



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 02/15/2023

**Time:** 03:02 PM

**Location:** CR 225 & Videoconference

**Committee:** Senate Public Safety and  
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
Senate Education

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** SB 0124 RELATING TO PROHIBITION OF FIREARMS ON  
SCHOOL PROPERTY.

**Purpose of Bill:** Prohibits the possession of firearms on school property and school buses and at school-sponsored functions. Exempts certain law enforcement officers and instructors and participants of certain educational or training programs. Establishes that violators are guilty of a class B felony. Requires children enrolled in school who are in violation to be excluded from school attendance for not less than one year. Defines school, school bus, school property, and school-sponsored function.

**Department's Position:**

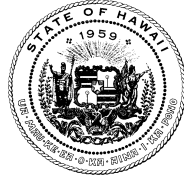
The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SB 0124.

The Department is committed to providing and/or enhancing a safe and secure learning environment for all students. Allowing firearms on school property would run counter to that commitment.

Hawaii currently has no specific state statute to address firearms on school property. To deter or prosecute a person for carrying a firearm on school property, state officials mainly rely on federal laws, specifically the Gun-Free School Zones Act (GFSZA) of 1990. This act prohibits an individual from knowingly possessing a firearm in, on the grounds of, or within 1,000 feet of a public, parochial, or private school that provides elementary or secondary education. However, it does have drawbacks and exceptions. The GFSZA was passed several decades ago; therefore, it does not apply to all persons licensed by a state to possess or conceal-carry a

firearm on school property. SB 124 would strengthen Hawaii's overall stance on firearms because it is framed in a more stringent manner than GFSZA and does not allow for any conceal-carry type of exception.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII  
HAWAII STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM  
'OIHANA HALE WAIHONA PUKE AUPUNI O KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII  
OFFICE OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN  
44 MERCHANT STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**  
**Wednesday, February 15, 2023**  
**Conference Room 225**  
**3:02 pm**

**By Stacey A. Aldrich**  
**State Librarian**

**S.B. 124 RELATING TO PROHIBITION OF FIREARMS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY**

To: Sen. Glenn Wakai, Chair  
Sen. Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental  
and Military Affairs

Sen. Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Sen. Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

The Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) offers the following comments on S.B. 124 which prohibits the possession of firearms on school property and school buses and at school-sponsored functions.

Statewide, HSPLS libraries regularly host school-sponsored visits, as well as serve as classroom space for "school-sponsored functions". In many instances, public libraries also share the same property as schools. Therefore, for clarity, HSPLS respectfully requests that public libraries are specifically named as locations where the possession of firearms are prohibited, similar to S.B. 1230 S.D.1.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.



**HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**

AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

**RANDY PERREIRA**, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Thirty-Second Legislature, State of Hawaii  
The Senate  
Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
Committee on Education

Testimony by  
Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 15, 2023

S.B. 124 — RELATING TO PROHIBITION OF  
FIREARMS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the intent of S.B. 124 which prohibits the possession of firearms on school property and school buses and at school-sponsored functions.

The HGEA represents over 7,000 Department of Education employees and public charter school employees. As the largest public sector union in Hawaii, our members are siblings, parents, guardians, and grandparents of children in both public and private schools, from pre-Kindergarten to grade 12. Currently, Chapter 134, Hawaii Revised Statutes, does not have relevant provisions related to the possession of firearms on school property and school buses and at school-sponsored functions. We support this measure which seeks to establish a new section to address this necessary prohibition to protect the safety of Hawaii's school children and school staff.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of S.B. 124.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira  
Executive Director



February 15, 2023

Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Senate Committee on Education

Hearing Time: 03:02 p.m.

Location: State Capitol

Re: SB 124, Relating to Prohibition of Firearms on School Property

Aloha e Chair Wakai, Chair Kidani, and members of the Committees:

We are writing in **strong support** of SB 124, Relating to Prohibition of Firearms on School Property.

This bill will prohibit the possession of firearms on school property and school buses and at school-sponsored functions; exempt certain law enforcement officers and instructors and participants of certain educational or training programs; establish that violators are guilty of a class B felony; require children enrolled in school who are in violation to be excluded from school attendance for not less than one year; and define school, school bus, school property, and school-sponsored function.

Every single day, more than 110 people in the United States are killed with guns and more than 200 are shot and wounded (Everytown for Gun Safety). And in 2021, the most recent year with full data released, gun deaths reached their highest level in at least 40 years, with 48,830 deaths in that year alone (Giffords Law Center). **As you read this testimony, in this very moment, people are dying. Children are dying.**

Schools are places of fun, learning, and friendship. Students should not have to go to school in fear that they might not make it home. Parents should not have to worry about their children in a place of education. Kids being murdered in classrooms should not be the norm.

Gun violence has become its own epidemic. But like disease, this sickness can be treated. With strict gun laws and strong enforcement, we can protect our community from senseless gun violence and deaths. We need to take action, and we need to do it now. **Please, help us save lives.**

Students Demand Action (SDA) is a national organization of high school and college-aged activists committed to ending gun violence. When lawmakers offered thoughts and prayers but little meaningful action after the 2018 mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, students across the country came together to make our voices heard. SDA

started in 2016 as a pilot program and, with a sense of urgency, was launched as a national initiative within two weeks of the Parkland shooting. Because what could be more urgent than fixing the errors in our system that have cost so many young people their lives? SDA now has more than 500 groups across the country and active volunteers in every state and D.C. As the SDA Hawai'i Chapter, we focus our efforts on legislative action, community outreach and education, and organizing.

**Please support SB 124.**

Mahalo nui loa,

Leah Delos Santos

*President and Co-Founder*

*Students Demand Action Hawai'i*

[leahds@hawaii.edu](mailto:leahds@hawaii.edu)



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

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OFFICERS	DIRECTORS		MAILING ADDRESS	
John Bickel, President	Melodie Aduja	Jan Lubin	Bill South	P.O. Box 23404
Alan Burdick, Vice President	Keola Akana	Shannon Matson	Michael Vernon	Honolulu
Doug Pyle, Secretary	Juliet Begley	Jenny Nomura		Hawaii 96823
	Stephanie Fitzpatrick	Stephen O'Harrow		

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February 11, 2023

TO: Chairs Wakai & Kidani and Members of the PSM-EDU Committees

RE: SB 124 RELATING TO PROHIBITION OF FIREARMS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY.

Support for Hearing on Feb. 15

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support this bill as it would prohibit firearms on school property. The idea that the best defense against a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun is a myth. Guns increase risk of massive injuries and death. They do not make schools more secure.

Sincerely,

John Bickel, President

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:32:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Todd Yukutake	Testifying for Hawaii Firearms Coalition	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Hawaii Firearms Coalition submits comments for this bill.

We do not believe this law is necessary as existing laws are already on the books to prevent crime on campus - place to keep, prohibition of firearms for minors, violent crime laws, etc. Federal law also prohibits guns on schools unless the person has a carry license.

If you decide to move forward with this bill, we ask for some amendments:

1. School administration should be given the power to allow exceptions for those with carry licenses. School employees, parents, and chaperones performing security for events.
2. Parents should be able to carry while dropping or picking up their children from school.
3. Private schools should be exempt as they can decide what is the best policy for their school.

Please remember, this bill will not stop violent crime on campus. Criminals and children are already prohibited from having guns. This bill as written will have the adverse effect on safety as there will be no armed response on campus should there be an active shooter threat. Instead the school would wait valuable minutes for a police response force to arrive.



**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 6:24:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

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

Comments:

I SUPPORT this bill and appreciate the intent of this bill to protect our students and school community. My question would be how will this be regulated and by whom? It should not be on the school personnel to do so.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 7:16:25 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brian Isaacson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Schools are one place where concealed carry permittees should not be prohibited from carrying their sidearms. Schools are classic targets for mass murderers and one effective way to stop them is to instill doubt by assuring them and others that someone may be carrying concealed and ready to respond to a threat.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 7:44:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Beth Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I absolutely support SB 124. Keeping guns prohibited on school campuses, on school buses, and at school functions is a no-brainer. Guns have no place in places of learning and especially around children.

Keep our schools safe, our children safe and prohibit guns at schools. Hawaii has escaped mass school shootings, school gun violence and we must work to keep it that way by passing legislation such as this. Hawaii's strict gun laws have worked to keep us safer than residents of other states, but we have to remain vigilant and reject the proliferation of firearms in our community. Our island culture and message of aloha is the exact opposite of the message of gun culture.

Schools should be academic places of aloha, acceptance, safety, inclusion, and learning. Guns don't belong in this environment.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 7:45:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this Bill.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 1:25:10 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

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

Comments:

This is common sense. Please support this bill.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 9:53:46 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 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: Presently, there are laws in place to address the possession of illegal firearms, to include replica firearms. It's effectiveness is proven by the results. There have been zero school shootings in the State of Hawaii.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 4:45:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael I Rice	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

1) Does this extend to pick up areas for parents who may be legally armed to pick up their children from school? Does this extend to times when the school is not actively being used for student education such as during Orchid Shows, theater performances, or during emergencies when some schools are used as emergency shelters?

2) Does this ban extend to school buses not actively engaged in the transport of children? Does it apply if such buses are being repurposed for use in emergencies such as for evacuation?

I would also like to ask what would happen if a student is known to be carrying a firearm but the administration does nothing about it? This is in reference to an incident I am aware of that took place on a High School campus (As much as I would like to, I will not disclose the School in question to protect those who fear retaliation by Administration and the Student in question).

In this incident, a student stepped forward to staff and said they were robbed at gunpoint by another student of illegal drugs and money. They said several other students were also robbed but refused to come forward due to the illegal nature of what they were robbed of. This student was confronted by security, but managed to escape and flee off campus before a search could be done.

When the student returned, noticeably without his belongings, he was searched and nothing was found, no guns, no drugs, no money. Some other students came forward and admitted they were robbed by the student and had seen the gun. The Administration of this school however did not report the illegal drugs or the presence of a gun on campus to HPD for further investigation. All students involved have not been suspended or expelled and continue to carry the firearm and deal drugs respectively. The student in question has even bragged to others about what he got away with.

If DOE is really concerned with firearms on campuses, why is such an incident allowed to be just swept under the rug? I remember a time when a student would have been suspended with the threat of expulsion for bringing a non-realistic toy gun to school or even talking about having one. I was told DOE has Zero Tolerance for such things, has that changed in recent years?

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:13:11 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Linda Morgan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a retired elementary teacher, I strongly support SB124. Firearms do NOT belong in schools. Not having guns in schools ensures a safer environment for students and staff.

Please support SB124 to prevent guns from being allowed in our schools.



**SB-124**

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

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ellen Godbey Carson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this Bill. Our students need and deserve a safe campus and safe places for school activities, free from dangers associated with firearms.

Ellen Godbey Carson

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:05:20 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marcus Tanaka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose.

Federal law already exist for gun free school zones. Which also exempt CCW holders by that states issued CCW. How will a parent drop off their child in the parking lot or pick them up? You are asking them to exercise their right and to have to drop their kid off on the sidewalk and pick them up the same.

Or the parent will be unarmed the entire day so they can pick up/drop off their child in the parking lot or designated drop off/pick up area. Because no parent will go to school, then all the way back home to pick up their firearm. Then go back home to drop off their firearm and back to school for pick up time.

Let the existing federal law be the only one.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:06:54 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 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. We are responsible protectors not criminals. Smh.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:11:20 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

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

Comments:

Mass shooters love gun free zones.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:18:11 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael EKM Olderr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

Going through high school on the island, I believed it was a matter of when a shooter would come to school, not if. The normalization of children dying in school is absolutely horrifying, and the lack of a reaction to it is even more frightening. No steps are taken, and no conversation is had for any substantial period. Instead, we have people shouting second amendment nonsense over the screams and cries of dead children. We fool ourselves daily by thinking we are safe from this madness because it happens on the mainland and not here. But we would be lying to ourselves. We are not immune to the psychopaths who shoot up schools, and if we get complacent enough, it will happen here. This bill alone won't prevent shootings, but it is something. It is the first step that needs to be taken, the first of many.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:20:49 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

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

Comments:

To our elected leaders and representatives,

Appreciate the opportunity to share a word of testimony regarding this bill.

I understand the *intent* of this bill is to make schools a safe place for our kids. It is what all of us want.

It goes without saying that students, anyone under 18 yrs of age cannot lawfully possess firearms and should not possess them on school property. That is already written in our laws.

One major concern I have is that if you make schools a gun free zone for adults namely parents, teachers and faculty, you will have the *opposite* affect on creating a safe environment for the kids and rob us parents who are lawfully permitted adults from the ability to protect our kids.

I adamantly oppose having any public place labeled a *gun free zone* because it will only make that place a target for those individuals who want to harm others and prey on the most vulnerable people in our community. I oppose making any public place including parks, malls, public squares, streets, etc a gun free zone, because criminals (potential active shooters) will target those very places. They care nothing about rules or laws. You only invite tragic things like that to happen. Look at the recent shooting in Times Square, a so called gun free zone a story which was just featured in the New York Times. It was critical of the ability of labeling a place a gun free zone from stopping mass shootings from happening.

The other problem with making this a law is that according to *NYSRPA v Bruen*, it is the burden of the state/county government to justify this bill by finding a historical analogue of a similar law that was established in 1791 or the founding era of the Constitution up until the ratification of the 14th Amendment in order to pass the constitutionality test. If no such analogue exists, then you cannot create such a law. It will be automatically disqualified and will ultimately be struck down in a court of law. Remember your oath of office as a public servant that you promised to protect and defend the Constitution of Hawaii and the Constitution of the United States. The Second Amendment is a key part of our Constitution, it is the one God given freedom that protects all other freedoms that we have.

It's great to have law enforcement exempt from being prohibited in the schools but in an active shooter situation the best solution would be to have an adult be it an administrator, teacher or

other faculty member who has a firearm to provide immediate protection for the kids. The reason is because the police will not be there in time to stop the threat because it will be over in minutes. With the average wait time for police to show up being 7 min or more, Many lives will be lost before they even get there. That is sad to say, what the current reality is. In fact, there was a recent shooting in Waikiki, the police took more than 15 min to show up. Way to late to make a difference.

I would encourage you to look at what they do in other states who have very strong pro Second Amendment gun laws who have implemented the use of firearms as a part of their school safety program. Places like Florida and Indiana. What they do is have armed school security, and allow their administrators and faculty to be armed if they want to be. These individuals should be provided with proper safety and skills development training to be able to handle themselves in such situations.

In addition they have implemented training to equip teachers and students with the knowlege of what to do in an active shooter situation. They also run drills to show them exactly what to do and where to go. They also put money toward "hardening" soft targets, creating a *safe corner* in each classroom usually behind a impenetrable steel door that can be locked an barricaded from the inside which is out of range of a shooter from outside the classroom where everyone in the class can huddle behind in an active shooter situation to make it much harder for a shooter to cause harm.

The more challenging thing is to make the school inaccessible from the outside for anyone to get on the campus or into the buildings. The reommendation is a single point of entry where an armed guard is placed so the threat can be neutralized before they pose a real danger to the students. Another solution whould to be have armed security making regular rounds around the campus to act as a deterrent for anyone wanting to target the school. This definitely is a problem cause most schools are very open and accessible from outsiders to easily walk on campus.

If you want a real solution to prevent a shooter from even trying to attack a school, you are gonna have to allocate some resources to hardening that school to keep any threat from happening.

You may feel like students might *feel* funny seeing armed security on campus walking around but they do that in other countries like Israel who have had to resort to such tactics cause the threat of violence towards schools is real and imminent. It many only seem scary because we are not used to seeing it everyday. Once such a program is implemented, it will become normalized and that uneasy feeling will subside.

i used to feel a bit intimidated with handling guns but as I have participated in training and my knowlege of how to safely handle a firearm has increased, that intimidation and fear has subsided. They are no scarier than handling a kitchen knife or any other tool that could be used as a deadly weapon. It is all about becomeing comfortable through familiarity and repetition. If you personally are intimidated or have feelings of uneasiness, those feelings will go away with proper training and reps. Take a gun safety class and learn how to properly use firearms. You

only fear what you do not fully understand or have fully experienced. Or you can choose to live in ignorance and fear. Its up to you.

Like it or not, the right for lawful individuals to carry in public is not going away, in fact with NYSRPA V Bruen, it will only increase. It is the new normal. But I believe the more lawful people we have carrying in public, the more safe our streets and communities will be from evil people with criminal intent.

The lawful gun owner is not to feared, the criminal who has malicious intent is the one who should be feared above all. Lawful gun owners, understand that with the right to bear arms comes a huge responsibility to be properly trained and equipped to handle themselves in any public shooting scenario. We are honestly the best first responders out there cause when something goes down,we will be the *only* ones on scene equipped to respond rapidly to stop the threat.

The lawful gun owner should not be seen as a liability to soceity but an asset who is ready and able to act appropriately to protect against such threats. They will act appropriately and reasonably in these situations as long as they are trained properly to do so.

Look at the study by Dr. William English of Georgetown Univerisity, <https://thereload.com/largest-ever-survey-of-gun-owners-finds-diversity-increasing-carrying-common-and-more-than-1-6-million-defensive-uses-per-year/>

Defensive lawful uses of firearms save or prevent crime of homicides over 1.6 Million times per year.

Guns save more lives than it takes!!! Give us the ability to protect and save lives in all places!!!

Thank you

Glenn



**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:54:07 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

this is a no brainer. please vote yes.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:00:53 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 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. It conflicts & contradicts federal law that are already in place.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:10:34 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill makes it illegal to possess a firearm on any K-12 or special school property. Which includes the parking lot, and any school sponsored function. The fact that these events are then "undefended" makes it an attractive opportunity to those with malicious intent. If the person with malicious intent thinks that there are folks that would be shooting back at them, they would think twice about targeting that venue, and that would give them pause. "An armed society is a polite society."

SB124 would impact CCW holders since federal law states you can be on school property and within 1000ft if you have that states'-issued CCW, and that state has no law about "school functions". The whole purpose of CCW, and Bruen, is so that you can defend yourself and those dear to you, and this bill negates that. Please OPPOSE.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:15:33 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Randy Cheung	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Do we really want to charge children with class B felonies for possession? How about we write a bill that does not condemn children as felons for possession of a firearm in a specific geographic location. While we are at it, how about we just include everybody else, except maybe actual convicted felons.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:37:34 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Douglas C. Moose	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Anyone with a license to carry a concealed firearm should be allowed to carry onto school property. There is no greater risk by a licensee on school grounds than outside school grounds.

Students in grades K-12 are not of legal age to carry a firearm, so this law would only apply to adults.

People trusted by the state to carry concealed are the same people whether on or off school campuses. If the firearm is concealed, no one should have any reason for concern.

A law does not prevent those with criminal intent from bringing guns onto school property. But, if that should happen, the right to bear arms should be afforded so there exists a chance someone is able to meet force with force and prevent mass casualties.

This is particularly important in schools with few to no armed security on campus. Law Enforcement can never arrive in time to prevent mass casualties unless they are already on campus when the shooting starts.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:15:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 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 SB124

Protecting our keiki, specially in today’s world, is the absolute top priority, but making their learning centers a no resistance, soft target is not the proper way.

Possession of firearms on school property has been prohibited since 1994, again, criminals see this as a soft target and low to no resistance.

“The Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994 requires each state receiving federal funds to have a state law in effect requiring local educational agencies to expel, for at least one year, any student who is determined to have brought a weapon to school.”

Exempting ‘law enforcement officers, instructors, participants of certain educational or training programs’ is putting them on a separate tier of society then everyday citizens.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:15:58 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 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 SB124

Protecting our keiki, specially in today’s world, is the absolute top priority, but making their learning centers a no resistance, soft target is not the proper way.

Possession of firearms on school property has been prohibited since 1994, again, criminals see this as a soft target and low to no resistance.

“The Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994 requires each state receiving federal funds to have a state law in effect requiring local educational agencies to expel, for at least one year, any student who is determined to have brought a weapon to school.”

Exempting ‘law enforcement officers, instructors, participants of certain educational or training programs’ is putting them on a separate tier of society then everyday citizens.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:57:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tai Horen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a parent of two children I oppose SB124



**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:21:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 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 covers everything from street - sidewalk, you should be able to park on campus and lock firearm in safe before entering.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 6:19:12 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eugene Healing	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose bill 124. CCW is just that... concealed! The only reason that weapon would come out is for defense of oneself or another. Guns are safe in the hands of trained, responsible law-abiding gun owners.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 6:24:14 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Wayne Asam	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hi,

I oppose this bill. As a citizen who has applied and should get my CCW shortly I would not be able to drop my kids off at their respective schools and go to work as normal. It would essentially render me CCW less.

Mahalo,

Wayne

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 6:43:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 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 SB124

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:09:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ryota Takuma	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose the proposed bill SB124 in regards to prohibition of firearms/concealed firearms near school properties within 1000ft. This proposed bill will affect even concealed carry owners who is walking or driving near the school sidewalk and is a vague and dangerous bill should there be an active shooter near the school within 1000ft. A parent who will need to pick up his or her child in a vehicle will not be able to defend or protect should anything happen within the proximity of the school and this bill only hinders the purpose of protecting innocent lives. I oppose SB124.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:25:10 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tyler Robb	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB 124 as Federal law already states you can be on property and within 1000ft if you have that states issued CCW and has no law about school functions. It's just adds unnecessary restrictions that are already in place. Please oppose SB 124, thank you for your time.

Mahalo, Tyler Robb

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 6:11:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Markos Cabaong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose to prohibit any law abiding citizen with a state issued CCW.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:57:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jefferson Foust	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a retired navy veteran with 2 small girls I oppose this bill as shown on the world today non law abiding citizens will carry a gun anywhere they want to I want the same opportunity to be able to protect my family if needed



**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:15:15 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ed Au	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose, vote No. The reason why there are so many school shooting is that schools are easy target for violent individuals. Take away a person's 2A rights, will only permit school shootings to continue. Additionally, the media constantly discussing this does not help. Since it only teaches people that schoos are easy targes. Let individuals protect the children and teachers.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:35:19 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Benel Piros	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose due to not allowing parents that are Law Abiding Citizens to carry when they pick up and drop off their children. Which is another infringement on our right to protect and bare arms.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:33:27 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
kimo galon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB124. Federal law gives exemption to those who carry permits. Those who are permitted to carry concealed already went through the process of background checks and have gone through what the states have asked of them. It is time that the state do what is asked of them from us. We should be able to conceal carry as the federal law lets us.

Although I do not have kids I will fight for those who have and will continue to fight for the right to carry concealed wherever we may. Schools have been targets for gun violence. It is time that we provide opportunity and the right to protect ourselves and the future of our generation. We are not required to protect, we are not vigilantes, but we will step up and protect if in danger.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 7:28:46 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ryan-Nicholas: Luther	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB124 due to the below verbiage in the Bill:

- Section 2(A); the Board of Education, Superintendent or Department of Education are the authority to approve or sanction the training and/or educational program that establishes the private citizen to lawfully carry a firearm for the protection of the community.

Therefore, I request the Chair and Committee remove the aforesaid verbiage in Section 2(A), and include that the CCW (concealed carry weapon) as the ultimate training and educational source for verification of safety to carry a private citizen to carry lawful firearms to protect the community.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 10:45:42 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 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 SB124

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:19:16 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 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 negatively impacts CCW holders. Federal law allows individuals on property and within 1000 feet if they have been issued a CCW license in that State. This Bill will only embolden criminals to commit crimes in these places because they know no one will be there to stop them. A lot of these mass shootings happened in so called gun free zones, if only there was a good guy with a gun, many innocent lives could have been saved. This Bill will only make these places an easy target for criminals.

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:16:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 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 SB124. The bill in its language would make it illegal to have a firearm, encased, locked and secured in your vehicle while parked in a school parking lot or even at a school sponsored function such as a sports game, fair or fundraiser. This would mean that if you had a fundraiser ticket for a product pickup, that you wouldn't be able to drive in to pick up the product.

Please oppose SB124.

Thank you,

Davin Asato

**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:55:31 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elijah Kim	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It should not be illegal for parents or law-abiding citizens to carry firearms on school property.  
Stop making it difficult for citizens to exercise the constitutional right to bear arms.



**SB-124**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 2:59:33 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2023 3:02:00 PM

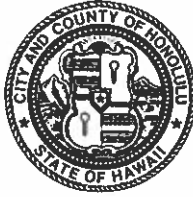
<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rik Rutt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. First this would prohibit trained and licensed permit holders from carrying their firearms where there is the most vulnerable of our community in a highly targeted area. One common connection to “mass shooting events” is that the perpetrators are not law-abiding permit holders and that the area they target is a “gun free zone”. With most of these events happening at schools it becomes one of the most important places to allow trained and licensed people to be able carry and have the ability to protect themselves and others from threats. We should not be making our schools less safe and more vulnerable. In addition to the prior point the portion on school sponsored functions opens up law abiding individuals to swept up by accident. With school sponsored functions being broad and many of which may be held on no school locations and some loosely connected to the school. A licensed carrying individual goes to get food at a McDonalds and a high school is having a project grad fundraiser at that restaurant. That individual has carried a firearm to school sponsored function. Had that person gone the same time the next day no problem. I hope that this committee uses logic and ends this bill that will make our community less safe.

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulupd.org



RICK BLANGIARDI  
MAYOR

ARTHUR J. LOGAN  
CHIEF

KEITH K. HORIKAWA  
RADE K. VANIC  
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE JT-DNK

February 15, 2023

The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental  
and Military Affairs  
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Education  
State Senate  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 225  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Wakai and Kidani and Members:

**SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 124, Relating to Prohibition of Firearms on School Property**

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 Senate Bill No. 124, Relating to Prohibition of Firearms on School Property.


This bill proposes to prohibit firearms on school property, school buses, and at school-sponsored events. Certain law enforcement and instructors are exempt from this prohibition. Currently, the Supreme Court rulings in *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008) and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association Inc. v. Bruen* (2022) allow states to designate schools as a sensitive place.

Aligned with school vulnerability assessments, threat response training, and active shooter drills, this bill directly supports keeping our schools and surrounding communities safe.


The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair  
and Members  
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
and Members  
February 15, 2023  
Page 2

The HPD urges you to support Senate Bill No. 124, Relating to Prohibition of Firearms on School Property, and we thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph A. Trinidad, Major  
Records and Identification Division

APPROVED:

  
Arthur J. Logan  
Chief of Police