

JAN 19 2024

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FIREARMS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii has seen a
2 significant increase in incidents of gun violence, a trend that
3 until recently was primarily confined to the continental United
4 States. Acts of gun violence are becoming a regular occurrence
5 in local communities. The overwhelming success of a recent gun
6 buyback event on Oahu by the department of law enforcement
7 illustrates the demand of the public to get guns off of the
8 State's streets, with a total of four hundred ninety-four
9 firearms being turned in, including sawed-off shotguns, a
10 MAC-10, an Uzi, pistols with silencers, and multiple assault
11 weapons, such as AK-47 and AR-15 type rifles. The program
12 provides a service and avenue for the public to turn in unwanted
13 firearms, limits the number of firearms entering the black
14 market, and reduces violent crimes, accidental shootings, and
15 the risk of a firearm being brought into a school.

16 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:



S.B. NO. 2346

- 1 (1) Require the department of law enforcement to hold a
- 2 firearm buyback program in each county in the State;
- 3 and
- 4 (2) Appropriate funds.

5 SECTION 2. (a) The department of law enforcement shall

6 conduct a voluntary firearm buyback program in each county of

7 the State. The program shall have a "no questions asked" policy

8 and allow individuals to turn in any unwanted firearm in return

9 for compensation.

10 (b) The department of law enforcement shall adopt rules in

11 accordance with chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to

12 implement the firearm buyback program.

13 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of

14 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,

15 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the

16 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,

17 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure

18 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by

19 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes

20 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal

21 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act



S.B. NO. 2346

Report Title:

DLE; Firearms; Voluntary Buyback Program; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct a voluntary firearm buyback program in each county of the State. Makes an appropriation.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

