Adamo III	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Oppose HB 984

It will affect low-income earners (TaxPayers)



## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL - DISTRICT 2

25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

DATE: February 13, 2023

TO: House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Jennifer Kagiwada, Council Member  
Council District 2

SUBJECT: HB 984

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and members of the Committee,

I am writing to you in **strong of HB 984, with comments included to strengthen and clarify this legislation.**

Since the Supreme Court Case last year decreed that Hawaii must allow people to carry concealed guns, it is VITAL to the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors to pass HB 984 which sets clear requirements for:

- who is, and is not, eligible to carry a gun in public
- how our county chiefs of police can assure that permits for concealed carry are approved only after a thorough background and mental health review
- locations where those who get permits to carry guns in public can and cannot carry those guns

Our Hawai'i County Council passed a law in response attempting to accomplish these goals and through observation of that process and the aftermath our office is offering the following recommendations for your consideration:

- 1) Involving private property: We support the “default” provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. This is the opposite of what ended up passing at the Hawai'i County Council level and it has caused considerable confusion and concern amongst community members to force them to opt out of allowing firearms in spaces that have always by default been firearm free. Placing the burden on Hawaii's residents, merchants and other businesses or private entities to affirmatively state that firearms are not allowed could encourage unnecessary and potentially dangerous confrontations.
- 2) HB 984 does not provide specific protection for First Amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. Please amend this bill to support such a provision similar to that included in

SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57. This is a common sense addition that will provide for additional clarity and avoid confusion and concern amongst community members wishing to exercise their First Amendment rights to free speech and assembly, with clear rules on firearm safety and without fear of intimidation in such a potentially highly emotionally charged space.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of HB 984**.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jenn Kagiwada', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jenn Kagiwada

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:13:17 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Myron Hoefler	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Committee must answer two questions regarding this bill: One, does the Second Amendment's plain text cover the proposed restrictions and concealed carry? And Two, does historical evidence support all the restrictions included in this bill?

The answer to the first question is Yes, and to the second No.

I ask the Committee to defer action on this bill until the Authors have provided convincing evidence that each of the proposed restrictions are supported by historical evidence as required by the Supreme Court in the Bruen ruling.

I am confident that most of the provisions of this bill if passed into law will be struck down as similar laws from New York and New Jersey have already been stopped by injunction in the Federal District Courts.

Please defer this bill. Thank you.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:17:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Carla Allison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Carla Allison and I strongly support HB984 and its provisions that ensure the licensing procedures for concealed guns are not issued to individuals who would be a threat to public safety and establishes sensitive places where firearms cannot be carried. Two additional provisions need to be added. The default provision currently included in SB1230 states that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. Let those who want guns in their midst exercise the option to authorize firearms on their property. HB984 also needs to include first amendment expressive spaces, like rallies and marches in the list of sensitive places. Please support HB984 and these additions. Thank you.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:30:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Victor Muh	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

What you are proposing is unconstitutional! What part of 'shall not be infringed' do you not understand? Courts around our great nation have already deemed what you're proposing unconstitutional, yet you insist on wasting time and out tax money on these frivolous pursuits.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:33:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keith Kikkawa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:35:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
julie schaus	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose hb984

the constitutions second amendment enables us to protect ourselves whenever and wherever we are.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:36:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Valerie Wayne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This may be one of the most important bills you encounter this session, and I strongly support it because it will make everyone in the state safer by indicating who may carry guns in public, where they can be carried, along with what background checks, mental health reviews, proof of insurance, and safety training are required. We all need this bill.

I request that it be amended to prohibit carrying in ALL commercial establishments and to close the loophole on HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles to be loaned to people without licenses, permits or background checks. That loophole puts us all at greater risk.

Please do this BEFORE we experience more serious gun violence in Hawaii.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:37:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sean Steele	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I respectfully oppose (most of the items in) HB 984. Most of the items further restrict law abiding citizens and put a further administrative strain on the police department.

Mahalo nui loa,

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:38:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
karolle t. bidgood	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

When I graduated from UH in the 1970s I joined a large, local company where I worked for nearly five years. During that brief time, I lost two coworkers and one business associate to deliberate gun violence.

Two of the instances were murder/suicides where the suicide victim was depressed because his wife wanted to leave him. In the other incident, my young coworker had gone to speak to a neighbor about his behavior toward the coworker's little sister. The neighbor shot and killed him pointblank.

In my opinion none of these shooters should have had access to guns yet they did.

I support any legislation that promotes and enforces tight and responsible access to guns. I ask that you do the sme.

Thank you.

Karolle T. (Josie) Bidgood

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:39:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
William Tam	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

February 13, 2023

Chair Tarnas and Members

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

**I strongly support HB984.**

There must be very explicit and stringent requirements before anyone is eligible to carry a weapon in public.

HB984 should be amended to prohibit firearms in all schools, all commercial settings (regardless of the presence of alcohol), on public roads, and in public parks.

Bar all shotguns, rifles, and any weapon with magazine clips from being loaned to any person without a license, permit or background check *and* then only after a 45 day waiting period.

Mahalo

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:45:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
noela von	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please leave our 2nd Amendment alone. Uphold your oath to Protect the United States Constitution.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:47:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Peter J Long III	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I wish to submit this testimony in OPPOSITION to HB984.

This bill is an attempt to broadly and unconstitutionally restrict the right to keep and bare arms by placing even stricter conditions and requirements on lawful firearms owners. These restrictions and requirements do not comport with the standards set forth in the United States Supreme Court case New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc v. Bruen which states that gun control regulations MUST BE CONSISTENT with the nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation.

The following is only a PARTIAL list of the unnecessary and over burdensome points of this proposal. At no point in our national history have citizens ever been required to be:

-Subjected to a MORALITY CLAUSE by submitting CHARACTER REFERENCES in order to exercise a right.

-Restricted by onerous SENSITIVE PLACES clauses that outlaw the carrying of firearms in practically all public places except sidewalks.

-Required to carry an insurance policy to exercise a right.

-Wait 40 DAYS for a permit.

-Bans the carry of more than one firearm.

The list of unconstitutional restrictions in this measure go on and on and I wish to reiterate that it is inconsistent with Supreme Court precedence and is ripe to be defeated in Federal Court.

I urge the committee to VOTE DOWN this proposal.



COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair

Rep. Gregg Takayama, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, February 14, 2023

TIME: 2:00 PM

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT**

My name is Marya Grambs and, while I am testifying as an individual, I was previously Executive Director of Mental Health America of Hawaii, and I am currently President of the Board of Partners in Care's nonprofit arm, and member of the Board of Directors of Waikiki Health.

If people having guns made us safer – and America now has more guns than people, literally – we would not lead the world in mass murders and gun-related homicides and suicides. As it is, more and more of us now must be fearful in grocery stores, Wal Marts, churches, dance clubs, and movie theaters because of mass murders that have taken place – never mind elementary, middle, and high schools. Several generations of school children now go to school afraid their school might be the next one to endure gunfire. The recent Supreme Court's ruling is appalling. As if the second amendment's right to have a "well-regulated militia" means that everyone in America is allowed to have and to carry a gun! It makes no sense.

HB984 clarifies who can get licenses, including thorough background and mental health checks, hopefully ensuring that people who are at risk for being dangerous will not be allowed. Unfortunately this is not an exact science; as we've seen time and time again, it's not always easy to predict this kind of behavior.

Two additional provisions I would request:

- I support the "default" provision that is currently in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and entities to choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property. It provides that firearms shall not be carried on private property without the express authorization of the owner. It's a much safer option than burdening Hawaii's residents and businesses by requiring them to affirmatively state that guns are not allowed, which could encourage potentially dangerous confrontations.
  - I support the "default" provision that is currently included in SB1230 that respects the right of private individuals and choose for themselves whether to allow or restrict the carrying of guns on their property.
- In addition, HR984 does not provide specific protection for first amendment-expressive spaces, like rallies and marches. I support inclusion of such a provision similar to that included in SB 1230 or Honolulu City Council bill 57.

Thankyou for the opportunity to provide this testimony. I hope you will support HB984, with these amendments.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:50:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glenn Pablo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha House Comittee Members,

I oppose this bill as it currently is written.

The biggest concern I have with this bill is **§134-B Mandatory insurance coverage**. As this section creates an undue cost burden on the law-abiding citizen, just for merely owning a firearm. Also gun liability insurance is not offered by any mainstream insurance company, which then leads a Hawaii residents to seek third-party insurers whose polices or pricing may not align with the states verbiage of this bill.

Furthermore, liability insurance will never cover criminal acts, and individuals who do break the law are already covered through the justice system. And in that regard criminals will never get insurance for their illegal firearms nor pay any fees. So once again the cost burden will fall on many legal firearm owners, who either use their weapons for hunting, recreational or competition shooting, personal defense, etc.

Liability insurance should be a private choice for law abiding Hawaii Residents that own firearms, it should not be mandated. By mandating insurance for Hawaii Citizens, this bill intentionally infringes on Hawaii Citizens right to keep and bear arms. By creating a wealth barrier. It will allow only wealthier individuals who can pay a monthly insurance for ownership to keep and bear a firearm. This will disproportionately affect poorer areas where crime may be more prevalent.

Thank you for your time,

Respectfully,

Glenn Pablo

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:54:09 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Randy Cheung	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose mandatory insurance coverage. I cannot afford it.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:00:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Adrian Flack	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose hb984.

It would only make sense that mass shooters would target these so called “sensitive places” or “gun free zones”. Criminals want an unfair advantage over their victims. This is why they use firearms to do harm in the first place. Making “sensitive places” where law abiding citizens can’t defend themselves is not only unconstitutional, but it’s also giving the criminal the unfair advantage that they want. I’m not entirely opposed to “gun free zones”. I think places like the courthouse, where there’s metal detectors at the entrance and armed law enforcement officers present is okay to make a “gun free zone” because there’s active enforcement of such rules.

I oppose renewal every 2 years. I think that we could go with the national standard of 5 year renewal, or go with what the majority of the rest of our nation has done and just go with permitless carry. But in light of that, an every five years reapplication is more than adequate.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:09:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lionel Delos Santos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha , legislature i strongly oppose bill HB984 because they are to extrame banning every where that most places that crimminals carry there to , and most important it unconitutional? taking away our rights and privacy.crimminals have more rights to carry without permits and get away without or less jail time. Make more bills on convecting crimmnals and keeping in jail, not bills that can render our right to protect ourself and other.

thank you

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:11:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David P Vea	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly oppose this bill and its many provisions to limit an individuals ability to effectively protect himself in a manner that is reasonable and obtainable for the average law abiding citizen. In addition, these new proposed provisions / rules are excessive, unreasonable, and unconstitutional. I agree with most law-abiding gun owners of Hawaii that this type of bill is a knee-jerk reaction to the Supreme Court Decision in Bruen vs New York Rifle and Pistol Association (NYRPA). Part of the purpose of this ordinance is to define those sensitive locations consistent with our 2nd Amendment and the Supreme Courts ruling in Bruen v NYSRPA. However, this Bill is in direct opposition to the Supreme Courts recent Decision. It is almost as if those proposing this bill did not take the time to do his/her due diligence to review the Supreme Court’s decision in its entirety to understand the intent and or how the scrutiny of Text, History, and Tradition was used to arrive at this decision. Firstly, this Bill and its proposed definition of Sensitive Places is contrary to the Supreme Courts decision in Bruen. More specifically, this bill attempt of a laundry list of locations is effectively to characterize most public areas as a “sensitive-place” lacks merit because there is no historical basis for the city and county of Honolulu or the State of Hawaii to effectively declare all common locations a “sensitive place.” The Bruen decision declared the burden falls on county or state representative and the city to show that the City and County of Honolulu or the State meet proper-cause requirement is consistent with this Nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation. To do so, the city would need to demonstrate though the historical record reflecting these were actual “sensitive places” where weapons were “altogether prohibited.” They failed to do so in this bill. The argument claimed by those proposing said Bill indicates that the other purpose of this ordinance is to protect sensitive areas that traditionally been subject to restrictions on carrying or possessing arms actually holds no weight because prior to the Bruen decision, law enforcement and other personnel were the only personnel permitted to carry firearms. Consequently, this is not a historical account of a sensitive place “where weapons were altogether prohibited.” Moreover, to claim any locations were previously and historically restricted locations is disingenuous because law abiding citizens were Not allowed to carry a firearm for self-defense at all. I do agree that the court used laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools and government buildings but expanding the category of sensitive places to most common areas as described in this Bill is Far overreaching, too broad, contrary to the Bruen ruling, and more importantly contrary to 2nd amendment. The Supreme Court explained this in Heller, stating the “textual elements” of the Second Amendment’s operative clause— “the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed”—“guarantee the individual right to possess and

carry weapons in case of confrontation.” With that being said and using modern examples as a reference, statistically most mass shootings in the past decade occur in these common places. Statistically, when these shootings occur and the shooter is confronted by a law-abiding gun owner, the threat is neutralized far quicker and with far less bloodshed than those incidents that occur in a gun free zone a.k.a. sensitive place. Please take the time to review the data, the courts decision, and we can avoid a longer drawn battle in the courts if this is passed which will result in Supreme Court vacating this law and already demonstrated in places like NY, NJ, and Maryland. If the overreaching and broad definition of sensitive places and the other provisions are passed as stated in this bill, I fear more litigation, drawn out legal battles, wasting the people’s time, the people’s money, and it will be contributing to the ever-decreasing confidence the public has in their elected officials. If the rule of law was adjudicated at the highest court in the land but yet we do not uphold this law and decision as declared by the Supreme Court, will we be a land of lawlessness? In my opinion, the above is the overarching premise to why I oppose all of the other provisions in this proposal and how it does absolutely Nothing - ZERO to deter, mitigate, or stop a criminal from carrying and using a firearm to hurt another. These proposed rule Only Impact Law Abiding Citizens. For example, firearm classes for every type of firearm and the requirement to take classes repeatedly is an undue burden and places a heavy cost on folks trying to provide and protect their families. Firearm classes have worked thus far and there is no evidence that placing an undue hardship on all law abiding citizens are in the interest of the law abiding people. A criminal will not and does not follow the rules. In addition, the provision which requires an individual to declare they are carrying a firearm is arbitrary, unreasonable, and an invasion of an individuals right to privacy. Again, does absolutely Nothing to deter, mitigate or stop a criminal planning to do harm to innocent civilians. Extending wait times for processes does not serve the citizens well. This is another unreasonable expectation and there is no premise to extend wait times up to 40 days. As a military member with security clearance I am well aware how quickly a background check can be completed. If the city and county needs more resources or clerks to process, request to allocate funding to these areas in the interest of serving its people more efficiently and effectively. Remember, as elected officials, you work for the people- not the other way around. Also, why would denials to obtain permits be appealed back to the original deciding official or agency? Where is the integrity of due process if no entity outside of this small group of non-elected officials have the final say on an extremely important issue impacting a persons health, safety, and well being? SCOTUS has already reminded us that the 2nd amendment is not a "Second Class" right. It has the same weight - if not more importantly then the 1st amendment and as elected officials you should treated as such. As I mentioned earlier in my tesitimony - If the rule of law was already adjudicated at the highest court in the land but yet our elected officials continually try to circumvent this decision and or we do not rightly discern this truth and fail to uphold this law and decision as declared by the Supreme Court, will we be a land of lawlessness? I pray for our leaders and that we make the right decision. If there is any text we must heed, it is God’s word. “When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.” Proverbs 29:2.

Thank you for the opportunity

David





**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:13:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kekai Alferes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it infringes on our second amendment.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:14:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Greg	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984

unconstitutional. A citizen has the legal and lawful right to protect themselves where ever they are

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:14:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jayne Kealoha-Dacuycuy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in strong opposition of HB984. This bill is unconstitutional. The constitution was written to protect the people from the tyrannical government. Which unfortunately our government has been displaying lately.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:16:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chase Cavitt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to request that you oppose HB984. I am busy working and have hardly any time to comment, so I will be keeping this brief. This overwhelming bill is not necessary and will truly disrupt many lives of those who wish to practice their unalienable right that is recognized in the 2nd amendment. This bill would be a ridiculous overreach of government and should not be allowed to go further. Firearm ownership is a right and not a privilege, yet bills like this show the people that many politicians think otherwise. I respectfully request you to oppose HB984 and any similar bills.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:18:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mark Woodward	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB 984.

This bill is overly restrictive and limits the locations where a concealed firearm can be carried in Hawaii, to essentially the Koko Head Shooting Complex. This circumvents the constitutional rights of the citizens of the State of Hawaii under the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America. The right of the people to keep and BEAR Arms, shall not be infringed. This bill continues to preserve safe areas for criminal /felons to carry out their activity without fear of interference by a law-abiding armed citizen.

The provision of this bill requiring mandatory insurance coverage, for every person who carries a firearm in public, discriminates against lower income citizens of Hawaii who may not be able to afford the insurance premiums. This denies these citizens their constitutional rights under the Second Amendment due to their financial status. What other right under the constitution requires the purchase of a commercial product before it can be exercised?

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:20:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tish Rothwell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please protect the law abiding citizens

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:27:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gavin Lohmeier	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

oppose HB984. This is too much regulation. Clearly infringes on the second amendment. You should not be required to have insurance. Do police officers carry insurance? The restrictions on places that a able to carry a firearm are way too much. Overall this bill is way too restrictive. I strongly oppose.

sincerely

Gavin Lohmeier

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:24:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
davin asato	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to encourage the opposition of HB984. It bans the right to carry a firearm outside of the home by creating sensitive places, a issue that was overturned by the Supreme Court in Bruen. It requires firearms insurance which does not exist. Firearms owners already have to go through a background check, be fingerprinted, entered in to a Rapback system all just to exercise a right. And this bill will now require renewal of those every 4 years, which is actually more often then a drivers license renewal. The bill in its entirety is a invasion of privacy, HIPA and a violation of rights. It holds law abiding citizens to a higher standard by requiring that just their behavior be held against them with the threat of removing a right through nonviolent infractions of harassment.

It is for these reasons and many more that I ask you to oppose HB984.

Thank you,

Davin Asato



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:27:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joshua hall	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose hb984. More than 90% of mass shootings happen in these so called “sensitive places” or “gun free zones”. Evil doers want an unfair advantage over their victims. This is why they use firearms to do harm in the first place. Making “sensitive places” where law abiding citizens can’t defend themselves is not only unconstitutional, but it’s also giving the evil doers the unfair advantage that they desperately seek. I’m not entirely opposed to “gun free zones”. I think places like the courthouse, where there’s metal detectors at the entrance and armed law enforcement officers present is okay to make a “gun free zone” because there’s active enforcement of such rules. This means the evil doers and law abiding citizens are on a level playing field. Evil doers are much less likely to do evil if they don’t have that unfair advantage that they want.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:29:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
tony frascarelli	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it is another example of government overreach designed to discourage people from purchasing, owning or carrying firearms. The provisions in the bill were obviously designed to be so onerous as to discourage firearms ownership.

it is sad that the proponents of this bill are not as zealous when it comes to targeting criminals and Oahus' ever increasing crime rate.

How about doing something useful like proposing and passing a legislative term limits bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:31:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Deborah Putnam, MD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We need clear requirements for eligibility for carrying a gun in public for the safety of Hawaii and it's residents. Thorough background checks for criminal and mental health review, along with proof of insurance for gun-related injuries and safety training for gun handling, as well as restrictions on where guns are allowed in public are needed.

And please consider strengthening the bill to prohibit carrying of firearms in ALL commercial establishments.

Please close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows long guns to be loaned to other persons without any license, permit, or background check, even for short periods!

Thank you!

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:34:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rebecca Kesler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a retired school teacher, I am heartbroken that children in our classrooms must do active shooter drills and that they and their parents live constantly under the cloud of school shootings. Gun licensing and regulations are one way of curbing access to these weapons.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:38:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
shayne pung	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose 669 in Hawaii.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:44:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Janie Bryan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello, This is my testimony on HB984 in SUPPORT of the bill.

I have been a resident of Hawaii since 1988 and a resident of Oahu since 2003. I am concerned about access to concealed carry in Hawaii. A measured approach to the process of permitting and where a hidden gun can be carried is in order. We can roll this out carefully now and see how this new option plays out on our Island. I support the idea of the sensitivie places covered in this bill and fully support a YES vote on this bill so we don't have to worry when we go out in the community at large, especially where alcohol is served, that someone is carrying a gun. The idea of concealed weapons makes me feel less safe. We must set clear boundries about who can and who can not receive permits and where they can and can not carry those weapons.

Thanks again for reading my testimony in support of this bill and for the thought and care you are giving to this important legislation.

Aloha, Janie Bryan

Maunalani Heights 96816

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:46:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tatiana Maumausolo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is unconstitutional!

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:48:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sam schaus	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB 984

we the people can legally protect ourselves anytime and anywhere. It's our constitutional right.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:57:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nicole Brown	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a law abiding citizen.

The 2nd Amendment protects my right to carry a firearm so that I may protect myself.

Bills like this do not support my rights as an American Citizen.

Bills like this actively restrict my rights and the rights of all Americans.

These laws empower and encourage criminals.

The average police response time can be anywhere from 3 minutes to 15 minutes, by that time I could be beaten, raped or killed.

Do not restrict my ability to protect myself or my family.

It is your responsibility to encourage your citizens to protect themselves and their community.

Unless your goal is to make your citizens victims.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:59:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Daniel Gabriel	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I disagree with this resolution.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:02:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Douglas C. Moose	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This act is unconstitutional. Most of the provisions it contains have been challenged in other states, and the courts have issued injunctions and restraining orders to prevent those states from enforcing the new laws. Judges issuing such an order in these types of cases indicate an expectation that the plaintiffs will likely prevail on the merits of the case.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:09:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Galen J. Pao	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom this may concern:

I, Galen J. Pao, would like to go on record opposing HB984. The "sensitive areas" set forth in HB984 literally encompasses all aspects of public life for all individuals in the State of Hawaii. The recent SCOTUS decision gives the right of citizens to carry firearms in public. HB984 denies this right for the citizens that want to exercise their right to bear arms in public. HB984 as stands is unconstitutional. I ask that those who drafted HB984 while taking the oath of office to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States review and amend HB984 to ensure that the rights of citizens to carry firearms in public are not violated. Also the requirement for a firearm concealed carry licensee to have liability insurance should be a choice, not a mandate from any government. I ask that HB984 be stricken from proceeding any further and that it be reviewed and amended to conserve the rights of law-abiding citizens who choose to exercise their right to carry firearms for self defense.

Thank you.

Galen J. Pao

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:26:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Karen L Worthington	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

2/13/2023

House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Hearing date 2/14/2023 at 2pm

for HB984 Relating to Firearms

Testimony IN SUPPORT of HB984

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Committee members,

I am writing to ask you to pass HB984 to protect Hawai'i families by ensuring that Hawaii has clear laws and requirements relating to owning and carrying a firearm. I speak as a parent and the daughter of an Army combat veteran who was a firearms coach and competitor. I believe that carrying a firearm in a public place is a privilege, and if not carried out legally and responsibly, has the potential to result in unintentional harm to others. The carrying of firearms in public places instills fear in many people and the rights of those people to be free from emotional and physical harm should be protected.

I ask that the legislature pass HB984 to provide clear guidance regarding where, when, how, and by whom firearms may be carried in Hawai'i. Please ensure that owners of firearms have clear guidance regarding their rights and obligations by passing this bill.

Sincerely,

Karen Worthington, Kula, Hawaii, 96790

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:37:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ryan Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly OPPOSE everything on HB984.

Every type of regulation has already been ruled unconstitutional in US District court out of New York.

On the topic of "Sensitive Place" alone, placing a "NO GUN ZONE" sign in that area is not going to keep criminals from doing criminal activity. e.g., Times Square is determined a "Sensitive Place" by the state of New York. They have had a stabbing at an arcade in MAY2022, Stabbing during New Years Eve festivities on 31DEC2022 with heightened police presence, and just a deadly shooting on 10FEB2023.

And locally, 13FEB2023, HONOLULU (KHON2) – "There have been more than 700 crime incidents reported to Honolulu Police within the past seven days."

Schools have been a "Sensitive Place" since 1994, criminals see this as a soft target and low to no resistance.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:39:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gretchen Gould	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB 984

I do not believe in anyone being able to carry a gun except law enforcement and military while on duty. Handguns are for only one purpose, to kill people.

If handguns are allowed, then we should at least have control over certain public venues, especially where there will be families and children. It is insane to let ordinary citizens to carry guns around willy nilly!!

Please pass this bill out.

Mahalo, Gretchen Gould, Hawaii resident since 1969

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:51:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aaron Urasaki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hi, I am strongly opposed to HB984. This bill will only hurt the law abiding gun owners in Hawaii because the criminals Will Not follow the laws.

Hawaii already has the most strict gun laws in the nation. Everytime I apply to get a handgun, HPD does a nationwide background check on me. Everytime I renew my long gun permit, HPD does a nationwide background check on me.

By making almost every place a gun free zone is invitation for criminals to do whatever they want since they know no one can protect themselves. A good number of mass shootings in the US have occured in gun free zones. For example, Fort Hood had (3) mass shootings even though it was a gun free zone. The gun free zone Did Nothing to prevent these shootings in a gun free zone. The people in those shootings were helpless to defend themselves as the shooting casually walked around shooting every person he saw.

Like I mentioned, Criminals Will Not Follow The Gun Free Zones Laws.

Honolulu has a gun show twice a year where there are thousands of guns at the show. There has never been a shooting at the gun show despite all the guns there. And criminals will never want to commit a crime in a place where people are armed to protect themselves.

Just like HPD officers, criminals rarely commit crimes against them. Why? Because the HPD officers are armed.

Same goes for Armored Security Guards. They like HPD have guns to Deter Crime.

Put yourself in a criminals mind. He or she has 2 choices, a store that has a sign that says No Weapons allowed versus a store that says CCW guns allowed but keep them holstered unless the need arises. The criminal will Always choose the easier target.

And we already cannot have any type of weapon in sensitive places such as the courts, airports, hospitals. And I agree that no one should have any kind of weapon in those areas.

If you're going to add more restrictions to law abiding citizens, please make it reasonable. This entire bill is very unreasonable to law abiding gun owners.



## **HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:59:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Josh Hekeka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

# Testimony HB 984

## **Firearms; Licenses; Registration; Enforcement; Insurance.**

Chairman David A Tarnas, Vice Chair Gregg Takayama, and members of House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

I offer the following comments on HB 984:

Much of what is proposed in HB984 is in violation of both the 2nd and 14th amendments. Furthermore, HB 984, is also in direct defiance of Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) rulings on Heller v. District of Columbia, 2008 (Heller), McDonald v. City of Chicago, 2012 (McDonald), Caetano v. Massachusetts, 2016 (Caetano), and NYSPRA v. Bruen, 2022 (Bruen).

I would like to also point to the latest developments on laws from former “may issue” states such as New York and New Jersey who have also established Sensitive Places. HB 984 bear an uncanny likeness to the laws listed below.

- **The State of New York's Concealed Carry Improvement Act (CCIA)** include concepts, and language that nearly matches that of HB 984. There are **five lawsuits** making their way through US Court of Appeals, 2nd District, contesting the legality of the CCIA. The lawsuits challenge concepts such as mandatory insurance, restricting the issuance of concealed carry weapons (CCW) permit to those deemed “good moral character,” and expanded the areas within “sensitive places.” Almost all the areas defined “sensitive places” were not classified as “sensitive places” prior to the issuance of the Bruen decision (June 2022).
- A federal judge in the 2nd District blocked key components of **State of New Jersey (NJ) Act A4769** on January 9, 2023. **NJ A4769** expands areas that are classified as “sensitive places,” restricts access to firearms of people “found to be lacking the essential character or temperament necessary to be entrusted with a firearm.” In the issuance of temporary restraining order **U.S. District Court Judge Renée Marie Bumb blocked the section of the law that prohibits guns from being carried into public libraries, museums, bars,**

**restaurants that serve alcohol, and entertainment facilities like stadiums, concerts, and theaters.** Justice Bumb stated, “The deprivation of plaintiffs’ Second Amendment rights, as the holders of valid permits from the state to conceal carry handguns, constitutes irreparable injury, and neither the state nor the public has an interest in enforcing unconstitutional laws.”

I oppose HB 984’s expanded classification of "sensitive places." Heller defined sensitive place as areas that had a historical analog on areas where arms were prohibited during the founding period (1791-1826). In the Bruen decision, the majority opinion noted that New York was in violation of the 2nd amendment as it attempted to declare all of Manhattan as a sensitive place. **The Sensitive Place doctrine**, as understood by SCOTUS in the four cases listed above, include Schools, Government Buildings, Court Houses, Prisons, and Polling Places.

If the State of Hawai‘i is to expand the definition of "sensitive places" beyond that which was accepted by SCOTUS, the Government (not private institutions, individuals, or businesses) has the burden to ensure, verify, and enforce the sensitive places are gun free. Therefore, in passing of this bill, the State of Hawai‘i would need use preventative measures such as sealing off public areas newly defined as sensitive places with such applications as fences, verifiable methods to seal off the newly declared “sensitive places,” and metal detectors so that these areas are indeed free of guns. Furthermore, as these areas are being declared in reaction to the issuance of the Bruen decision, it defies the SCOTUS ruling, and thus can be deemed unconstitutional.

To further support my testimony that HB 984 is unconstitutional, the Roberts Court has advanced a legal methodology in gauging the constitutionality of gun control laws. Previous method such as balancing test, strict scrutiny, tiered scrutiny, and accounting for the rights of individuals and the public interests has been discredited and deemed unlawful and incorrect evaluative process by SCOTUS. There is only one method that has been deemed lawful in evaluating the constitutionality of gun control regulations. That being the plain text of the Constitution (Plain Text Doctrine) as informed by history and relevant tradition on the United States longstanding governance on the use of firearms. Furthermore, in the ground breaking legal rulings previously mentioned (Heller, McDonald, Caetano, and Bruen), SCOTUS has determined the time frame to be used is 1791 (ratification of the US Constitution) through the passage of the 14th amendment (1868).

HB 984 is to become law, the State of Hawai‘i will have the burden to proof to demonstrate that the actions proposed by HB983 have historical analogs and applicable traditions during the period of 1791-1868. This committee should expect numerous legal challenges. In a recent challenge to the State of California's Magazine Capacity restrictions (Duncan v. Bonta), Justice Roger T. Benitez of the Southern District of California, directed that the California Attorney General's office (Rob Bonta) provide the court a spreadsheet of all state and national gun control regulations dating from 1791 to 1888 (20 years after the passage of the 14th amendment). The spreadsheet does go well beyond the accepted period directed by Judge Benitez but can be used as historical precedents to evaluate the constitutionality of all firearms laws nationwide using the Bruen Plain Text Doctrine.

The spreadsheet was submitted on January 16, 2023. That spreadsheet can be accessed via the link below.

<https://airtable.com/shrVnkmENgDHNAARBF/tblsHOpJfKXQyuqeF/viwZN34knJaPEgsGR?blocks=hide&referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.redditmedia.com%2F>

I am not an attorney, but from my review of the laws and statutes listed in the District Attorney of California's spreadsheet, I do not see any laws that list historical analogs that would substantiate the requiring of insurance to own and carry a firearm, nor expanding the definition of what is commonly accepted as a sensitive place as understood by the founding fathers (Court Houses, Polling places, Government Buildings, and Prisons) during the period from 1791-1868.

The expansion of gun free zones and insurance requirements of HB984 will not pass the Bruen Plain Text Doctrine, nor aligns with what is commonly accepted by our founding fathers as gun free zones.

If HB984 is passed as is currently written, we 2nd Amendment Advocates fully intend to challenge its constitutionality.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:04:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jeremy maii	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose parts of this bill pertaining to where a person can legally CCW. It basically makes it illegal to protect your self in public, which defetes the reason to legally have you fire arm for self defense. Yes state, federal buildings, financial institutions, hospitals make sense.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:16:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kanoe Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly OPPOSE everything on HB984.

Every type of regulation has already been ruled unconstitutional in US District court out of New York.

On the topic of "Sensitive Place" alone, placing a "NO GUN ZONE" sign in that area is not going to keep criminals from doing criminal activity. e.g., Times Square is determined a "Sensitive Place" by the state of New York. They have had a stabbing at an arcade in MAY2022, Stabbing during New Years Eve festivities on 31DEC2022 with heightened police presence, and just a deadly shooting on 10FEB2023.

And locally, 13FEB2023, HONOLULU (KHON2) – "There have been more than 700 crime incidents reported to Honolulu Police within the past seven days."

Schools have been a "Sensitive Place" since 1994, criminals see this as a soft target and low to no resistance.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:02:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eugene Healing	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Gun violence is mentioned in the first line of this bill. Gun violence is what criminals bring to our society, not law abiding citizens. It seems as though the legislature is treating law abiding citizens as criminals which is wrong. Because 2A supporters got a win with CCW from the Supreme Court, honolulu lawmakers are now retaliating by stomping law abiding citizens constitutional rights. Out of this whole bill, the only thing I support is ability to lock my gun in a safe in my automobile. I think law makers should let us defend ourselves and our families if we ever need to. CCW benefits society as well, since police can't be everywhere. Law abiding gun owners are responsible and are not the criminals bringing Gun violence to our state..... remember that.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:03:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tai Horen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB 984

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:22:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
scott miller	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it infringes upon our rights as citizens to keep and bear arms by limiting where i can protect myself and others from doing so in "sensitive places" as defined by the bill. there is no limitation in the 2nd ammendment and this would further waste time and money by losing more court cases. the Supreme court has ruled and this potentially violates the spirit of the ruling.

requiring firearms insurance should be a personal liability issue.

Firearms class are a personal choice and great idea. this should not be mandated as there isnt case law that shows negligent use is a problem. illegal use is a problem but laws already cover this. for the same reason, Firearms classes are not required every 4 years.

I oppose law with a Duty to inform when carrying a firearm. the right is fundamental right to bear for personal protection.

The existing firearm registration and Permitting process already requires a medical providers background check.no more should be required further uncumbering the process.

the waiting period to 14 days is standard across most states and sufficient and should not be extend which would further infringe and delay on the right to own, keep and bear.

permits should not be denied and the bill does not define in enough detail with cause for a basis on "public health, safety, or welfare" i oppose changes that more loosely define the mental prohibitions to open to broad interpretation. the law should be very specific and require a medical diagnosis.

i oppose a requirment that includes signing an affidavit agreeing to rules/laws. every citizen already must follow laws without more administrivia.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:35:03 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jon Fia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. The amount of points listed in this bill is a direct way of circumventing the supreme courts ruling regarding the 2nd amendment. It's almost asinine the amount of proposed hoops a legal and law abiding gun owner must go through to exercise their constitutional rights.

I understand the concern for increased gun violence. However, you are looking in the wrong place. Gun violence is already occurring and the majority of those involve a criminal that could care less about the laws for acquisition, permitting, carrying etc. They obtain the firearms illegally and don't follow any of the laws as they have no fear of the consequences. Why not focus your efforts on the criminals using guns instead of turning law abiding citizens into criminals as it is almost impossible not to violate one of the several obtuse rules/laws being proposed.

There could be some reasonable compromise with the sensitive places such as govt buildings but even a park? Do you not think people get assaulted at a park? Does the criminal care about that? It's as though the only place to legally carry a gun would be a sidewalk. Private businesses? Well they are private. Leave that decision to the owner.

Thank you for your time.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:47:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Timothy Miyao	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable House Judiciary Committee,

I write in regard to HB984 Relating to Firearms. This legislation has me very concerned. HB984 is far overreaching and prohibits a citizen from exercising his/her Constitutional right. What is the National historical tradition that would support each sensitive location identified in this legislation? HB984 also sets a precedent that a right should only be exercised by those wealthy enough. I urge you to please oppose HB984 in its current form.

In the Supreme Court decision *New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen*, it was determined that regulations, put in place by the government, must adhere to our national historical tradition that is widespread. A state's history is insufficient to be used to justify violations of a Constitutional right. The Supreme Court's opinion included, and I quote, "To justify its regulation, the government may not simply posit that the regulation promotes an important interest. Rather, the government must demonstrate that the regulation is consistent with this Nation's historical tradition of firearms regulation. Only if a firearm regulation is consistent with this Nation's historical tradition may a court conclude that the individual's conduct falls outside of the Second Amendment's "unqualified command"". For your convenience, I attach a link to the US Supreme Court Ruling for *New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen*: [https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843\\_7j80.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843_7j80.pdf)

In our national history voting service centers and government buildings were places that limited a citizen's constitutional right. These would pass the litmus test of our Nation's historical tradition of firearms regulation.

Many other places in this bill would not adhere to our National historical tradition.

Artistic venues, parks, and theaters do not meet the criteria of National historical tradition. Restaurants that serve alcohol do not meet the criteria of National historical tradition.

Modes of public transportation, such as buses also fail to meet the National historical tradition criteria. Washington DC is being taken to court for prohibiting carry on their Metro system. HB984 would prohibit a citizen's right to self-defense on buses. What of the people who rely on

the city bus? How would they protect themselves walking between the bus stop and their home at night?

While Government buildings and judiciary buildings are no carry zones, adjoining parking lots should not be prohibited areas. According to HB984 if a law-abiding citizen leaves their firearm in a vehicle that is parked in a parking lot (in order to do business in a building where carry is prohibited) then he/she would be guilty of a crime. If a citizen is not permitted to carry a firearm on his/her person in a prohibited building and is unable to secure their firearm in their vehicle, where would the firearm go? HB984 is unclear about this. Would the citizen leave the firearm in a locked container on the sidewalk beyond the perimeter of the parking lot? Alternatively, will all prohibited locations have firearm check-in points where citizens can leave their firearms until completing their business/leaving? States who have long histories of conceal/open permit citizens to leave their firearms in their vehicle (when needing to access a government building/prohibited location).

Prohibition on the carry of firearms on private property, if determined and advertised by the property owner, meets the criteria of National historical tradition. However, HB984 inappropriately adds that it is the responsibility of the businesses to post signs saying that “carry is permitted”. In other states, businesses are responsible for posting a sign indicating that NO carry is allowed. This would also align with the widespread concept of establishments posting “No smoking” and “No food or drinks allowed”. Firearm business owners in Hawaii have often been harassed by unsavory members of the public. This harassment would no doubt escalate and include any business that posts a sign that carry is welcome.

HB984 also contains language on additional fees and training courses. By imposing additional costs on citizens who wish to exercise their Constitutional Right, HB984 would only permit them to do so if they are wealthy enough to afford it. A Constitutional Right is guaranteed to a citizen regardless of class and financial status. Is it Constitutional for HB984 to make exercising a right cost prohibitive? Further per *Murdock v. Pennsylvania* is it Constitutional for the government to charge citizens in order to exercise a right?

While education and training should be available to the public--having training requirements, in order to exercise a right, is questionable. When tasers were legalized in the State of Hawaii, a training requirement became law. Training courses for tasers are not available in many places around the state. As a result, people living in these areas cannot purchase a taser. As firearm training programs are not readily available throughout the state (as mentioned in HB984), it would be a de facto ban on exercising a Constitutional right (much as it was in the case of procuring tasers). Is this the intent of the training language in HB984? If not: who will offer these training courses? How long would it take for these training courses to become available? Will the State shoulder the costs for these training courses?

When reviewing HB984 I humbly ask that you please carefully consider the United States Constitution and Supreme Court ruling in *New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen*. Many components of HB984 infringe on Constitutional rights without meeting the requirement

of National historical tradition. I also please ask that you consider *Murdock v. Pennsylvania* when considering fees on citizens in order for them to exercise a Constitutional right. As many components of this bill are arguably unconstitutional I ask that you please oppose HB984.

I appreciate your time and all that you do for the people of Hawaii!

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:52:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
austin gopsis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please stop. Blatantly violates second amendment. If it's a right you can't make people take classes to enjoy their right. Please resign you don't represent your constituents crafting nonsense and violates their rights. You are not to be trusted.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:52:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ron Knopp	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly oppose everthing in this bill with the exception of extending the CCW license to 2 years. I would perfer 5 years. Lawful abiding citizens with concealed firearms should be allowed to carry in sensitive places. Criminals do not recognize or obeys laws, so this bill will do nothing to stop violent crimes from happening. The Supreme Court has laid the groundwork for all current and future laws pertaining to the Second Ammendment. You can not make every place sensitive just beacuse you want to, you need to research historical references when deciding what are sensitive places.

Respectfully,

Ron Knopp

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:44:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
William Hawkins	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:44:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Anthony Loui	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

This testimony refers to HB984 and restricted areas/sensitive places for concealed carry.

I understand the worry about guns now being allowed by regular citizens to be carried in public. On the extreme end, there are all these what-ifs and it could turn out to be like a lawless cowboy shoot-out. What if I get shot over a simple argument or road rage incident? What if someone goes crazy and shoots up the place because they are allowed to legally carry a concealed gun? I can't say I haven't had those thoughts as well. My rational side does kick in to bring things back to reality though.

Looking over the regulations and requirements for obtaining a CCW in Honolulu is both extensive and expensive. Prohibitively expensive for my personal situation. It would take me a long time to save up enough money for all the classes and documentation needed to even apply for a CCW not to mention the relatively long time to be processed by HPD as well as all the concealed specific types of gear needed to safely carry the firearm and accessories. Even a proper wardrobe is a thing I never knew about before my research. All of this is to drive the point that a regular person who goes through all of this is more than likely not going to give it all up and use their firearm in a fit of rage or over a small argument. They want, as best consensus as I can find, the ability to answer with like force if lethal force is used/threatened against them. In other words, the ability to defend themselves in life-threatening situations with the same level of force.

Prohibiting the regular CCW citizen from so many areas, to me would defeat the entire point of CCW. Should there be certain places they are not allowed? I agree there should be but my list of what I would consider reasonable places that should be prohibited is much much smaller. I oppose this bill on the simple principle that this bill would make the point of CCW invalid by not allowing said CCW holder to have their firearm in so many places.

The unintended fallout I would reason would be an increase in the theft of firearms and therefore directly increasing guns in the hands of criminals. Mainly because if a CCW holder is prohibited from having the firearm on them, they would store the firearm in a locked box in their vehicle. Vehicle theft and break-ins have been on a major rise in recent years so I would assume the increase in stolen firearms would also happen. To me, the safest place for a CCW would be on the person, in their control. The person who has gone through background checks and obtained



all the necessary documentation to show they do not intend to use the firearm in a criminal manner.

Will there be possible firearm-related accidents? Yes. That is how statistics work. As the Federal Supreme court has allowed CCW as a right, there will be a rise in firearm incidents. The current system to get a CCW seems to be on the higher end/more restrictive compared to a majority of other states. Comparing to other states that do allow CCW none as far as I can tell turned into the wild west or saw a massive increase in CCW holders using their firearms in illegal ways. One study that made the national news indicated that statistically speaking, CCW holders were convicted of fewer crimes than the national average. I would have to assume the major reasoning is that they do not want to lose their ability to have a CCW or own firearms. Especially with how many things a person has to do to even apply for a CCW in Honolulu. Due to this, I would reason a vast majority of CCW holders here in Hawaii would reflect the statics seen in other states that have had CCW for a long time already.

Thank you for your time.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:57:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Daniel Covert	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Less than 3 weeks after a similar bill in NJ was passed it was struck down by a federal judge with a TRO. The same thing happened in New York. Both of these bills were less restrictive than this one. This bill will not last more than 1 month in court. I oppose.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:04:32 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tyler Robb	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB 984 as it puts undue difficulty on current as well as new law abiding citizens who wish to own a firearm. As an NRA certified instructor this directly affects myself, not only pursuing but exercising my rights under the 2nd Amendment. Please vote against HB 984 and thank you for your time.

Mahalo, Tyler Robb

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:14:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael A. Wee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE HB984. Criminals will take their guns wherever they want. They don't care about restrictions. Gun-free zones only enable criminal behavior. Law-abiding citizens lose the right to self-defense. This measure does nothing to deter criminal behavior. Additionally, license fees to exercise a constitutional right are just money grabs!

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:21:48 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joshua Drye	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello.. I strongly oppose of this bill... When will people stop attacking the rights of the law abiding citizens of our country??? You keep coming up with these bills that do absolutely nothing to stop criminals.. why is it ok to keep making it harder for the good people to protect them selves? It's already hard enough to even own a firearm.. now you try to take away our rights to carry. What's the purpose of giving concealed carry if there's nowhere they are allowed? It's not just about our right to bear arms. It's about our right to protect our lives.. I live in a very rural place 100 mi round trip from work.. there's crime everyday. it takes 45 minutes for police to show up in my area.. nobody is going to go through the process of trying to get a legal firearm take all the classes and pay all the bills to be able to conceal carry just to turn around and commit crimes. Stop attacking the good guys. And start coming up with laws that actually make The bad people stop doing bad things. Why is it okay to play terrible TV shows that show murder and rape. Putting sick things in people's minds and then say we're the bad ones because we want to protect ourselves from the people that do bad things. Please do something right. Create laws that actually stop the bad guys.. and stop trying to keep the good guys from doing the right things. Mahalo

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:14:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Grant Nagata	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

I'm writing in opposition of HB984. I'm a husband and father of 3 young boys. The locations where firearms are proposed to be prohibited are the places we frequent and enjoy together as a family. These locations are typically chosen by those with ill intent because greatest damage and injury can be inflicted in these areas. Those committed to inflicting this kind of damage and injury will do so regardless of any signage or consequence. By restricting law abiding citizens from protecting ourselves and our family, it creates a greater opportunity for those looking to do harm because they know that no one will be there to stop them.

I am also a local Government employee and I am usually one of the last individuals to leave the building. There are many instances where I am the sole person leaving the building and needing to walk through an empty parking lot at night. I would like to be afforded the ability to carry a firearm to ensure that I can defend myself and make it home to my family, but this bill would restrict me from doing so. For these reasons I respectfully oppose bill HB684.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Grant Nagata

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:20:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good afternoon,

I strongly oppose this bill being introduced for many reasons and please read my entire testimony because Hawaii is unique that we have a wide range of lifestyles there are a lot of city life and country life. One introduced law for a city might hinder the life of the people in the country. I have to live in both city and country life I deal with livestock. Weather you past this bill and add a clause in to state weather this bill will effect city or country life it will adversely effect a law abiding citizen. When we need to move livestock that is always unpredictable it is the responsibility of the citizen moving them to protect others due to the possibility a animal shall become loose durning transport or leading up to transport. What is being introduces will not allow us to legally have a firearm to protect me my family or others with us shall a 2000lb animal become aggressive and wild.

second I was on a trip to Honolulu last week where I actually witnesses a female who was alone waiting to use the public transportation along alamoana boulevard near ward that was surrounded by homeless people. she was so uncomfortable and you could tell by the way she clutched her bag. If you make it illegal to carry a firearm on public transportation which in general once you are on the bus you should feel safe but nothing is being done to adress while you wait to use public transportation. There is no police or city official at every bus stop or public park to maintain your safety.

As far as insurance, the responsibility shall fall on the entity that is stripping the public from lawfully defending themselves and an insurance policy shall be taken out to cover damages for not allowing you to defend yourself shall a incident happen or provide a armed security to guarantee that you will not be harmed and striped of the right of the second amendment.

There have been no studies to show that this type of legislation will have any positive effect on the general public. It showed that the person who introduced this bill has no knowledge of how this state is truly diverse.

With this legislation you will negatively effect the citizens of Hawaii their rights under the second amendment.

I oppose this legislation! Please note that as responsible firearm owners we carry the burden that how we treat, use and store our firearm could carry a life sentence in prison if something shall go wrong, which is a huge weight. Majority of the firearm crimes are committed by those who do not belong possessing one.

Thank you for your time



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:46:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Ruiz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stop infringing on our Second Amendment rights!

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:52:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jun Look	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I need a safe place to live! I will not feel safe of guns are not prohibited in all commercial establishments, including restaurants and bars ( actually any venue that serves alcohol).

Why are we having to nit pick on every single place that one cannot carry a gun? I should not have to worry if the guy/gal next to me is armed .

HB984 is astep in the right direction.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:56:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
JY	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

I strongly oppose HB 984.

This bill will not increase public safety since it does not do anything to take "guns" out of the hands of criminals.

This bill is targeting lawful gun owners who have legally obtained the proper permits to own firearms.

Bill HB 984, instead is punishing law-abiding citizens by creating more laws and regulations towards the concealed permit process.

Thank you for your time and attention.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:06:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Emerson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Why would there bans on sensitive places when really these places would be the most vulnerable. There counterintuitive, getting robbed at home and you cant use it. That is infringement on the second amendment and that will only empower the evil doers. Example, school shootings. No guns allowed but per say an individual who intends to do harm. What will there be to protect. The police are not there to protect, theyre only there to enforce laws. That law would make people more vulnerable.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:26:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Godfrey Akaka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha my name is Godfrey Akaka Jr. I am in strong opposition of this bill as it is a direct infringement on our 2nd amendment rights. Further, this bill encourages private businesses to infringe on our rights as well. By taking away our right to carry in almost everywhere, will allow criminals to freely victimize unarmed citezens whenever they please with no protections for the public. Busneses as well as public and state locations will not be safe places for citizens to protect themselves against fire arm threats from criminals as law makers are attempting to disarm good standing citizens. This bill is an injustice to the people and children in our communities.

Mahalo.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:04:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maxwell Robinson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom this may concern

Hello my name is Maxwell Robinson, of the day I am writing this it is 1 day before the state legislature in the state of Hawaii discusses HB984 and this is my official written testimony opposing the bill. I would like to first and foremost state that I respect the institution of law and I do believe it is important to have laws in place to maintain public safety. However HB984 does not maintain public safety but what it does do is infringe on the rights of individuals exercising their constitutionally protected rights AKA the 2nd Amendment to the United States Constitution. As a active federal law enforcement officer here on Oahu this bill is not going to maintain public safety, all this is doing is disarming people who had to jump through many hoops to get a license to carry in the first place. Criminals don't follow the law HB984 is not going to stop criminals enforcement of current laws will. Banning carry in public areas like restaurants, parks, beaches, or anywhere that doesn't have a sign to authorize carry is ridiculous because it is all places people commonly go. So please consider opposing HB984 Mahalo for you time. I hope you have a wonderful rest of your day.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:13:05 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Carolyn Pearl	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Carolyn Pearl and I strongly support the passage of HB 984. For the thirty-plus years I've lived in Honolulu, I've always felt safe here. But now I have to wonder whether someone is carrying a gun - and whether they may be having a bad day - anywhere I go. That makes me feel much less safe in our community.

Statistics repeatedly show that in states across the country, stronger gun laws consistently result in fewer gun-related deaths. As a result of Hawaii's common sense gun laws, we have one of the lowest rates of gun deaths in the USA. Hawaii has had a strong law in place to make sure that people weren't carrying firearms in public unless they had a specific need to do so. Because of this state law, we've had fewer risks of tense situations escalating into gunfire and fewer risks of guns being used for intimidation, or accidentally being fired, in public spaces.

The US Supreme Court's recent Bruen decision has removed that safeguard and more people will now be more likely to be carrying guns anywhere we go. This makes all of us less safe. We need clear boundaries on where people can and can't bring firearms. We also need strong, common sense standards to assure that these armed citizens are trained and competent in the safe handling and storage of their weapons.

Please pass HB 984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:23:52 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alice Abellanida	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. The 2nd amendment clearly states that it shall not be infringed. This is the epitome of infringement. To vote for this is to violate your oath to the Constitution.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:55:47 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Angelo Khan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha all! My name is Angelo Khan, I grew up in Hawaii and have called it my home for many years. I wanted to reach out to you all with my thoughts concerning HB984. Hawaii isn't the same place that I, and many others grew up in. There has been a great increase in violent crimes and we, the citizens of Hawaii need to have a way to protect ourselves and our families. I served in the U.S. Marine Corps and have many close family and friends in law enforcement. I can say for a fact that criminals do not follow laws and will not follow HB984. The only thing I see HB984 doing is hurting the good people who do follow the laws. I'm reaching out to you all to ask you to please consider opposing HB984. HB984 does nothing but restrict the right of defending one's self and family. Banning carry in public areas such as parks, beaches, restaurants, etc... will hurt us good people the most, those are some of the most high risk areas when it comes to violent crimes and I can assure you the criminals will keep doing what they are doing. The good people already needed to jump through so many hoops just to be able to apply for our license to carry, I believe that increasing the costs associated with the application process will just hurt already struggling people who are still recovering from the economic crisis we all live in. HB984 essentially restricts the rights of the good people who simply want to feel safe. I say this again, criminals do not follow laws and will not follow HB984, this will only hurt the good people. Thank you all for your time and Aloha.

## HB984 Relating to Firearms

I strongly support the Legislature's efforts this year to renew and reinforce our state's admirable established commitment to limitations on the use of guns in Hawaii and standards of eligibility for carrying a gun in public.

A clear majority of Hawaii's people wants to reduce the risk to the public in from injury, trauma and death from firearms by clearly spelling out sensitive places where firearms should be carried in public and guarding against the use of firearms by individual people who should not be carrying a firearm due to their mental health condition or criminal background.

HB984 represents considerable effort on your part and public input already. It is a good start, but I see a need for some additional protections.

First, please close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles!!!) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, and loaned to people without any license, permit or background check. I was surprised to read about this "hole in the fence" and urge you to eliminate this source of injury and save many lives over the years. There surely are other, less risky, means of getting more personal protection for a family member or friend who suddenly feels in need of it and neither has a gun or the training for responsible use and locked storage for one.

Second, carrying firearms into all commercial establishments should be prohibited, not just those that serve alcohol, other intoxicating or controlled substances. Should we unnecessarily start to fear going to the grocery store, a gas station or restaurants, etc. because firearms aren't specifically prohibited there and the recent Supreme Court decision has opened more doors to carrying guns?

Perhaps the Supreme Court decision forces us to try our best to list every sensitive place and circumstance. But it seems like it would be more effective to simply list the places and circumstances where a licensed gun owner could legally carry a firearm and make it clear that any other places in the Hawaiian islands are *kapu* for carrying guns.

*Mahalo nui loa* for considering my views.

Janet Thebaud Gillmar  
3035 La-I Road  
Palolo Valley

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 2:50:01 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Janice Johnson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This Bill does not benefit a law abiding US citizen but rather seeks to create obstacles and difficulty of our Right To Bare Arms to protect our life, our home, our family, and our community. Such Bill should seek to not discourage our Rights and protection in Hawaii but to encourage confidence knowing the safety of our life, our home, our family, our community is not at stake against criminals. Such Bill should work for the law abiding citizen and not against. Therefore, I OPPOSE this Bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 2:57:29 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Howard Suguitan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 5:58:46 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
William Spence	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Bruen, the SCOTUS found that NY unconstitutionally limited a person's right to defend themselves outside of the home, and the law was so restrictive there was almost no place that someone could transport (let alone carry) a firearm. They also said limitations could be placed on sensitive locations.

This bill, if passed, would put the state in essentially the same situation as Bruen because it would make almost everywhere a sensitive location. If passed, this law would be overturned.

I have great respect for our legislature and the legislative processes, but please, let us not spend the time and energy to pass laws that are unconstitutional to begin with.

William Spence

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 6:39:40 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lyle HIromoto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I respectfully oppose this bill because crime can happen anywhere. Examples would be right outside police stations and in Walmart parking lots. Criminals do not obey laws only law-abiding citizens.

Thank you

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 6:52:59 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Frank Schultz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

[House Bill 984](#) greatly restricts the right-to-carry in Hawaii. It massively expands “gun-free zones” where law-abiding citizens are left defenseless and also prohibits carrying firearms on private property unless the owner gives affirmative permission. Citizens who carry firearms are required to maintain insurance coverage of at least \$100,000 per person and \$300,000 per incident and carry proof of insurance. It also creates new subjective criteria for the issuance of carry permits to allow authorities to arbitrarily deny applicants.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 7:50:27 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
William Iaela	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to OPPOSE HB984 on the grounds that seeks to impose undue burdens on citizens who wish to exercise their 2nd Amendment rights guaranteed to them in the Bill of Rights to the U.S. Constitution.

In placing high insurance coverage requirements upon legal gun owners the cost of which one cannot estimate because to my knowledge it is non-existent here in Hawaii, in restricting the ability to legally carry a firearm for those who must take medication to deal with pain/ mobility issues who by definition would have a harder time defending themselves if the need were to arise, in greatly limiting where people can carry their firearms to protect themselves, in placing unduly restrictive testing and licensing requirements in the application process just to mention a few items, it is my opinion that this an attempt by legislators who are unabashedly anti - gun rights to force their agenda on the citizens of Hawaii.

It seems to me to be an attempt get around the Supreme Court decisions handed down in recent memory. Again, I firmly OPPOSE this measure and ask you to vote against it,

William Iaela

rights



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 8:13:01 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marisa Pangilinan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for hearing this bill out, I ask you to support it. I am a mom to two young children and am very concerned about creating clear boundaries on where someone can carry a gun in public. Please keep our Keiki safe by making strong laws to protect everyone. Thank you.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 8:21:55 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dustie Nelson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 8:31:54 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
James Logue	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this legislation.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 8:42:22 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jonathan Fong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I strongly oppose HB984. Just about every part of this bill is unconstitutional. The 2nd amendment is a right and everything about this bill would infringe on it. The law abiding citizens that purchase and use firearms legally would be the only ones to suffer from these overbearing and overreaching rules. Criminals don't care about laws and none of this would affect them. Please do the right thing and oppose this bill. Mahalo.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 8:48:54 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dennis Miller	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am an honest and law abiding citizen that believes in the right to defend ourselves if needed.

This law would create more restrictions on my constitutional right to protect myself making it more burdensome and costly.

Mahalo

Dennis Miller

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:01:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laurie T.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a concerned parent I strongly support this bill because guns have only proven to kill and not protect. I am especially concerned that the leniency of gun laws in the U.S. will only lead to an increase in gun violence, as the facts overwhelmingly demonstrates. We must pass this bill so we will have **clear requirements for eligibility** for carrying a gun in public; **thorough** criminal background and mental health review; **robust safety training requirements; proof of insurance** for gun-related injuries, and **restrictions on where firearms can be carried in public.**

I request HB 984 be amended and strengthened to:

- Prohibit carrying of firearms in all commercial establishments, regardless of whether the establishment serves alcohol.
- Close the loophole in HRS 134-4(c) that allows shotguns and rifles (including assault rifles) to be loaned to other persons for 15-75 days, without any license, permit or background check.

Gun violence is now the leading cause of death for children (CDC, 2023). Our death by gun rate is over 20 times higher than other industrialized countries in the world. Despite the arguments that more guns will help protect schools, churches and other public places, the data proves that guns are rarely used in self-defense and much more often for intentional killing. In 2012, for every "justifiable" homicide--that is, defined by the FBI as "the killing of a felon, during the commission of a felony, by a private citizen" (FBI, 2012)--there are: 34 criminal gun homicides, 78 gun suicides, and 2 accidental gun deaths (FBI, 2012; CDC, 2012). The argument that conceal and carry laws will increase public safety is not supported by the facts. A study from Stanford University in 2014 found that state concealed carry laws actually lead to an increase in violent crime (Violence Policy Center, 2016).

The U.S. has the highest number of civilian gun ownership in the world, with an estimated 120.5 firearms per 100 residents (Small Arms Survey, 2018). There are more guns in circulation than there are people in the U.S. Repeatedly studies have shown that more guns in a community lead to more homicide (Gilson, 2016; Hemenway, 2004).

I support Hawaii's efforts to continue taking vigorous precautions to protect public safety, and am grateful to the legislators who are helping to put this bill into place.

Mahalo piha.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:14:59 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tom Galli	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please vote against this bill. It does nothing to enhance public safety. It does serve to erode constitutional rights and place additional taxpayer burdens.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:19:05 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cody G	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is just adding more requirements to an already complex process to legally carry a concealed weapon. There is no data to support that the existing pre-screening by medical providers, classroom and live fire training, and paperwork for License to Carry requirements are not sufficient. As of right now, what we do know is that the existing process is so cumbersome that a large backlog exists for the Chief of Police to review and approve the pending applications.

The proposed requirements will not reduce violent crimes or reduce the amount of illegally possessed or carried weapons on our island. This will only limit the ability for legal firearm owners (with a license to carry) ability to defend ones self and family, while the criminals will know specifically where the populace will be vulnerable and have to be unarmed, defined as sensitive places.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:22:47 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Don Clark	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Do not give criminals, violent criminals, another path to commit their crimes. An armed society becomes a polite society because criminals don't want equality, they want dominance and they get it by limiting where law-abiding citizens can carry their personal protection firearms.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:23:25 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Terry	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i opposes HB984 because it greatly restricts the right-to-carry in Hawaii by expanding “gun-free zones,” requiring citizens maintain insurance to exercise their right-to-carry, and creates new subjective criteria for the issuance of carry permits to allow authorities to arbitrarily deny applicants.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:27:22 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rebekah Botello	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:32:26 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tito Castillo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this proposed legislation. I am not sure what part of "shall not be infringed" do the bill sponsors not understand? Every single legislator that is supporting this bill is violating their oath to the constitution. This bill would violate our constitutional rights as recently upheld by the SCOTUS. Furthermore, studies show that "gun free zones" are more likely to attract criminals who intend to cause harm because they know no one will be there to stop them and by the time Police arrive, the damage will have been done. Studies have also shown that in states where there are open carry and unrestricted constitutional right to keep and bear arms, criminals are less likely to go on shooting sprees. And in areas where there have been active shooters, it was the armed LAW ABIDING citizen who was there to stop the further loss of life by neutralizing the threat, and in doing so, protecting themselves and their families and saving many lives. I am strongly opposed to any further restrictions on clear and lawful Constitutional rights that have recently been upheld by the Supreme Court of the United States. I am opposed to HB984. This Bill should NOT move forward.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:33:16 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Trevor Bowman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose , this is a clear violation of my rights.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:33:13 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elijah Medeiros	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose House Bill HB984. Some of the restrictions being proposed if enacted would place an undue hardship on laws abiding citizens financially. The whole purpose of the second amendment of the US constitution and which is word for word in our Hawaii constitution is " shall not be infringed ". This bill proposes that pretty much the only place you can carry a firearm is in your car and at your personal residence. If you look at Data, majority of violent crimes that have been stopped by a law abiding citizen with a CCW has been in the places that you are trying to restrict us from carrying. Criminals DON'T follow/abide by the laws we already have in place. So the only people HB984 will truly affect are the law good Ciro that follow the laws. This bill will not protect people. It will hurt them. Criminals will target the places mentioned in this bill and any other bill which poses restrictions on being able to carry a CCW in certain places because they know people cannot defend themselves. They won't be meet with resistance. I urge you the vote no in the passing of theirs bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:39:03 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Harper	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

why is there yet another useless gun law being proposed to restrict the lawfull gun owner ? it will not stop any crimes, its just another hurdle for law abiding, the criminals are the problem not the rest of us, do something about the criminals and leave the rest of us alone.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:49:41 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Reaume	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill it imposes on my right to defend myself and my family

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:48:53 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lesha Mathes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

These are violations of our 2nd amendment! All this does is guarantee that the only armed people in gun free zones will be criminals. Remember, they're criminals, they don't obey the law. As far as the insurance: Why should there be such a burden placed on law abiding citizens for exercising their right to carry? Criminals won't be carrying insurance. This is a total overreach of the Hawaiian Gov't and is totally unconstitutional. Quit interfering with our rights! You do not get to tell us where we can or can not carry or if we can! We can carry anywhere!

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:52:35 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brian Isaacson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is contrary to the recent Supreme Court decision affirming individual gun rights, would establish gun free zones where criminals could act with impunity, and require insurance which doesn't exist or which would be unaffordable - altogether unconstitutional.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:53:51 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kevin J. Cole	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Greetings,

I oppose this Bill. The Constitutional rights of the citizens are not subject to change by local government.

Mahalo,

KJ Cole

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:59:53 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert Coster	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I find it incredible that our representatives are spending so much time on trying to destroy the Second Ammendment by these continued bills packed with all kinds of INFRINGEMENTS to our naturally given rights. Most everything in this bill will be challenged and defeated in higher court(s) and is nothing more than a huge waste of State resources. I urge all representatives to cease and desist generating these continued bills that seem to get longer and longer and make less and less sense. Please do the people you represent a huge favor and read our Constitution and if you are confused of any meanings I direct your attention to the Federalist Papers for your clarification. STOP TRYING TO RESTRICT AND INFRINGE CITIZENS RIGHTS. JUST STOP.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 10:02:39 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Daniel Wang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to voice my opposition to this bill. Certain sections of this bill violate the 2nd amendment and the 2022 ruling of the Supreme Court We need to stop wasting tax payers dollars fighting lawsuits that would rise from unnecessary bills like this. Other sections of this bill are a clear violation of privacy.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 10:18:10 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nalu Boersma	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. I do not believe it will help, rather it will create more problems and only infringe on law abiding citizens.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 10:21:51 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alan Mefford	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is far too broad, covering too many topics and, in total is in violation of the Supreme Court interpretation of the 2nd Admendment. It is bad legislation and must be voted down.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 10:31:47 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
LEE JEAL	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am taking this opportunity to voice my opposition to HB984. I have been a gun owner and concealed licensed carrier (in another state) for many years, but in my home state of Hawaii I was denied my 2nd amendment constitutional right to self defense by a de-facto ban carried out by all of our states police chiefs.

The United States Supreme court, in its New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen decision, made it clear that it is every law abiding American citizens right to "Keep & Bear Arms", and so we now are given the ability to get our CCW her in Hawaii as should always have been the case.

Now though, without the buffer of the Police Chiefs veto, our legislature wish to make it all but impossible to exercise our rights again, by enacting statutes that will basically limit the carrying of concealed weapon to your home, your car, and the sidewalk.

No other Constitutional Right of law abiding citizens is restricted to this extent, and again I state "LAW ABIDING CITIZENS" who have taken the time to qualify with their weapon (at great expense in many cases) gone through a backround check, and a mental health check, all to now be denied the right be able to defend themselves in all the places they might visit on daily basis in their lives.

As an example, it is illegal to drink and drive, yet every bar, club, and restaurant has customers that all drove there, and will drive home, almost certainly after having a drink, and studies show that alcohol is more than twice as deadly as handguns in the United States, yet you choose to impose more restrictions on handguns

Those people who do not uphold the law, will not be restricted in their abiltiy to cause harm or threaten, as they will simply ignore these rules, whilst we would remain defenseless.

Please vote against these unconstitutional measures, and fully understand the United States Supreme Courts Bruen decision, You all swore an oath to protect and defend the constitution, do so now.

Yours Sincerely

Lee Jeal



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 10:32:41 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stanley Mendes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB984

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 10:46:04 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
gary post	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB 984 ignores recent SCOTUS rulings regarding the issue of carry.

this is clearly an unconstitutional bill and will subject the State of Hawaii to bear the cost of litigation in a losing cause.

Even though we are in the middle of the Pacific, we are still part of the United States of America, and laws like HB 984 have already been struck down by the Supreme Court of the United States.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 11:04:06 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Botello	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I **STRONGLY OPPOSE** this piece of legislation. So many of the provisions are onerous and burdensome on the citizens who simply want to exercise their constitutional rights. A right that has been denied for decades in this state. It is obvious that the state legislature treats the 2nd amendment as a second class right. This bill reads like a wish list of prohibitions on firearms ownership. A shotgun approach where the legislators throw everything at the gun community and hope that it all sticks. This has less to do with public safety and more to do with hatred for firearms and a blatant dismissal of the specifically enumerated constitutional right to keep and bear arms.

Legislators, kills this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 11:16:30 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elijah Kim	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it is unconstitutional. Stop trying to disarm and criminalize law-abiding citizens. Give us our rights to bear arms! Any politician that supports HB984 does not belong in politics because they are against freedom and do not support the constituents.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 11:34:39 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Matsumoto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Here are few of the things I STRONGLY OPPOSE in HB984:

1) Banning LAW ABIDING citizens from carrying firearms in "sensitive" places where criminals already carry firearms is not fair for LAW ABIDING citizens. My wife is a High School teacher and I do not allow her to stay late or attend functions at night because I fear for her safety. She has NOTHING to protect her from a criminal because the State already restricts many things she could use for protection. Calling the POLICE would take too long to respond and by then, it'll be too late.

2) Forcing LAW ABIDING citizens to take a firearms course every four years because firearm owners already know the laws on owning firearms. Who will pay for the course if I can't afford it?

3) Firearm insurance should be an option not a requirement because owning a firearm is a RIGHT, not a PRIVILEGE.

4) I have no duty to inform anyone that I'm carry a firearm because it's my constitutional right to own and carry a firearm. Rewriting the rules just to limit more people from owning firearms is unconstitutional.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE everything in this bill because it infringes on my Second Amendment rights as a law abiding citizen. I'd rather see bills going after our rising crime instead of going after LAW ABIDING citizens like myself.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 11:41:11 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Stewart	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill for reasons that will follow!

Unfortunately, it appears that this bill has been purposely crafted to cover so many wide-ranging issues that submitting a testimony about every unpalatable point in this 74 page bill is virtually impossible for the average citizen. This lack of accessibility is a strike and stragety against the people & creates a significant obstacle and barrier to effective citizen input. If I were to speak pointedly, I believe that this is a designed strategy to ram a bunch of things through because it is so difficult to comment on every point within the words of a written testimony.

This bill is absolutely not in line with the recent SCOTUS decision of [New York State Rifle & Pistol Association Inc. v. Bruen](#) . This ruling requires that there be history and context for every law enacted regarding the 2nd & 14th Ammendments of the United States as regards the carrying of firearms. The myriad portions of this bill do not fit the SCOTUS ruling in the Bruen case that government should, "look to text, history, and tradition."

It is my expectation that the text of our US Constitution stating, "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." would be strongly upheld my our government Representatives. "Shall not be infringed" is an unambiguous statement! However, this bill seeks to infringe on numerous levels - to the extent that infringements would be far greater than liberties. Even if there was something closer to a balance, this bill and its intentions would still be in error compared to the standard of the SCOTUS's interpretation of the 2nd and 14th Ammendments and their application in everyday life.

I strongly oppose every part of this bill and would add that the writers of this bill be censured for, at the very least, not doing their homework regarding the SCOTUS ruling and our nation's Constitution - at worst, by attempting to remove Constitutional rights from the people of this State and County.

If this bill were to pass, it would place extreme hardship on me as the head of my household with regards to my personal responsibility to care for the safety and wellbeing of myself, my wife, and our 2 children. I am not a criminal and I abide by the laws of our land. However, I also have a responsibility to pay my bills for my home and property, the government does not do this for me. I have to make sure my family is fed and cared for regarding their health - the government does not do this for me. It is also my personal responsibility to maintain the safety and security



of my family both at home and outside of our home - the government does not do this for me. I, and my family, have not been provided a personal bodyguard and our depleted police department cannot possibly respond to every need for protection immediately. There is a reason why there is a saying that goes, "When seconds count, the police are just minutes away." This reason is because it is absolutely true that the police may be generally present in our community, but they are almost never near enough to actually engage a need for protection that arises in an emergent fashion.

This bill would effectively, remove my ability to protect myself and my family in the most effective way possible and with the most effective tools available to me.

Stop this bill from advancing or ever being reintroduced in any form or at any other time. This bill is abhorrent to our US Constitution and to me as a citizen of the United States of America in what should be a representative form of government. This bill does not represent me, my family, or any of my family or friends. I oppose this bill in every possible way.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 11:47:40 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
james pirtle	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 11:51:17 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Javan Kamakaala	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a resident of Oahu, I cannot in good faith support this bill that has the potential to furthermore hamper our 2nd ammendment rights in Hawaii. There are unfortunately individuals that do not follow existing gun laws in Hawaii and the same would be true for this bill if it is to become law. This bill will only discourage responsible gun owners.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:23:48 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Blaine Kawehi Loque	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this legislation. This will do nothing to prevent violent crime and only punish the law abiding. On top of that, parts of this bill have already been deemed unconstitutional by the Supreme Court and will only cost the tax payers money through lawsuits.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:31:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaimanu Takayama	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I opposed HB984 for two simples reasons:

1) It will do absolutely NOTHING to make the public and community safer because CRIMINALS DO NOT FOLLOW LAWS. I challenge elected officials to provide just one solid example in which any of the proposed regulations would have prevented an incident of gun violence in Hawaii or would have protected a victim of gun violence had the regulations been enacted prior. There are numerous studies proving that the majority of mass shootings take place in "gun free" zones because criminals know they will have the largest effect in places where there is the least amount of resistance. Additionally, the proposed regulations neglect the fact (proven by FBI statistics) that law-abiding gun owners prevent and stop thousands of crimes every year. Whoever a life is lost to gun violence, the government and media propagandize the event and use it to try and trash the rights of law-abiding citizens. Yet that same government and media repeatedly fail to make mention of the thousands of lives saved each year by a responsible gun owner who happened to be in the right place at the right time.

2) Making law-abiding citizens jump through more and more regulations and bureaucracy to practice an activity that the Supreme Court has routinely upheld is ridiculous and a waste of taxpayer resources. Hawaii politicians would be wise to take note of laws recently passed by states such as California and New York intended to make it harder for gun owners to practice a Constitutionally-protected activity have all been deemed Un-Constitutional and nullified. For far too long, residents of Hawaii have allowed hypocritical politicians and unelected bureaucrats to set laws and policies regarding the ability of citizens to carry self-defense and made us dependent upon a police department which is not capable of preveting crimes and protecting the public. It's time to allow individuals to determine how and where they choose to protect themselves, their families, and their property without a nanny state, one which fears an armed and informed citizenry, constantly trying to keep the public dependent upon that nanny state for everything. I would much prefer living in a community where each homeowner is armed than a community where only criminals and bootlickers are armed.

If this bill somehow passes, it won't stand long and will be quickly overturned in appeal. Politicians would be wise to consider that more and more people are waking up to government corruption, graft, and treason and standing up for our God-given, inalienable, Constitutional rights. Government doesn't exist to "protect" us by limiting our rights; Government exists to protect and support our rights. Something many politicians seem to have forgotten.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:44:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert A Okuda	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I do not support government overreach. Thank you

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:53:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sheila Gage	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as written.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:56:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert K. Lowe	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is entirely unconstitutional. It should not even be considered on its legal merits alone and including the resent presidents set in other states. It is a God given right not able to be restricted by any government of free people. It is also setting this state up for more loss of funds needlessly and burdens the court. In conclusion uphold our constitution as in the oath you took...

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:58:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lekeli Watanabe	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill restricting the ability to carry CCW at "sensitive places". These are all the locations where you may need to defend oneself against life threatening situations. Also the extended course training is costly. And the ability to only carry one or two particular firearms is ridiculous. We may want to change to something else that may conceal better.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:03:32 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ricky Ferreira Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:05:09 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lee Uchiyama	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I understand the goal of this is public safety but most parts of this bill are overreaching and unconstitutional.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:05:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Satoria Kahele	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE this bill. This bill states that it would be a requirement to inform when carrying a firearm. This would make me feel extremely unsafe as this would be an invasion of my privacy.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:11:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Reginald Eubanks	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB984. The language relating to sensitive places, carry insurance, non-violent criminals, duty to inform, doctor's notes, extended waiting periods, morality clauses, etc., has been struck down by various circuit courts and SCOTUS. Please do not waste tax payer money by passing unconstitutional laws that will be overturned. Vote no on HB984.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:21:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Kahele	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB 984. It violates my rights in more than one way.

I work full-time to provide for my family and am currently a firearm owner because I have the right to protect my family. This bill would require an unrealistic amount of time for me to take classes for training that I have already had.

Thank you for your time.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:22:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Samuel Montalvo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB984 as it is indeed an overreach of State government and increased burden for our county law enforcement and will end up being contested over and over again, wasting more manhours and taxpayer dollars.

My unique unorthodox argument would be if the Governor can be armed or have armed security detail with him, the citizens can also. Non-gun owners should not be dictating the gun laws of law abiding citizens. I and many others would rather have more good guys with guns roaming the streets than bad guys with guns.

I just don't understand the constant effort in firearm restrictions for law abiding citizens. Why go against the framework of the constitution and try and reinterpret it to fit a certain narrative? This is the United States of America, let's start acting like Americans that actually acknowledge the constitution as interpreted by the federal government instead of making our own rules like an HOA (housing association).

If the same amount of time, money, resources, and effort on this were placed on much more important social issues such and tackling actual crime and criminals, homelessness, and the housing crisis, I think Hawai'i would progress towards more of better place, versus a group of rotting islands in the Pacific join the rest of the Oceania islands.

If this bill passes, It only makes sense and lessens the hypocrisy if the Governor's security detail also not be armed, especially in proposed sensitive places.

Once again I oppose this bill, let's move on to more important issues in our community.

Thank you for your time and please be safe everyone.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:28:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gregory Abe	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this measure.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:30:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kyra Kahele	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB984!

I am not a firearms owner yet, but would like to be someday. I am a single female and deserve the RIGHT to protect myself as needed. Why should criminals who are going to break the law regardless of the line items in this bill be better equipped than a law-abiding citizen? My cousin was shot and killed in someone's driveway. It was NOT a public sidewalk. I do not agree with the limitation of where we would be able to carry.

Respectfully,

Kyra Kahele

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:36:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
D Y	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose oppose oppose HB984. Stop degrading the rights of the people. You were hired to uphold the The Constitution.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:37:32 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dave Cunningham	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Vote no on this terrible bill the Supreme Court has

Spoken—Stop trying to find ways around the

decision that finally recognizes my individual rights

You would not thanked this approach for any other

individual rights.

What are you afraid of? All Hawai'i CCW approved persons will be fully vetted by Police Chief(s)

Mahalo.

Dave Cunningham

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:47:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sara Kahele	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB 984.

It violates my right to defend myself and my right to privacy by making it mandatory to inform when carrying a firearm.

Thank you for your time.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:53:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Roberto Viernes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it represents several infringements upon the second Amendment and US Citizens to bear arms. Thank you for your service.

February 14, 2023

HB984 Testimony

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Chair Yamashita and members of the JHA and FIN Committees.

Thank you for the opportunity to **offer comments regarding HB984** .

- In light of SCOTUS' New York State Rifle and Pistol Association Inc vs Bruen decision I applaud the Hawaii State legislature's efforts to limit potential reach and harm of the said decision.
- As a registered firearm owner in the City and County of Honolulu, I believe proposed bills like HB 984 will help bolster the CCW vetting process and prohibit firearms in a variety of public places in Hawaii.
- The Supreme Court decision did not hold that a state cannot require a license to carry a firearm in public, as mentioned in an article released by the San Diego Sheriff's Department 06/23/22.
- Per an article entitled Cal Matters that covers the California Legislature- the said SCOTUS decision bans enforcement agencies from awarding permits on their own subjective discretion, though SCOTUS's ruling still left it open for states to add on their own "objective" standards. The ruling also enables counties and States to specify "sensitive" gun free-zones.
- I concur that CCW permit holders should not be allowed to bring firearms into schools, agencies that serve children, government buildings, or polling places.
- As a retired social worker of 35 years, I know only too well the effects of gun violence in domestic/child abuse cases, State Judiciary custody cases, and incarceration cases.
- The said licensing and registration concerns in the proposed bill are valid.
- Insurance coverage- there is need for clarification. How can a dollar amount be determined?
- We cannot assume all CCW firearm owners have access to liability insurance umbrellas. These could require coverage worth several million dollars in litigious cases.
- Any citizen can be sued for causing injury to another with or without a firearm.
- Will the said requirement in this bill for disclosure of the location of a firearm to law enforcement include those like myself travelling to/from gun ranges for sport only?
- Lastly, the Attorney General's outline at the end of the bill is helpful.
- Please ensure a thorough legal check(s) has/will be done evaluating the AG's outline as this bill moves through committees.

Thank You for this opportunity to **offer comments regarding HB984**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J Leong

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rex Ito	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm opposing bill. HB984. We should have reciprocity, not only be required to be a resident. Tourist get tartgeted, which is a main source of our state's revenue. Being basically only to Carry and Conceal on a sidewalk doesn't do anyone justice. Things happen indoors as well.

The duty to inform when carrying a firearm is ridiculous and how much man power will it cost and need to do this? HPD doesn't even have the resources to immediately tell one who is the clear owner of a firearm. Everyone who owned it, owns the weapon on a search. 40 day extension on waiting period? More procrastinating on the state's part.

HB 984, has many flaws. The legislature needs to realize that criminals are not going to care. I'm not in my 20's and can run or defend myself like before. My proficiency in shooting and rationalizing has improved with age. I'm going to follow the law, but will the law hurt or kill my family, friends, employees, citizens or myself because my weapons are in the safe where legislators feel it should be.



**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 2:05:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nathan roldan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

It is unconstitutional in its writing and has undue burdens that wont pass judicial muster.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 2:33:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kailani Fano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB 984. We need to stop restricting the rights of law abiding citizens. We need to address the real problems. We need to strengthen families, address mental health, and crack down on real criminals. Don't weaken our people.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 3:34:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Terrence Ishikawa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

While the government can restrict the legal carry of firearms in government buildings, the decision to allow legal carry of firearms on private property/buildings should be left up to the property owner.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 3:45:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alex Johnson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this legislation

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 4:08:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
warren sabangan	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

this is an absolute infringement on the second amendment and that any bill violates our right. Not privilege but our rights in which state and federal government officials are supposed to uphold. There are millions of gun owners with millions of rounds in possession, you would clearly know if it was a problem or not. I would rather be surrounded by 10 law abiding ccw carriers than 1 criminal ready to wreak havoc around my family and I along with the general public. The real problem is the constant practice of releasing criminals back in the streets.

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 5:11:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Shaheen Mulkern	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose HB 984. It attempts to circumvent the intent of the recent Supreme Court decision to allow gun carry in public places for self protection.

Please oppose this bill.

Respectfully,

Susan Mulkern

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 7:12:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brandi Bright	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I disagree with this bill

**HB-984**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 7:40:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/14/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Benjamin Seay	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB984. It blatantly infringes upon every citizens 2nd amendment rights.