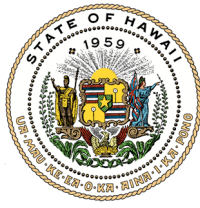


**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



**MIKE LAMBERT**  
DIRECTOR

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
LT GOVERNOR  
KE KE'ENA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT**

*Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai*

715 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**JARED K. REDULLA**  
Deputy Director  
Law Enforcement

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 125, HOUSE DRAFT 1**  
**RELATING TO FIREARMS**  
Before the Senate Committee on  
**PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**  
Wednesday, March 19, 2025, 3:00 PM  
State Capitol Conference Room 225 & Videoconference  
Testifiers: Mike Lambert

Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) supports House Bill 125, House Draft 1, which enhances firearm storage requirements and safety measures. This bill makes three important improvements to Hawaii's firearm safety laws. First, it requires retail sellers or transferors of firearms to provide purchasers with written notice regarding proper firearm storage laws. Second, it expands the requirements for secure storage of firearms. Third, it clarifies the offense of criminally negligent storage of a firearm.

The DLE believes these measures will significantly enhance public safety by reducing the risk of unauthorized access to firearms, particularly by minors. Proper storage of firearms is a crucial component of responsible gun ownership and helps prevent tragic accidents, theft, and misuse. The requirement that retailers provide clear information about storage laws at the point of sale will increase awareness and compliance with these important safety measures.

The enhanced secure storage requirements, including the use of locked containers and tamper-resistant mechanical locks, represent practical and effective methods to prevent unauthorized access while still allowing lawful owners to access their firearms when needed. The clarification of criminal negligence standards for improper storage provides necessary guidance to both gun owners and law enforcement.

DLE is committed to promoting responsible firearm ownership while protecting public safety. This legislation strikes an appropriate balance between respecting the rights of lawful gun owners and implementing reasonable measures to prevent firearms from falling into the wrong hands.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

**JON N. IKENAGA**  
STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER

**DEFENDER COUNCIL**  
1130 NORTH NIMITZ HIGHWAY  
SUITE A-254  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

**HONOLULU OFFICE**  
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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER**

**HAYLEY CHENG**  
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March 17, 2025

Committee On Public Safety And Military Affairs  
Sen. Brandon J.C. Elefante, Chair  
Sen. Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
415 South Beretania Street, Conf. Rm. 225  
State Capital  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Testimony in Opposition to H.B. No. 125, H.D. 1: Relating to Firearms  
Hearing: March 19, 2025, 3:00 PM

Dear Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Wakai and Committee Members:

The Office of the Public Defender respectfully opposes House Bill No. 125, H.D. 1. In particular, the proposed Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”) Section 134-10.5(a)(1) conflicts with the United States Supreme Court case District of Columbia v. Heller, 554 U.S. 570, 128 S. Ct. 2783 (2008). Although Heller is best known for pronouncing the constitutional right of individuals to possess firearms within the home for self-defense, as a corollary, Heller also held unconstitutional laws rendering firearms in the home inoperable for the purpose of immediate self-defense. Heller, 554 U.S. at 635, 128 S. Ct. at 2821-22.

In Heller, the Respondent challenged a District of Columbia law prohibiting the possession of handguns as well as a District of Columbia law requiring lawfully owned firearms be unloaded and disassembled or bound by a trigger lock or similar device. Heller, 554 U.S. at 575, 128 S. Ct. at 2788. In holding these laws unconstitutional, the United States Supreme Court observed that “the American people have considered the handgun to be the quintessential self-defense weapon [and i]t is easier to store in a location that is readily accessible in an emergency ....” Heller, 554 U.S. at 629, 128 S. Ct. at 2818. Rendering firearms inoperable “makes it impossible for citizens to use them for the core lawful purpose of self-defense and is hence unconstitutional.” Heller, 554 U.S. at 630, 128 S. Ct. at 2818.

Proposed HRS § 134-10.5(a)(1) cannot be squared with Heller. Proposed HRS § 134-10.5(a)(1) literally requires a firearm in a home to be “render[ed] ... inoperable” or otherwise

March 17, 2025

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made inaccessible. The language and intent of proposed HRS § 134-10.5(a)(1) make it open to constitutional challenges.

For the reasons above, the Office of the Public Defender respectfully opposes House Bill No. 125, H.D. 1. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Sincerely,

Office of the Public Defender

Brady  
840 First St. NE Ste. 400  
Washington, DC 20002



Testimony of Ramya Swami, Policy Counsel, Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence  
Support for HB 664 Before the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs,  
March 19th, 2025

Dear Chair Elefante, Vice-Chair Wakai and Distinguished Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs,

Founded in 1974, Brady works to change the law, change the industry, and change culture to free America from gun violence. Our organization today carries the name of Jim Brady, who was shot and severely injured in the assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan. Jim and his wife, Sarah, led the fight to pass federal legislation requiring background checks for gun sales. Brady continues to uphold Jim and Sarah's legacy by uniting Americans across the country in the fight to prevent gun violence.

There are evidence-based policy solutions that we know will help to prevent gun violence in Hawaii. The bill before you today, HB 125, will encourage responsible and safe firearm storage practices and save lives by requiring retail sellers of firearms to inform purchasers of secure firearm storage laws, expanding secure storage requirements, and updating the state's child access prevention laws. **For these reasons, Brady strongly supports HB 125.**

### **Secure Storage Saves Lives**

Nationwide, more than 4.6 million minors live in homes with unsecured guns.<sup>1</sup> A study published by the American Academy of Pediatrics in 2018 found that within a sample of parents who owned guns, only one third stored all household firearms locked and unloaded.<sup>2</sup> Another study, released in 2023, found that 92% of guns used in accidental shooting deaths among children were left unlocked and loaded.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, a 2010 study showed that over 70 percent of children reported knowing the storage location of the household firearm, and that 1 in 5 parents who reported that their child had never handled the household firearm were contradicted by their child's report. As a result, 70-90 percent of firearms used in unintentional shootings, school shootings, and suicides by minors are acquired from home or the homes

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<sup>1</sup> Azrael, A., Cohen, J., Salhi C., et al. (2018). Firearm storage in gun-owning households with children: results of a 2015 national survey. *Journal of Urban Health*, 95. [www.doi.org/10.1007/s11524-018-0261-7](http://www.doi.org/10.1007/s11524-018-0261-7)

<sup>2</sup> Scott, J., Azrael, D., & Miller, M. (2018). Firearm storage in homes with children with self-harm risk factors. *Pediatrics*, 141(3), e20172600. <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2017-2600>

<sup>3</sup> Vaishnav, A., Smith, G.A., Badeti, J. et al. (June 26, 2023). An epidemiological study of unintentional pediatric firearm fatalities in the USA, 2009–2018. *Injury Epidemiology*, 10(25). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40621-023-00438-5>

of friends or relatives.<sup>4</sup> Among children, 89 percent of unintentional shooting deaths occur in the home.<sup>5</sup>

### **Unintentional shootings involving minors are preventable**

Studies show keeping a gun locked and unloaded is associated with a protective effect against unintentional firearm injuries in homes with children and teenagers.<sup>6</sup> This finding is bolstered by recent research from 2018 showing Child Access Prevention laws (“CAP laws”) that require secure storage of firearms are associated with a significant reduction in unintentional pediatric firearm injuries.<sup>7</sup> In fact, a 2020 study found a 59 percent decrease in overall unintentional firearm deaths in states that have secure storage laws.<sup>8</sup>

We have seen the rates of unintentional shootings skyrocket among children, especially with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. With more children at home due to COVID-19, there was a 40 percent increase in unintentional shootings over 2020-2021 when compared to the 2 years prior to the start of the pandemic.<sup>9</sup> There is especially concern for children’s safety during the summer season, as most children are spending more time at home. It is critical that Hawaii pass policy that rises to the occasion of protecting our children from entirely preventable tragedies.

Tragically, many school shootings are also facilitated by kids or teens having access to unsecured guns at home. A 2019 U.S. Department of Homeland Security analysis of targeted school violence shows that 76 percent of attackers who used firearms to commit violence in schools obtained the firearm from their parent’s home or the home of another close relative.<sup>10</sup> In half of those cases, the evidence indicated the firearm was either readily accessible or not secured in a meaningful way.<sup>11</sup>

Finally, the rate of firearm suicides among children under the age of 18 has steadily increased over the past decade. Over that time, the number of firearm suicides among minors in the United States has

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<sup>4</sup> Johnson, R. M., Barber, C., Azrael, D., et al. (2010). Who are the owners of firearms used in adolescent suicides?. *Suicide & Life-Threatening Behavior*, 40(6), 609–611. <https://doi.org/10.1521/suli.2010.40.6.609>; See also Li, G., Baker, S. P., DiScala, C., et al., (1996). Factors associated with the intent of firearm-related injuries in pediatric trauma patients. *Archives Of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*, 150(11), 1160–1165. <https://doi.org/10.1001/archpedi.1996.02170360050008>; See also Cox, J. W., & Rich, S. (August 1, 2018). *The gun is not in the closet*. The Washington Post. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/local/wp/2018/08/01/feature/school-shootings-should-parents-be-charged-for-failing-to-ck-up-guns-used-by-their-kids>

<sup>5</sup> Li, G., Baker, S. P., DiScala, C., et al., (1996). Factors associated with the intent of firearm-related injuries in pediatric trauma patients. *Archives Of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*, 150(11), 1160–1165. <https://doi.org/10.1001/archpedi.1996.02170360050008>

<sup>6</sup> Grossman, D. C., Mueller, B. A., Riedy, C., et al. (2005). Gun storage practices and risk of youth suicide and unintentional firearm injuries. *JAMA*, 293(6), 707–714. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.293.6.707>

<sup>7</sup> Hamilton, E., Miller, C., Cox, C., et al. (2018) Variability of child access prevention laws and pediatric firearm injuries. *Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery*, 84 (4), 613–619. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/322106454\\_Variability\\_of\\_Child\\_Access\\_Prevention\\_Laws\\_and\\_Pediatric\\_Firearm\\_Injuries](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/322106454_Variability_of_Child_Access_Prevention_Laws_and_Pediatric_Firearm_Injuries)

<sup>8</sup> Azad, H. A., Monuteaux, M. C., Rees, C. A., et al. (2020). Child access prevention firearm laws and firearm fatalities among children aged 0 to 14 years, 1991-2016. *JAMA pediatrics*, 174(5), 463–469. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamapediatrics.2019.6227>

<sup>9</sup> Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund. (April 13, 2023). *Preventable tragedies: unintentional shootings by children*. Everytown. <https://everytownresearch.org/report/preventable-tragedies-unintentional-shootings-by-children/>.

<sup>10</sup> Alathari, L., Drysdale, D., Driscoll, S., et al. (2019). *Protecting America's schools: a U.S. secret service analysis of targeted school violence*. National Threat Assessment Center. <https://www.secretservice.gov/data/protection/ntac/ussc-analysis-of-targeted-school-violence.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> See footnote 8.

doubled from 361 deaths in 2008 to 725 deaths in 2018.<sup>12</sup> Moreover, a 2019 study found that in as many as 75 percent of youth firearm suicides for which the gun storage method could be identified, the gun was stored loaded and unlocked.<sup>13</sup> The evidence is clear: access to firearms is not only affecting minors; having a firearm easily accessible in the home when a family member is at risk of suicide increases the risk of a deadly outcome should that person attempt suicide. Firearms are the most lethal method used in suicide deaths, with a fatality rate of approximately 90 percent.<sup>14</sup> Frequently, the decision to harm oneself is made abruptly: a quarter of individuals who attempt suicide make the attempt within 5 minutes of deciding to end their lives.<sup>15</sup> This means putting barriers in place to prevent easy access to lethal means can delay a suicide attempt in the event of a crisis, giving someone who is struggling more time to seek help. In fact, research supports that storing firearms locked and unloaded can be an effective measure to reduce the risk of suicide.<sup>16</sup> Importantly, unsecure firearm storage was found to be least likely among families living in states with both CAP laws and stronger firearm legislation.<sup>17</sup>

There is a large body of academic research showing that strong CAP laws are associated with significant reductions in rates of suicide and unintentional firearms deaths and injuries among children and teens.<sup>18</sup> In 2004, the Journal of the American Medical Association published research finding that child access prevention law enactment is associated with a 26 percent annual reduction in self-inflicted firearm injuries among youth and an 8 percent decrease in *overall* suicide rates among 14-17 year old's, strongly suggesting that when firearms are inaccessible as a result of these laws, minors are not substituting firearms with other methods.<sup>19</sup> A recent study showed that states that have secure storage laws see a 78 percent drop in unintentional shootings committed by children compared to states that do not have any secure storage laws in place.<sup>20</sup>

### **What this bill does**

This bill creates a general obligation to securely store a firearm when it is not under the direct control of the owner or other lawfully authorized user. It is also appropriate that this proposed bill expands the obligation to prevent all *minors* (under the age of 18) from accessing firearms, as the risks associated with access to unsupervised firearms do not simply dissipate when one turns 16. In fact, firearms are used in 44 percent of suicide deaths by 16- and 17-year-olds.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), *WISQARS injury data*, <https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html>

<sup>13</sup> The effects of child-access prevention laws. (January 10, 2023). *RAND*. <https://www.rand.org/research/gun-policy/analysis/child-access-prevention.html>

<sup>14</sup> Miller, M., Azrael, D., & Hemenway, D. (2004). The epidemiology of case fatality rates for suicide in the northeast. *Annals Of Emergency Medicine*, 43(6), 723–730. <https://doi.org/10.1016/S0196064404000691>

<sup>15</sup> Simon, O. R., Swann, A. C., Powell, K. E., et al. (2001). Characteristics of impulsive suicide attempts and attempters. *Suicide & Life-Threatening Behavior*, 32(1 Suppl), 49–59. <https://doi.org/10.1521/suli.32.1.5.49.24212>

<sup>16</sup> Shenassa, E. D., Rogers, M. L., Spalding, K. L., et al. (2004). Safer storage of firearms at home and risk of suicide: a study of protective factors in a nationally representative sample. *Journal Of Epidemiology And Community Health*, 58(10), 841–848. <https://doi.org/10.1136/jech.2003.017343>

<sup>17</sup> Prickett, K. C., Martin-Storey, A., & Crosnoe, R. (2014). State firearm laws, firearm ownership, and safety practices among families of preschool-aged children. *American Journal Of Public Health*, 104(6), 1080–1086. <https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2014.301928>

<sup>18</sup> See footnote 10.

<sup>19</sup> Webster, D. W., Vernick, J. S., Zeoli, A. M., et al. (2004). Association between youth-focused firearm laws and youth suicides. *JAMA*, 292(5), 594–601. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.292.5.594>

<sup>20</sup> See footnote 7.

<sup>21</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), *WISQARS injury data*, <https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html>

Unfortunately, this bill creates strict liability for any harm occurring from an unsafely stored firearm, which Brady does not support. We believe that evidence shows that this bill need not create strict scrutiny for consequences of secure storage to be an effective tool to save Hawai'ian lives. Strict liability notwithstanding, this bill serves an important purpose.

Further, this proposed law does not infringe upon an individual's Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms in the home — rather, firearms ownership comes with a responsibility to ensure that lethal weapons are not readily accessible to minors who either cannot yet responsibly handle firearms themselves or who are at risk of harming themselves or others. Securing firearms in the home is compatible with a firearm owner's ability to protect the home. There is a wide range of firearm storage options available on the market that are affordable and enable the owner of the gun to access it quickly if necessary. Research clearly shows that robust child access prevention and secure storage laws help protect children and reduce the risk of firearm suicide, and unintentional shootings by kids and teens in homes across America. Secure storage has a measurable impact on reducing the rate of suicide and in preventing unintentional shootings that result in injury or death. Laws around secure storage have been upheld by the courts nationwide and the research is conclusive: secure storage saves lives.

**Brady strongly encourages a favorable report for HB 125, which will update our state's secure storage laws to create a general requirement to secure a firearm when it is not in use and require gun dealers to provide buyers with information about the state's current secure firearm storage laws.**

Sincerely,

Ramya Swami  
Policy Counsel  
Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence





*Submitted via web portal*

**RE: HB 125 (Tarnas): Relating to Firearms - SUPPORT**

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

**Everytown for Gun Safety, and the Hawai'i Chapters of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America are writing in support of HB 125.**

Everytown for Gun Safety is the nation's largest gun violence prevention organization, with nearly 11 million supporters including moms, mayors, students, gun owners, faith leaders, educators, and more. We fight to advance gun safety policies at every level of government, including state legislatures. Moms Demand Action and Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America are grassroots movements working towards common-sense public safety measures. With an established chapter in every state of the country, we campaign for effective solutions to lax gun laws and loopholes that jeopardize our communities.

The state's current law says firearms must be securely stored only if the person knows or reasonably should know that a minor is likely to gain access to the firearm without the parent or guardian's permission, but the misdemeanor penalty for criminally negligent storage only applies if the minor actually accesses the firearm.

HB 125 would significantly strengthen Hawai'i's law, requiring that everyone keep their firearms securely stored using a trigger lock, lockbox, or gun safe, when they're not in use. Secure storage is one of the most effective steps we can take to prevent unintentional shootings among children, youth gun violence, and school shootings. Given the increase in gun violence in Hawai'i this year, [much of it involving young people](#), HB 125 is a smart step for public safety to decrease the chances that someone too young to purchase a gun legally will be able to access one.

Secure storage practices are also absolutely critical in preventing gun crime. Many firearms [recovered at crime scenes were stolen from lawful owners](#) who may have failed to take the proper steps to prevent the theft. In fact, guns stolen from cars and homes are the [single-largest source of guns](#) used in crimes nationally. To this end, Everytown

**encourages this committee to include storage solutions that address access by unauthorized users, in addition to minors.** We recommend requiring gun owners to store their firearms in a locked safe, or to store firearms locked with secure storage devices such as trigger locks or cable locks out of plain sight to prevent potential thefts. We also recommend that a gun owner be held accountable when either a minor or a person who is legally prohibited from possessing firearms obtains their gun.

While millions of responsible gun owners follow recommended storage practices, research shows that more than half of gun owners do not store all of their guns securely. More than 1,200 children and teens die by gun suicide each year, most often using guns belonging to a family member. Over 80 percent of child firearm suicides take place in a home. In more than 75% of active shooter incidents in K-12 schools, the shooter or shooters were school-age and were current or former students, and obtained their guns from their home or the homes of relatives.

For these reasons, Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action, and Students Demand Action strongly support HB 125.

Sincerely,

Olivia Li  
Senior Policy Counsel  
Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action & Students Demand Action  
450 Lexington Ave.  
New York, NY 10163  
oli@everytown.org

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 8:41:39 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Trombley	Testifying for Gun Owners for Safety	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Susan Trombley, I live in Kapolei and I am a gun owner from a family of hunters, a retired teacher that had an 8th grade student in my classroom with a gun, a mother of a school shooting survivor, and a grandmother. I'm writing because I support HB 125, which would require all gun owners to keep their guns stored locked when they're not in use.

Keeping guns securely stored at home is one of the most effective steps we can take to prevent unintentional shootings, youth gun violence and school shootings, and gun thefts.

I worry alot about our keike and teens getting access to guns - they're at a life stage where decisions can be impulsive. Making it harder for keike and teens to get easy access to guns could be the difference between life and death.

Mahalo,

Susan Trombley

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 9:52:40 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Terriann Mohideen	Testifying for Hawai'i Chapter Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America	Support	In Person

Comments:

HB 125 - SUPPORT

Good afternoon Members of the Committee. My name is Terriann Mohideen- I am a mother, a resident of Hawai'i and a volunteer with the Hawai'i Chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. I urge you to **Support HB 125** having to do with secure storage of firearms. When we hear in the news about a horrific school shooting or a child who unintentionally shot and killed one of their friends when playing with a gun in the home, or when a teen dies by suicide with a gun, we feel a great great sadness. Many of these happen when that young person gains access to a gun in their own home or the home of a relative who was not properly securing their firearms. Please help keep our keiki safe here in Hawai'i by passing this law. Thank you.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 2:46:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chris Marvin	Testifying for The Vet Voice Foundation	Support	In Person

Comments:

Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the committee,

My name is Chris Marvin, and I am testifying for the Vets Voice Foundation — a national 501(c)(3) organization that empowers military veterans through civic leadership and policy advocacy.

I am a resident of Honolulu, a combat-wounded veteran of the war in Afghanistan, and a gun safety advocate. I am strongly in favor of HB 125.

Rarely have we seen a bill that should be as easy to pass through this legislature as HB 125. Quite simply, we're telling people that if they want to enjoy the right of gun ownership, they need to keep their guns securely stored when not in use.

In the military, we practiced training, safety, and accountability as the three pillars of military gun culture. This bill addresses two of those: safety and accountability. As a veteran, I am desperate to see more training, safety, and accountability in civilian gun culture. And when the gun owners can't do it themselves — as is evident from the recent rash of shootings in the state — it's up to lawmakers to keep us safe.

More than 77% of Americans favor safe storage regulations, including 68% of Republicans and two-thirds of gun owners. Those numbers are — naturally — only higher in Hawai'i.

So, who is against a law like this?

It's hard to say, but one thing is clear, they prioritize their own desires over public safety.

Those opposed to this law will try to cite a number of reasons why this law should not pass. Listen carefully to their excuses. Each and every one of them is self-serving. None will consider public safety or the greater good of the community.

They will parrot NRA talking points. It's important that we remind them that the federal gun lobby doesn't carry weight with the Hawai'i State legislature.

They will tell you that they need a gun at the ready for self defense. This is a lie. First, the law exempts guns carried on a person. Second, a biometric lockbox instantaneous access to a gun — faster than any almost any other storage location.

And they will tell you that you are focused on punishing “law abiding citizens” and not going after the criminals. Remember that these “law abiding citizens” want to maintain the ability to kill a human being on the spot for trying to steal a television. That is certainly not the definition of “good citizen” that I uphold.

At the end of the day, there is no excuse for not passing this law. It protects the public. It protects keiki. It can even protect suicidal gun owners from themselves.

Pass HB125 to keep Hawai'i safe from gun violence.

DATE: March 18, 2025

TO: Honorable Legislators

FROM: Christopher D. Thomas, Attorney at Law

RE: Public Comment and Testimony Regarding HB 125 HD1; Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

My name is Christopher D. Thomas, a former Captain in the United States Air Force Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps. During my active-duty service from 2001 to 2007, I served as a felony-level prosecuting attorney and defense counsel, providing legal services to members of the Pacific Air Forces in Hawai'i, Guam, Japan, and Korea. Following my military service my law practice concentrates, in part, on mental health law and treatment. I am also a parent to school-aged children, an avid hunter, and a registered State of Hawaii gun owner. I am a member of the Giffords Gun Owners for Safety advocacy organization.

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 125 HD1 and the common-sense intent of the law. As you know, the Giffords Organization was started, in part, as a reaction to the 2012 Sandy Hook, Connecticut school shooting, in which the gun-wielding mass murderer obtained weapons left unsecured by his mother in her residence. The unsecured weapons were used to kill 26 persons, including primarily elementary school children. I think of my own children, and their safety from guns, at every mention of the Sandy Hook Tragedy. This bill will make them, and all persons in Hawai'i, safer from gun violence.

Your proposed legislation would extend safe-storage requirements beyond those already enacted into Law; HB 125 SD1 merely extends protections regarding minors and prohibited persons to all members of society. It is common sense to mandate the safe storage and security of the most lethal consumer product available. Failure to store a firearm properly and securely can result to unintended access and the irreversible consequences of suicide, accidental discharge, and intentional shootings.

Passing the provisions of HB 125 HD1 into law will not impede any individual from lawfully carrying and accessing a firearm for self-defense on their own premises. As you know, and those who oppose this legislation also know, contained within the proposed legislation is a provision that allows for on-person possession of a firearm (presumably legally obtained and registered with a permit to carry). However, when not in direct control of a firearm, it must be stored securely so that no other individual can either intentionally or negligently access the weapon.

Gun safety in our communities is reliant upon commonsense regulations that are proven to reverse the current epidemic of violence using firearms. HB 125 HD1 is an overdue extension of already available and accepted protocols of safe gun storage.

Respectfully submitted, Christopher D. Thomas, goshawaii808@gmail.com



Testimony of Deb Nehmad, Chapter Lead, Brady Hawaii  
Before the Senate Committee on the Public Safety and Military Affairs  
SUPPORT FOR HB 125

March 2025

Dear Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Wakai, and members,

**In furtherance of Brady’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 HB125.**

In Hawai'i, firearm suicides account for 65% of all gun deaths — which is above the nation’s average. Additionally, each day in America, eight kids are unintentionally injured or killed due to an unsecured firearm in the home.

HB 125 will update our state’s secure storage laws to create a general requirement to secure a firearm when it is not in use. It will also require gun dealers to provide buyers with information about the state’s current secure firearm storage laws. In doing so, buyers will better understand how secure firearm storage can reduce firearm suicide, unintentional shootings, and more.

**Why Safe Storage of Firearms is Necessary**

- Access to guns in the home [increases the risk of suicide by 300%](#).



- Firearm owners who keep their firearms locked or unloaded were at least [60% less likely to die](#) from firearm related suicide than those who store their firearms unlocked and/or loaded.
- Improperly storing guns can also contribute to guns entering the illegal market:
  - Gun thefts from cars, homes, and gun dealers [are a large source of black-market guns](#).
  - Between 2010 and 2016, [police recovered more than 23,000 stolen firearms](#), most of which were connected to kidnappings, armed robberies, sexual assaults, murders, and other violent crimes.

### **Protecting all Minors Under 18 from Accessing Firearms**

- Each day, [8 children and teens](#) (aged 0 to 17) are unintentionally injured or killed by family fire, and [4.6 million children](#) live in a home with an unlocked, loaded firearm.
- Although 70% of parents reported that adolescents could not independently access firearms in their household, over one-third of children belonging to those households [reported being able to access the firearm in less than five minutes](#).
- [92% of guns](#) used in accidental shooting deaths among children were left unlocked and loaded.
- [89% of unintentional shooting deaths](#) by children occur in the home.
- [70-90% of firearms](#) used in unintentional shootings, school shootings, and suicides by minors are acquired from the home, or from the homes of friends or relatives.
- In [75% of youth firearm suicides](#) for which the gun storage method could be identified, the gun was stored loaded and unlocked.

### **CAP Laws Save Lives**

- Rates of unintentional shootings by children were [78 percent lower](#) in states requiring secure storage when the gun is not in the owner's possession, compared to states with no secure storage laws.

- Relatively modest increases in safe storage practices could [reduce youth firearm fatalities by up to 32%](#).
- Multiple studies from 2006-2009 have found that CAP laws can reduce firearm suicide and unintentional gun deaths among children and teens [by up to 54%](#).

### **Current Landscape**

- There is [no federal law](#) which requires gun owners to safely store their guns and prevent children from accessing them:
  - The only federal regulation is a [2005 law](#) which requires that all handguns sold by licensed dealers be accompanied by a secure safety device, but does not require that these devices are used.
- [26 states](#) have child access prevention (CAP) and/or safe storage laws in place:
  - 20 of these states have laws which impose criminal liability on people who store firearms where minors could or do gain access to the firearm.
- The majority of Americans support mandating safe storage of firearms:
  - A [2019 poll](#) found that 78% of Americans are in favor of safe storage regulations, 60% of whom strongly support the measures
    - This support is bipartisan: 68% of Republicans and 88% of Democrats support safe storage.
    - The measure is also supported by the majority of gun owners (66%) and non-gun owners (85%).

HB125 should not be controversial. Please support this commonsense legislation to keep our keiki and general population safe.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Nehmad

Chapter Lead, Brady Hawaii  
[dnehmada@bradyunited.org](mailto:dnehmada@bradyunited.org)



COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, March 19, 2025  
TIME: 3:00 PM  
PLACE: Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

From: Lisa Dau, RN, Injury Prevention Coordinator  
Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition (KIPC)  
RE: HB125, HD1 Relating to Firearms

I am writing to express my **strong support for HB125, HD1**, which requires retail firearm sellers to provide purchasers with clear notice regarding firearm storage laws, expands secure firearm storage requirements, and clarifies the offense of criminally negligent storage of a firearm.

Safe firearm storage is a critical component of responsible gun ownership. Every year, unsecured firearms contribute to preventable tragedies, including unintentional discharges, firearm thefts, and suicides. Studies have shown that proper firearm storage can significantly reduce incidents of unintentional shootings and unauthorized access to firearms by children and other individuals who should not have access to a weapon. This legislation will ensure that gun buyers are properly informed of their legal responsibilities when it comes to firearm storage. By requiring retailers to provide notice of firearm storage laws at the point of sale, we can help promote awareness and encourage compliance.

Additionally, strengthening secure storage requirements will help prevent firearms from falling into the wrong hands, thereby improving public safety for all residents. Clarifying the definition and consequences of criminally negligent firearm storage is essential. It provides clear legal guidance on what constitutes negligence, ensuring accountability while allowing law-abiding gun owners to take appropriate steps to secure their firearms. This measure is not about restricting gun rights but about promoting responsible ownership and reducing unnecessary harm.

KIPC urges the committee to pass this legislation to enhance firearm safety and protect our communities. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Dau, RN, MBA, BSN, CPSTI  
KIPC, Injury Prevention Coordinator

The Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition's (KIPC) mission is to prevent and reduce injuries to children in Hawaii. <https://kipchawaii.org/>



Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs  
Chair Brandon Elefante, Vice Chair Glen Wakai

Wednesday, March 19, 2025, 3:00 pm  
Room 225  
HB125, HD1 — Relating To Firearms

TESTIMONY

Judith Wong, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Wakai, and Committee Members:

**The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports HB125, HD1**

The League of Women Voters supports common sense gun regulation. Unsecured guns in the home are a known danger to children. A large portion of firearms used in unintentional shooting, school shootings and suicides by minors were using guns acquired from home or from the homes of friends or relatives. We, as Hawaii residents, have a need to protect our children. HB 125 is a commonsense way to make our children safer.

HB125, HD1 creates an obligation to securely store a firearm when it is not under the direct control of the owner or other lawfully authorized user. This would make firearms kept in the home much safer and this requirement is not overly burdensome to responsible gun owners and should be passed into law.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



March 18, 2025

To: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS  
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Chair  
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Re: SUPPORT OF HB125 HD1 RELATING TO FIREARMS

Hrg: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 3:00PM

The Hawai'i Public Health Association (HPHA) is a group of over 450 community members, public health professionals, and organizations statewide dedicated to improving public health. Our mission is to promote public health in Hawai'i through leadership, collaboration, education and advocacy.

The Hawaii Public Health Association supports HB125 which requires gun owners to keep their firearms stored locked when not in use, to prevent unintentional shootings by children, suicides, and gun theft. This measure is important because:

- Keeping guns securely stored at home is one of the most effective steps we can take to prevent unintentional shootings, youth gun violence and school shootings, and gun thefts.
- While millions of responsible gun owners follow recommended storage practices, research shows that more than half of gun owners do not store all of their guns securely.
- More than 1,200 children and teens die by gun suicide each year, most often using guns belonging to a family member. Over 80 percent of child firearm suicides take place in a home.
- In more than 75% of active shooter incidents in K-12 schools, the shooter or shooters were school-age and were current or former students and obtained their guns from their home or the homes of relatives.
- Guns stolen from cars and homes are the single-largest source of guns used in crimes nationally.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Holly Kessler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Holly Kessler  
Executive Director

**To:** Members of the Hawaii Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs  
**From:** Agustin Cabrera, Giffords State Legislative Manager  
**Subject:** Support for HB 125  
**Date:** March 19, 2025

*Submitted via email*

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Distinguished members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Agustin Cabrera and I am a State Legislative Manager with Giffords, the gun violence prevention organization founded by former Congresswoman Gabby Giffords. I write to you today in support of HB 125, a bill that would strengthen standards for the safe storage of firearms in Hawaii.

When guns are not stored safely or securely, the risk of theft, misuse, or accidental injury significantly increases. Safe storage laws are incredibly effective tools to curb gun deaths and injuries, having a significant impact on community safety.

**Unsecured guns in the home pose a real threat to children and teens.**

Household guns, often the most easily accessible firearms for youth, are a major source of weapons used in school shootings, youth suicides, and unintentional shooting deaths among children. In the United States, 4.6 million minors live in homes with at least one loaded and unsecured firearm, putting them at higher risk of gun homicide and suicide.<sup>1</sup> Data from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention shows that youth suicide with guns rose dramatically between 2011 and 2020.<sup>2</sup> In fact, gun suicides by minors increased 61% in that period. Studies have demonstrated that the risk of suicide—particularly amongst children and teens—is significantly higher in homes where a firearm is kept loaded and/or unlocked.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, a study of mass shootings demonstrated that in over half of shootings perpetrated by minors in elementary or secondary schools, the shooter used guns obtained from home that were likely unsecured.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Deborah Azrael, Joanna Cohen, Carmel Salhi, and Matthew Miller, "Firearm Storage in Gun-Ownning Households with Children: Results of a 2015 National Survey," *Journal of Urban Health* 95, no. 3 (2018): 295–304.; Matthew Miller and Deborah Azrael, "Firearm Storage in US Households with Children: Findings from the 2021 National Firearm Survey," *JAMA Network Open* 5, no. 2 (2022).

<sup>2</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Underlying Cause of Death 1999-2020 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released in 2021.

<sup>3</sup> Matthew Miller & David Hemenway, "The Relationship Between Firearms and Suicide: A Review of the Literature,"

<sup>4</sup> *Aggression & Violent Behavior* (1999): 59, 62–65 (summarizing the findings of multiple studies).

<sup>4</sup> See Analysis of School Shootings, December 31, 2015, <http://everytownresearch.org/reports/analysis-of-school-shootings/>.

Children and teens are also at risk of death or injury from unintentional shootings. Children as young as three years-old are strong enough to fire some types of handguns.<sup>5</sup> Estimates from a 2019 study suggest that even modest increases in the number of American homes safely storing firearms could prevent almost a third of youth gun deaths due to suicide and unintentional firearm injury.<sup>6</sup>

### **HB 125 can help prevent both youth and adult firearm suicides.**

Safe storage is important for people of all ages. Studies over the last three decades have consistently found a strong correlation between lower risks of self-inflicted firearm injuries and suicide in homes where firearms are kept locked or unloaded for both youth *and* adults.<sup>7</sup> One study found that adults who stored their firearms safely were less likely to die by firearm suicide.<sup>8</sup> Another study found that states with laws requiring safe storage of handguns experienced reduced rates of firearm suicide generally.<sup>9</sup>

### **Unsecured firearms contribute to gun theft and illegal firearm trafficking.**

Nationally–representative survey data suggests that approximately 380,000 guns are stolen from individual gun owners each year.<sup>10</sup> A safe storage law can also prevent unsecured guns from being stolen during a burglary or other theft by people who have consent to be in the home, such as caregivers of elderly residents and other visitors.

Gun theft is also an important way that guns enter the illegal market.<sup>11</sup> A study by Harvard and Northeastern researchers shows that hundreds of thousands of firearms are stolen from gun owners each year.<sup>12</sup> From 2017 to 2021, there were over one million guns (1,026,538) stolen from individual gun owners in the U.S.<sup>13</sup> The real number of stolen guns is likely much higher as most states do not require gun owners to report stolen guns to law enforcement. Importantly, a 2023 ATF report revealed that many of these stolen firearms wind up in underground markets,

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<sup>5</sup> Sarah Kaplan, “3-year-old picks up great-grandpa’s pistol from nightstand, fatally shoots sister,” Washington Post, February 8, 2016, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2016/02/08/3-year-old-picks-up-great-grandpas-pistol-from-nightstand-fatally-shoots-sister/>.

<sup>6</sup> Michael C. Monuteaux, Deborah Azrael, and Matthew Miller, “Association of Increased Safe Household Firearm Storage With Firearm Suicide and Unintentional Death Among US Youths,” JAMA Pediatrics (2019).

<sup>7</sup> David C. Grossman et al., “Gun Storage Practices and Risk of Youth Suicide and Unintentional Firearm Injuries,” JAMA 293, no. 6 (2005): 707–14, <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.293.6.707>; Shenassa ED, Rogers ML, Spalding KL, Roberts MB. Safer storage of firearms at home and risk of suicide: a study of protective factors in a nationally representative sample. J Epidemiol Community Health. 2004 Oct;58(10):841-8. doi: 10.1136/jech.2003.017343. PMID: 15365110; PMCID: PMC1763337; Anestis, Michael & Bandel, Shelby & Butterworth, Sarah & Bond, Allison & Daruwala, Samantha & Bryan, Craig. (2020). Suicide risk and firearm ownership and storage behavior in a large military sample. Psychiatry Research. 291. 10.1016/j.psychres.2020.113277.

<sup>8</sup> [Link - Giffords Safe Storage](#)

<sup>9</sup> [Link - Giffords Safe Storage](#)

<sup>10</sup> David Hemenway, Deborah Azrael, and Matthew Miller, “Whose Guns are Stolen? The Epidemiology of Gun Theft Victims,” Injury Epidemiology 4, no. 1 (2017).

<sup>11</sup> Id.

<sup>12</sup> Id.

<sup>13</sup> Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, “Part V: Firearm Thefts” (Jan. 11, 2023) at 2, <https://www.atf.gov/firearms/docs/report/nfcta-volume-ii-part-v-firearm-thefts/download>.



helping to illegally arm minors, criminals, and other prohibited persons.<sup>14</sup> Even one stolen gun can have drastic consequences. For instance, just one gun stolen from a dealer in Wisconsin was subsequently linked to 27 separate shootings in Chicago—two of which were fatal—in the 20 months before it was confiscated.<sup>15</sup>

Researchers have also found that gun owners who safely store their firearms experience gun thefts at a lower rate than those who do not. A 2017 study concluded that promoting safer storage of guns may help to reduce gun thefts and reduce the number of guns entering the illegal market.<sup>16</sup>

In conclusion, asking gun owners to safely and securely store their firearms is not unreasonable. A majority of gun owners are both aware of and regularly practice safe storage of their firearms. HB 125 would only impact gun owners who are not acting responsibly and risk a tragedy or theft of their firearm that could impact many more than only those within their home. Giffords believes this to be a reasonable and impactful strategy to implement in the fight against gun violence and asks that you vote in favor of HB 125.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Agustin Cabrera*

**Agustin Cabrera**

State Legislative Manager | He/Him

c: (806) 335-5819

[giffords.org](https://www.giffords.org) | [@GIFFORDS\\_org](https://twitter.com/GIFFORDS_org)

**GIFFORDS**

#### **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.*

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<sup>14</sup> Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, “Part V: Firearm Thefts” (Jan. 11, 2023) at 23, <https://www.atf.gov/firearms/docs/report/nfcta-volume-ii-part-v-firearm-thefts/download>.

<sup>15</sup> Annie Sweeney, Jeremy Garner, “A gun was stolen from a small shop in Wisconsin. Officials have linked it to 27 shootings in Chicago” Chicago Trib., Sept. 25, 2021, <https://www.chicagotribune.com/2021/09/25/a-gun-was-stolen-from-a-small-shop-in-wisconsin-officials-have-linked-it-to-27-shootings-in-chicago/>.

<sup>16</sup> David Hemenway, et al, *supra* note 10.



March 18, 2025

Aloha, Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Wakai, and Committee Members:

My name is Erica Yamauchi, and I live in the Kaimukī area. As a gun violence survivor, business owner, mother of two children in our public schools, and adjunct faculty member at the University of Hawai'i. I also serve as volunteer state co-lead of the Hawai'i chapter of Moms Demand Action. On behalf of our three local groups on Hawai'i Island, Kaua'i and O'ahu, and our 2,000+ supporters across the islands, **I'm writing today in strong support of House Bill 664.**

These bills would create a state Office of Gun Violence Prevention, bringing Hawai'i in line with our peer gun safety states that already have such offices, including California, Washington, Massachusetts, New York and Illinois.

With the increase in gun violence we have witnessed in our state over the last decade, including a mass shooting in Wai'anae last year and a shootout just a few days ago in Waikīkī, we need to ensure that we're approaching this crisis from every possible angle.

A statewide office will be able to direct, coordinate and support the state's gun violence prevention efforts at multiple stages – from collecting and tracking data to inform policy, to increasing public awareness of secure storage and extreme risk protective orders (ERPOs), to administering funding to lifesaving community violence intervention programs that prevent shootings.

Our lower incidence of gun violence historically here in the islands hasn't been by accident, but due to sound public policy and commonsense gun safety laws. We urge you to pass this bill.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Erica Yamauchi, Volunteer State Co-Lead

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 7:04:13 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB125 SD1. This bill seeks to criminalize the retailer and lawful gun owner. Proof of safety training is already required to purchase a firearm. Every new firearms is supplied with a owners manual and instructions for safe use and storage. Retailers should not be liable for the crimunal use of items once purchased from their store. Owners should not be liable for criminal use of their property that has been illegally taken. This will open the door to making car owners liable when their stolen car is used in vehicular homicide or department stores liable for selling a knife that was used in a stabbing death.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 4:11:39 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
jessica dias	Testifying for Free Citizens of Maunaloa	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE 2A shall not be infringed.

# HAWAII PATRIOT REPUBLICANS

Written Testimony in Opposition to H.B. No. 125

Submitted to the Senate Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

March 16, 2025

Aloha Members of the Committee,

I strongly urge you to vote NO on H.B. No. 125, a bill that mandates strict firearms storage rules and burdens retailers with new notice requirements. While it claims to enhance safety, this legislation is an intrusive overreach that defies the Trump administration's agenda, threatens the rights and livelihoods of Hawaii's people, and lacks evidence of effectiveness. As a concerned citizen rooted in limited government and personal responsibility—values that can unite us across party lines—I present the following objections to demonstrate why this bill must be rejected.

## **1. Infringing on Personal Freedom and Responsibility**

H.B. 125 mandates that all firearms be locked in boxes or safes, stripping law-abiding gun owners of the freedom to decide how to responsibly secure their property. Democrats value individual rights—why impose a one-size-fits-all rule that assumes citizens can't protect their homes and families without government micromanagement?

[Washington State's safe storage law](#), enacted in 2019, sparked backlash from rural residents who argued it hindered quick access for self-defense, with a [2021 report](#) noting no clear drop in accidental shootings. Hawaii's diverse communities deserve flexibility, not a nanny-state dictate.

## **2. Defying Trump's Pro-Gun Agenda Risks Hawaii's Well-Being**

The Trump administration, led by Attorney General nominee Pam Bondi and Vice President JD Vance, champions Second Amendment rights over restrictive regulations. Bondi has stated, "Law-abiding Americans shouldn't face government overreach on their constitutional freedoms," while Vance has argued, "Gun control burdens the innocent more than the guilty" (paraphrased from campaign remarks). H.B. 125's storage mandates and retailer rules defy this agenda, risking federal pushback—lost funding or legal challenges—that could harm Hawaii's people. Democrats who prioritize pragmatism should see the stakes: clashing with Bondi's DOJ could cost us resources for schools and healthcare.

[New York's SAFE Act storage rules](#), passed in 2013, led to [reduced DOJ grants](#) in 2020 under Trump's first term for conflicting with federal priorities. With Bondi and Vance in power, Hawaii could face worse—why invite that penalty?

## **3. Economic Burden on Small Businesses and Residents**

The bill's requirement for retailers to provide written notices and its strict storage rules impose costs—paperwork, training, and potential fines—on small businesses, while forcing gun owners to buy expensive safes or face liability. Democrats care about working families—why saddle them with financial strain for a law with no proven benefit?

[California's storage mandates](#), tightened in 2019, hurt small gun shops, with a [2022 analysis](#) showing compliance costs drove some out of business, hitting rural economies hard. Hawaii's retailers and residents can't afford this economic hit—let's protect livelihoods, not crush them.

#### **4. No Evidence of Safety Gains**

H.B. 125 claims secure storage reduces risks like accidents and suicides, but it offers no data proving these mandates work beyond existing laws. Most incidents involve reckless behavior, not lawful owners lacking safes. Democrats demand evidence-based policy—where’s the proof this isn’t just symbolic?

[New Jersey’s storage law](#), expanded in 2019, showed no significant decline in gun accidents by 2022, per a [state report](#), just higher compliance costs. Hawaii risks wasting effort on a feel-good fix that misses the real issues.

#### **5. Disproportionate Liability Harms Vulnerable Communities**

The bill’s strict liability for damages within two years of a violation disproportionately punishes low-income gun owners who can’t afford safes, deepening economic divides. Democrats fight for equity—why back a law that could trap struggling families in legal and financial ruin?

[Oregon’s storage requirements](#), enacted in 2021, led to a [2023 study](#) noting rural and low-income residents faced unfair penalties, eroding trust in government. Hawaii’s diverse population deserves fairness, not a policy that punishes poverty.

#### **Conclusion: A Principled NO Vote Safeguards Hawaii**

Members of the Committee, H.B. 125 promises safety but delivers overreach, economic harm, and defiance of Trump’s agenda—risking Hawaii’s people with no proven gain. It curtails freedom, clashes with Bondi and Vance’s priorities, burdens businesses and families, lacks evidence, and hits the vulnerable hardest. From Washington to Oregon, similar laws have floundered, leaving communities strained and no safer.

Vote NO on H.B. 125 to protect our rights, resources, and equity. Let’s reject this intrusion and demand practical, fair solutions—before defying the administration costs us more than we can bear.

Sincerely,

*Andrew Crossland*

Hawaii Patriot Republicans

[hawaiipatriotRepublicans@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiipatriotRepublicans@gmail.com)



As the Libertarian Party of Hawaii, we firmly oppose HB125.

This bill violates the Second Amendment rights enshrined in the United States Constitution, which unequivocally guarantees the right to bear arms. Any regulations infringing upon firearm ownership and storage represent a direct assault on our fundamental freedoms.

The imposition of strict liability on individuals for damages resulting from the use of an "improperly stored" firearm blatantly tramples on these clearly defined rights, criminalizing constitutionally protected activities. Violent crimes caused by firearms are already illegal, and easily prosecuted.

Mandating that retail firearm sellers furnish purchasers with storage regulation notices needlessly encumbers businesses and severely impacts businesses.

The right to bear arms is the cornerstone of a free society, a sentinel against government intrusion, assuring personal autonomy, liberty, and individual accountability. These rights are essential for safeguarding oneself, one's kin, and one's property, while inherently upholding the bedrock principle of self-determination.

Overemphasizing "collective safety" at the expense of individual rights not only undermines liberty and personal sovereignty but also attacks the very foundation of our democratic values.

Our representatives must uphold individual rights, rather than chip away at them. Their goals should be to cultivate self-responsibility and self-reliance within Hawaii, not dictating what rights we get to keep.

In Freedom,  
The Libertarian Party of Hawaii

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 3:14:25 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Samira Fatemi	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I am writing to support HB125 to require retailers and transferers of firearms to provide notice on laws regarding firearm storage.



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 2:52:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jay Franzone	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

My name is Jay Franzone, I live in town, just down the road on South King and I am a Bloomberg American Health Initiative Fellow, focusing on violence at Johns Hopkins University. I've been fortunate to call Hawai'i home for the past few years. My fiancé, who is Native Hawaiian, is applying to JABSOM this cycle, with hopes of returning to Kaua'i to serve the community where he was raised. I'm here today because I care deeply about the health and well-being of our community

In my work, I focus on preventing firearm-related injuries and deaths. Research consistently shows that access to a firearm triples the risk of suicide, which is especially concerning in Hawai'i, where additional stressors—like the high cost of living, housing instability, and geographic isolation—can compound emotional distress. Additionally, guns stolen from cars and homes are the single-largest source of guns used in crimes nationally, and in more than 75% of active shooter incidents in K-12 schools, the shooter obtained their firearm from their home or a relative's home.

While this may not have happened here, yet – it could — and we should be doing all we can to protect our communities. By passing HB 125, we can ensure that responsible gun ownership includes storing firearms so they cannot be accessed by children, individuals at risk of harming themselves, or those who might use them in a crime.

This bill is an essential step to protect our keiki, families, and communities from preventable tragedies. Mahalo for your time and for considering this important measure.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Mel Rapozo, Chair  
KipuKai Kualii, Vice Chair  
Addison Bulosan  
Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.  
Felicia Cowden  
Fern Holland  
Arryl Kaneshiro



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, County Clerk  
Lyndon M. Yoshioka, Deputy County Clerk

Telephone: (808) 241-4188  
Facsimile: (808) 241-6349  
Email: [cokcouncil@kauai.gov](mailto:cokcouncil@kauai.gov)

**Council Services Division**  
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209  
Lihu'e, Kauai, Hawaii 96766

March 17, 2025

**TESTIMONY OF ADDISON BULOSAN  
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL**

**ON**

**HB 125, HD 1, RELATING TO FIREARMS**

**HB 137, HD 1, RELATING TO FIREARMS**

**HB 392, HD 1, RELATING TO FIREARMS**

**Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs**

**Wednesday, March 19, 2025**

**3:00 p.m.**

**Conference Room 225**

**Via Videoconference**

Dear Chair Elefante and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of HB 125, HD 1, HB 137, HD 1, and HB 392, HD 1, Relating to Firearms. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Kauai County Council.

I wholeheartedly support the intent of HB 125, HD 1, HB 137, HD 1, and HB 392, HD 1, which would greatly affect the Kauai community.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 125, HD 1, HB 137, HD 1, and HB 392, HD 1. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188 or via email to [cokcouncil@kauai.gov](mailto:cokcouncil@kauai.gov).

Sincerely,

**ADDISON BULOSAN**  
Councilmember, Kauai County Council

JY:mn

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 4:21:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Ball	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Members of the Committee,

I support this legislation to strengthen our existing gun laws.

With aloha,

Dave Ball, Waialae-Kahala

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 4:21:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ashley de Coligny	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am a resident of Kaneohe writing in strong support of HB125, HD1.

Please keep our Hawaii safe by passing common sense gun safety laws.

Access to guns in the home increases the risk of suicide by 300%. Improperly storing guns can contribute to guns entering the illegal market. Unlocked and loaded firearms in the home drastically jeopardize the safety of our keiki. Strengthening our secure storage laws is commonsense and long overdue.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 4:28:31 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
irene kloepfer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha. Please support this bill. The lawlessness regarding guns is out of control. Mahalo

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 4:29:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane Davis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**HB 125, HD 1** - Access to guns in the home increases the risk of suicide by 300%. Improperly storing guns can contribute to guns entering the illegal market. Unlocked and loaded firearms in the home drastically jeopardize the safety of our keiki. Strengthening our secure storage laws is commonsense and long overdue.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 4:42:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 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:

Please move this bill forward. It will help save lives. Access to guns in the home increases the risk of suicide by 300%. Improperly storing guns can contribute to guns entering the illegal market. Unlocked and loaded firearms in the home drastically jeopardize the safety of our keiki. Strengthening our secures storage laws is commonsense and long overdue.

Mahalo.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 4:44:28 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am a resident of the State of Hawaii and support HB125.

Please consider approving and implementing HB125

Your consideration of this request is appreciated



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 5:22:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 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 to require retail sellers or transferers of firearms to provide purchasers with notice regarding the law on firearms storage. One of the best ways to encourage safe storage of firearms is to make sure that owners know the rules. Failure to maintain safe storage allows access by minors, persons who may be emotionally distraught, and thieves. Expanding the requirements for the secure storage of firearms is a common sense way to help reduce accidental gun injuries and suicide.

Thank you for consideration of my testimony

Ellen Carson

Honolulu, Hawaii

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 7:15:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lynn Otaguro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill because it will keep our families and communities safer. Please support HB 125 HD1.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 6:59:55 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara Fisher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to guns in the home increases the risk of suicide by 300%. Improperly storing guns can contribute to guns entering the illegal market. Unlocked and loaded firearms in the home drastically jeopardize the safety of our keiki. Strengthening our secures storage laws is commonsense and long overdue.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 8:28:05 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mary Babcock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to guns in the home increases the risk of suicide by 300%. Improperly storing guns can contribute to guns entering the illegal market. Unlocked and loaded firearms in the home drastically jeopardize the safety of our keiki. Strengthening our secures storage laws is commonsense and long overdue.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 10:03:10 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

HB 125, HD 1 is a common sense measure and I fully and enthusiastically support this.

Strengthening our secures storage laws is long overdue. Access to guns in the home increases the risk of suicide by 300%. Improperly storing guns can contribute to guns entering the illegal market. Unlocked and loaded firearms in the home drastically jeopardize the safety of our keiki.

Please lend your support to this important measure.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 10:29:31 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kathryn Braun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 125, HD 1. Access to guns in the home increases the risk of suicide by 300%. Improperly storing guns can contribute to guns entering the illegal market. Unlocked and loaded firearms in the home drastically jeopardize the safety of our keiki. Strengthening our secures storage laws is commonsense and long overdue.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 10:57:10 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas M. Klobe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**HB 125, HD 1** - Access to guns in the home increases the risk of suicide by 300%. Improperly storing guns can contribute to guns entering the illegal market. Unlocked and loaded firearms in the home drastically jeopardize the safety of our keiki. Strengthening our secured storage laws is commonsense and long overdue.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 8:07:52 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nadine Ferraro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully and seriously support HB 125



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 5:08:14 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support HB125. Guns in the home is such a dangerous situation that increases the risk of gun violence and tragedy. HB 125 reduces some of that risk of gun violence, so it is important to support this bill.

Access to guns in the home increases the risk of suicide by 300%. Improperly storing guns can contribute to guns entering the illegal market. Unlocked and loaded firearms in the home drastically jeopardize the safety of our keiki. Strengthening our secures storage laws is commonsense and long overdue.

Please support reduction in gun violence and support HB 125.

Mahalo,

Beth Anderson

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 5:52:56 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Judith Cucco	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to guns in the home increases the risk of suicide by 300%. Improperly storing guns can contribute to guns entering the illegal market. Unlocked and loaded firearms in the home drastically jeopardize the safety of our keiki. Strengthening our secures storage laws is commonsense and long overdue.

To: Hawaii State House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday March 19, 2025, 3:00pm

Place: Hawaii State Capitol, CR225 & Videoconference

Re: Judith Ann Armstrong supports HB125 Relating to Firearms

Dear Chair Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair Senator Glenn Wakai and members of the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

I, Judith Ann Armstrong, support HB125, which expands the requirements for secure storage of firearms and clarifies the offense of criminally negligent storage of a firearm.

Access to guns in the home increases the risk of suicide by 300%. Improperly storing guns can contribute to guns entering the illegal market. Unlocked and loaded firearms in the home drastically jeopardize the safety of our keiki. Strengthening our secure storage laws is commonsense and long overdue.

I strongly urge the committee to pass HB125.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Judith Ann Armstrong

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee members:

My name is Elna Nagasako and I live in Makiki. I am testifying in support of HB125.

I was born and raised in Hilo and have lived in a variety of locations across the country, including locations with and without secure storage laws. I've also had friends, relatives, and co-workers who own guns for hunting and for self-protection. All of the people I knew were people who were responsible, law-abiding, and level-headed. Because of that, it would be easy to think that all guns are being stored securely.

**However, research shows that more than half of gun owners do not store their guns securely. This impacts crime, school shootings, and firearm suicide.**

- The largest source of guns used in crimes are guns stolen from homes or vehicles.
- The majority of K-12 active shooter incidents involved guns taken by the student from their own home or a family member's home.
- Children and teens who die by firearm suicide most often use guns owned by a family member.

As a physician and as a parent, I urge you to support HB125.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Elna Nagasako

Makiki (96822)

Aloha,

My name is Olesya Noerper, and I am a freshman at Punahou Academy who strongly supports HB125.

Before I transferred to the Academy, the middle school that I attended was shaken by a gun scare that left a lasting mark on all of us. It started as a whisper in the morning that I arrived—a rumor that a student had brought a gun to campus. At first, I brushed it off. Gossip spreads easily in school, with a majority of it contributing little. Soon, however, reality set in. I watched as students checked their phones, faces growing pale and fingers rushing to call buttons. Some bolted from campus before the first bell even rang. Others, like me, called their parents and left, unwilling to take the risk. By the end of the first period, nearly a third of the school had disappeared. Those who stayed sat in uneasy silence, their teachers struggling to maintain a sense of normalcy while fear pulsed beneath the surface.

In the end, there was no gun. But there was a threat. The student at the center of it all had posted online, stating his intent to bring a gun to school, even taking a photo of the weapon. The fear that gripped us that morning was not imagined—it was justified. And though the threat never materialized, the damage was already done. The school faced an avalanche of backlash, but no amount of explanations or apologies could erase the terror we had felt. I remember how my hands shook as I texted my parents, my friends and classmates mirroring my rushed and panicked movements. I remember the way my chest tightened every time I thought about what could have happened, about how close we might have been to tragedy. That day, I learned how fragile the illusion of safety is. For many students across the country, that fear turns into something much worse—something irreversible.

This is why having HB125 is critical. Requiring firearms to be securely stored would reduce the likelihood of tragedies like the one we feared that day. Studies show that over 75% of guns used in school shootings are taken from the homes of family members. When firearms are not properly stored, they become easily accessible to individuals who may act out of anger, fear, or desperation. A secure storage law would also reduce the number of stolen guns that are later used in crimes, preventing legally owned firearms from being turned into illegal weapons. Additionally, keeping guns locked away can prevent impulsive suicides, giving people in moments of crisis the time and space they need to seek help. Every step we take to limit unauthorized access to firearms makes our communities safer.

We must acknowledge that times have changed. The framers of the Constitution could not have foreseen a world where the threat of gun violence was constantly looming over their shoulder. The laws that govern us must evolve with society to keep us safe. HB125 is a necessary step in ensuring that weapons designed for war do not infiltrate our communities—regardless of whether or not the individual is a 14-year-old boy or a hunter. No student should have to experience the fear that my classmates and I felt that day. No community should have to grieve because of preventable violence. This bill is not just about policy—it is about protecting lives.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 11:37:13 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Laetitia Thibault Santoro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing as a citizen, a parent, a retail professional to support HB 125.

the safe storage of firearm is one of the most important thing we can do to prevent access to firearms to people who shouldn't have them (kids), prevent stealing them and to avoid misuse of guns.

please vote for the safe storage of firearm.

best,

Laetitia Thibault Santoro

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 12:29:56 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Allegra Giacchino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm writing in strong support of HB125 because keeping guns securely stored is one of the most effective steps we can take to prevent unintentional shootings, youth gun violence and school shootings, gun suicides, and gun thefts. While many responsible gun owners follow recommended storage practices, unfortunately, research shows that more than half of gun owners do not.

Our country wisely implemented seat-belt laws when it became clear that buckling up was a simple step that would significantly reduce deaths. Similarly, requiring the secure storage of firearms, will significantly reduce deaths. I have two teenage boys, am a social worker, and have been a volunteer for the Crisis Text Line. We know that children are curious, teenagers are impulsive, and adults in a moment of overwhelming rage or despair can make terrible decisions. Let's not make those passing moments, fatal moments. Means matter and access matters. It is time to take proactive measures to prevent avoidable tragedies. I urge you to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Allegra Giacchino

96816



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 1:07:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rachel Logan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to a firearm triples the risk of suicide and secure firearm storage saves lives. Please pass this important bill to spread the message about secure firearm storage.

Mahalo,

Rachel Logan

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 2:12:30 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marcella Alohalani Boido	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I agree with Everytown's position. Please pass this bill.

Thank you.

Marcella Alohalani Boido, M.A.

Moili'ili

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 5:54:13 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 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 OPPOSITION to this bill. The opening of the bill speaks of historical analogues allowing such regulations while citing Rahimi. Rahimi was a refinement of the Bruin decision which states that gun laws must have a legal analogue from the time of the founding when the Second Amendment is implicated and this duty would be on the Government to prove a historic analogue.

Anti-Gun proponents have tried, and failed, to equate laws regarding the safe storage of black powder as such an analog, when they are actually fire safety and building code laws, not gun laws. The intention was not to prevent use or misuse of a firearm by keeping powder stored, but to reduce the chance for fire to spread and mandate safer powder magazine design to reduce collateral damage in the event of a detonation.

Since proponents of this bill cannot point to an actual historic analog, it is a violation of the Second Amendment and the Constitution. While safely storing firearms is a good idea, it is a matter of self responsibility and in some instances can be cost prohibitive with the requirements laid out in this bill. A proper gun safe can cost nearly \$1000, with shipping costs to Hawaii adding to that price due to the bulk and weight of such items.

More affordable options may be more easily accessed by unauthorized persons. Some of the most popular gun vaults available on Amazon have glaring security flaws that can be used to bypass the locks and access the firearm stored within. Some of these are as damning as a plastic or rubber panel hidden behind a sticker that can be popped off with a finger to gain access to the locking mechanism and firearm inside. Most would not be aware of these design flaws and assume their storage is secure.

My own safe is bolted to my wall, but someone with a crowbar could access it within 5 minutes, less if they have power tools like an angle grinder, within seconds if they have lockpicking tools and a small amount of experience.

And all these safety measures often slow down access to a firearm in an emergency. This bill, while well meaning, must be deferred due to its unconstitutionality.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 4:24:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mary Healy	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Chair  
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs (PSM)  
Hearing: Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.  
Regarding: **HB125 (Relating to Firearms)**  
**Voter Position: OPPOSITION**

Senators of the PSM Committee,

I express my continued **opposition** to **HB125 HD1 (Relating to Firearms)**.

**Continued Irrational Prosecution**

**HB125 HD1** *still* seeks to criminalize lawful gun owners by expanding liability of injury or property damage caused by another individual's criminal actions. The liability for the use of a firearm should rest exclusively upon the end-user that executed any act of unauthorized firearm acquisition. Any deviation from such focus makes no sense whatsoever.

**Enhanced Burden on Transfers**

If the Legislature is changing the law, then the Legislature should focus on educating the public itself. Instead of forcing private citizens to take up public labor that is forced upon them, the Legislature can produce and air public service announcements on television and disseminate literature emphasizing the law change to the public as a public service.

Printing out literature isn't free. Any printout of Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Section 134-10.5, as amended by **HB125 HD1**, will incur cost in the form of paper, ink, and electricity associated with the printout. Upon reviewing **HB125 HD1**, I didn't find any provision of reimbursement for this added cost. Moreover, such practice is unsustainable since it uses more paper—a digital copy of the law would reduce the need for paper printout. It's 2025: recipients of firearm transfers can read the law change for free on their own time without any cost imposed on the one initiating the transfer. Stop making things more difficult than they need to be.

**HB125 HD1** may actually make transfer of firearms more difficult, creating an ironic paradox where a potential decrease of firearm numbers in a household gets eliminated simply because an out-bound transfer was no longer palpable by the receiving party.

**Severability Clause Shadow is Continued**

Severability clauses always indicate that there is the inclusion of a highly controversial aspect that is likely to be challenged in a lawsuit. The fact that this provision is *still* incorporated within **HB125 HD1** continues to cast a shadow of doubt concerning the overall validity of **HB125 HD1's** purported public safety benefits. A bill of true integrity should be able to stand in whole upon its own merit without needing to grasp to surviving legislative vestiges that are not deemed unconstitutional by a lawsuit.

Such continued severability clause inclusion suggests that there is a dubious motive to preserve certain parts of the measure, despite overwhelming unpopularity and lack of substantive public support.

### **Focus on Stopping Thieves**

If firearm theft and the associated unauthorized use of such unauthorized firearm acquisition continues to be such a concern, a good way to stop such theft is to enable law enforcement personnel to stop thieves. It's not too complicated of a solution. Fully staffing law enforcement vacancies is one good start, but that can only be accomplished if legislative efforts emphasize a focus on filling those vacancies. Voting no on **HB125 HD1** would free up key time needed during this legislative session to ensure that bills focused on enhancing law enforcement capabilities result in the reduction of firearm thefts, as well as other thefts and crime in general.

Thank you for taking the time to review this testimony.

Respectfully,

Ryan C. Tinajero

Constituent of **Senate District 23**

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 6:51:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
GENER MACARAEG	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB125 HD1. This bill puts too much liability on gun owners, especially if the firearm is stolen.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 8:38:16 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jason Howell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I (oppose)HB 125, for reasons that an addition of this Bill just adds to the paperwork of the sellers , without the focus of fighting crime and making our communities safer. we as law abiding gun owners , already have to take a firearm safety class which includes safe storage and the law , in order to purchase firearms. this bill just adds to the heap of paperwork without addressing any new issues ..



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 7:18:03 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kenny Wusstig	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a very silly bill being purposed for absolutely no reason. How is punishing a legal law-abiding gun owner for storing their firearms gonna prevent further gun violence ? Last I checked this is the United States of America, not the Un-United States of Tyranny ! What else more storage and liability do we need ? !!!

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 9:17:27 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ramiro Noguero	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 12:15:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Zac Nosugref	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 12:45:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 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 HB125! It ignores the Supreme Court ruling in D.C. v. Heller (2008), which ruled that: "the requirement that any lawful firearm in the home be disassembled or bound by a trigger lock is unconstitutional because it makes it impossible for citizens to use arms for the core lawful purpose of self-defense."

HB125 also declares our home is NOT secure and a locked door is still a public space– an outright attack on our right to defend ourselves and our family.

HB125 also unfairly punishes gun owners for theft or misuse of their firearms by criminals.

HB125 does not make the people of Hawai‘i safer, it only strips away our rights! It clearly violates our Constitutional rights. Furthermore, it criminalizes responsible gun owners, expands government overreach into legal firearm ownership, fails to address violent crime, and makes criminals out of law-abiding citizens. Stop wasting time and energy on unconstitutional bills, and focus on better education and training of the people. This also criminalizes those that cannot afford all of the fees to acquire a firearm.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 2:29:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Reid Oya	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB125

Ignores SCOTUS D.C. v. Heller

"the requirement that any lawful firearm in the home be disassembled or bound by a trigger lock is unconstitutional because it makes it impossible for citizens to use arms for the core lawful purpose of self-defense"

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 2:35:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brienna Gomes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We do not need stricter laws for already law abiding citizens.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 2:45:29 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eric Kaneshiro	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill infringes upon the Second Amendment right to bear arms, restricting the ability to readily access firearms for self-defense. This bill primarily affects law-abiding citizens and increases our exposure to civil liability.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 4:12:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Dedely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 4:17:50 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 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-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 4:19:48 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mallory De Dely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 4:30:35 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Troy Matsumiya	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I haven't owned a gun in over 30 years, but still believe these firearm bills are an overreach that punishes responsible gun owners while failing to address crime or public safety. Crime, poverty, homelessness, and repeat offenders of violent crimes should be the subject of these bills, not gun owners.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 4:39:07 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chanara Caey Richmond	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB125. Government overreach. Chanara Richmond, HD 42

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 4:56:28 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Charles-Michael victorino	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to oppose HB125 as it ignores previous legal precedence that states that how I store my weapons is up to me so it can be used in a self defense situation

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 5:04:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lee Uchiyama	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 5:43:16 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
William R Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB125

This bill related to the safe storage of firearms is vague and poorly written. If, for example, I returned home from a trip to the range and placed my rifle on my kitchen table to walk back to my car to get my sunglasses, would I be in violation of "leaving a gun unsecured"?

Please do not pass this bill.

Mahalo

William R Smith

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 5:55:56 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kevin Shiroma	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii is already one of the strictest gun control states, it is also the least violent regarding the use of firearms. I oppose this bill as it continues to restrict our 2nd amendment rights.



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 6:05:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ross mukai	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 6:20:12 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cheryl Rzonca	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB125 is unconstitutional. I oppose it and so should you.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 6:30:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael alapai	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Unconstitutional period right to bear arms

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 6:59:45 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brandon Santiago	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB 125 HD1. This bill is an infringement on both the second amendment, of the United States Constitution, and article one; section seventeen of the Hawai'i State Constitution. The language and intent of this bill are unconstitutional. HB 125 HD1 is a solution for a problem that does not exist. The language of HB 125 HD1 will make law abiding citizens, into criminals, overnight. HB 125 HD1 will do nothing to punish the already existing criminal element, because criminals don't follow the law. HD 125 HD1, if passed, will make soft targets of law abiding citizens, making us vulnerable to criminal violence and all other tyrannical elements.

Firearms storage is an important part of firearm ownership. Any decision, of how firearms are stored, should be left to the discretion of responsible, law abiding, firearms owners. No government, state or federal, should have any say, in how anyone should store their firearms.

"The requirement that any lawful firearm in the home be disassembled or bound by a trigger lock is unconstitutional because it makes it impossible for citizens to use arms for the core lawful purpose of self- defense." D.C. v. Heller Supreme Court ruling. 2008.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 7:15:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Debbie Wyand	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Vote NO

These firearm bills are an overreach that punishes responsible gun owners while failing to address crime or public safety.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 7:17:47 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mabelle Bastien	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose this bill. Thank you

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 7:18:30 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dr Marion Ceruti	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Vote NO on HB125. Stop making gun laws. Hawai'i has too many already. Stop micromanaging how gun owners store guns. Stop blaming gun owners for other people's crimes. Please, kokua, reject these unnecessary restrictions.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 7:32:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This is the ridiculous, how are people going to protect themselves from intruders? Who's going to enforce this. Stop infringing on our Second Amendment rights!



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 7:49:32 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ramon Maui Quizon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Wakai, Members of the Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs,

I am writing in opposition to HB125, which mandates the secured storage of firearms and imposes strict liability on gun owners for the misuse of their firearms by others in their household. While I fully support responsible gun ownership and the importance of safety, I believe this bill represents an overreach that ultimately punishes law-abiding citizens while failing to effectively address the root causes of crime and public safety concerns.

HB125 imposes onerous requirements on responsible gun owners who already take the necessary precautions to store their firearms safely. By making secured storage mandatory, this bill undermines the principle of personal responsibility and self-governance. Many gun owners have developed their own safe storage practices that suit their unique circumstances, and imposing a one-size-fits-all mandate disregards the diverse needs of our communities. Responsible gun owners should not be penalized for the actions of others, especially when they are already adhering to safety protocols.

The strict liability provision in this bill raises significant concerns regarding fairness and justice. If a firearm owned by a responsible individual is stolen or misused by someone living in their household, that individual would be held criminally liable for actions beyond their control. This could lead to unjust prosecutions of innocent individuals who made every effort to secure their firearms. Rather than addressing criminal behavior, this provision shifts the focus onto law-abiding citizens, creating a chilling effect on gun ownership and eroding trust within communities.

While the intent behind HB125 may be to enhance public safety, it ultimately fails to tackle the underlying issues of crime and gun violence. Research indicates that the majority of gun violence is perpetrated by individuals who obtain firearms illegally, not responsible gun owners. Instead of imposing punitive measures on law-abiding citizens, we should focus on addressing the root causes of violence, such as mental health support, community engagement, and effective crime prevention strategies. Evidence-based solutions that foster collaboration between law enforcement, community organizations, and mental health professionals will be far more effective in creating safer environments for everyone.

I urge you to reconsider the implications of HB125. This bill unfairly penalizes responsible gun owners and does not effectively address the complex issues surrounding crime and public safety. Instead of promoting safety, it fosters division and resentment among those who adhere to responsible gun ownership practices. Let us focus on solutions that enhance community safety without infringing on the rights of law-abiding citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope you will stand with responsible gun owners and oppose this legislation.

Sincerely,

//signed//

R.MAUI QUIZON, SMSgt, (Retired), USAF

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 8:00:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael A. Cobb Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this measure. This will not make anyone safer. Maeks it harder to defend yourself in your own home.

## **HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 8:28:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing to express my **strong opposition** to HB125 HD1, which imposes unconstitutional restrictions on firearm storage and unfairly penalizes lawful gun owners. This bill is not only an affront to the **Second Amendment** but also **directly contradicts the Supreme Court's ruling in D.C. v. Heller (2008)**, which explicitly stated that any law requiring lawful firearms in the home to be **disassembled or bound by a trigger lock is unconstitutional**, as it renders them useless for self-defense.

### **HB125 HD1 Ignores Supreme Court Precedent**

By mandating strict firearm storage requirements, this bill **defies the ruling in Heller**, which reaffirmed an individual's right to possess and use firearms for self-defense in the home. It is an egregious overreach by the state to dictate how law-abiding citizens must store their firearms, **effectively stripping them of their right to self-protection.**

### **Redefining "Home" as a Public Space is a Dangerous Precedent**

HB125 HD1 outrageously suggests that a locked home is not secure, thereby **redefining private residences as public spaces** when it comes to firearm storage. This is an unprecedented attack on personal liberty and home security. If one's locked home is not considered secure, then no place is. This flawed reasoning **undermines the fundamental right of self-defense within one's own home.**

### **Unfairly Punishing Victims of Crime**

The bill also unfairly **penalizes lawful gun owners for the criminal actions of others.** Holding a victim responsible for the theft or misuse of their firearm by a criminal is **not justice—it is victim-blaming.** Law-abiding citizens should not be held **strictly liable** for crimes committed with stolen firearms, especially when criminals, by definition, do not follow gun laws.

### **Conclusion**

HB125 HD1 is a blatant infringement on constitutional rights, a direct contradiction of Supreme Court precedent, and a **dangerous shift in how we define self-defense and personal**

**responsibility.** If passed, this legislation will **endanger innocent citizens, embolden criminals, and set a dangerous precedent for future attacks on the Second Amendment.**

I strongly urge you to **oppose HB125 HD1** and stand with the Constitution, the Supreme Court, and the citizens you were elected to represent.

Sincerely,  
Wayne Asam

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 9:49:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kirk Powles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

By locking up your guns, or makes it extremely difficult to defend yourself from intruders.

Unless that is the intent of this bill. To note allow people to defend themselves when trouble comes knocking at the door.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 10:01:57 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ronnie Gonzales	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha ,

I live in your district and I would like to voice my concern with the bills presented;

I Strongly Oppose,

•HB125

because I am an American citizen that is law abiding and passing these bills would further strip my rights as stated in the Second Amendment and as a contributing community member in Maui.

I would like for you to consider all aspects when passing and denying these bills presented.

I thank you for your time and your service.

Ronnie Gonzales

(808)385-3343

Ronniecg93@gmail.com





**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 10:45:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lance Taniguchi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I highly oppose this bill as it is not constitutionally sound and has no tangible credibility nor effect on criminals only on law abiding citizens

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 11:13:10 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kevin J. Cole	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose HB125. HB125 is an unnecessary measure. Legal gun owners are among the safest people in our community. No law is going to enhance responsibility within a certain segment of our society. The urge to alter the behavior of some should not be at the expense of the freedoms of others.

V/R

Kevin J. Cole

Mililani

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 6:06:59 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Linda Miyata	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please vote No on HB 125. Guns are not the problem. Mental illness and emotional instability is the problem that we need to address. Criminals will always find a way to get a gun and this bill only puts the innocent in a terrible position where they can't defend themselves if confronted by serious danger.

Thank you for stopping HB 125 and protecting our 2nd Amendment rights.

Linda

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 7:57:02 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Louella Vidinha	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in strong opposition to this bill and ALL the other bills that the introducers to all these bills regarding firearms. None of the introducers are experts or I'm sure have extensive experience in any type of weaponry. I worry about all the introducers and supporters of these bills, where they will be when the time will come that they need to defend themselves. How will you fight off the enemy, cause no one will save you, you only have seconds to strategize in order TO LIVE. I'm hoping to be around people who carry firearms when the time is necessary for protection from my fellow law abiding persons, no matter where I go. That there's a chance of survival.

The issue here, IS the right to bear arms, and everything that's related to that, is the sole responsibility of the owners, not no one else. The law abiding citizen keeps getting the "shaft" because of the NON law abiding citizens. Tell me where is that fair ? The supporters of these bills are doing much more harm than good. The supporters are saying NO to any kind of defense necessary to maintain your life along with your family, when it's threatened upon, cause you will rely on your law abiding neighbors who does have the means to protect you when chaos ensues. Why don't supporters of such ridiculous bills see that ? Your lives are in danger and there will be no one to protect you against criminals who could give a \$^#\* about you, your life and your family ! The police will not be there in time to save you and protect you. The police will be overwhelmed by other calls. You all are smart ? Am I right ? Or do you supporters live in a bubble thinking you'll be safe always and no harm will come to you. STOP living in this fallacy of a bubble. Wake up ! There are criminals out there who can't wait to pounce on any chance they get to ruin your lives and others. Why can't you see that ? Are you all blind to the fact that there are criminals that at any time will attack you or harm you and others ? Why aren't you looking at it that way, always be ready to defend yourselves ? Instead you supporters are doing the exact OPPOSITE, You are defending and aiding and abiding these criminals by ignoring them who are our real enemies and constantly attacking the law abiding citizens who are our true protectors when we need them, not if we need them.

When you're backed in a corner being attacked, the calvary WILL not come, because you killed, hurt, wounded and attacked the very ones who are your defenders, the very law abiding citizens that right now you are legislating against .

OPEN YOUR EYES !! These law abiding citizens will protect you. STOP aiding and abiding these criminals. You supporters are complicit to these criminals. You are the problem, by

protecting them, because criminals NEVER look at your laws, they will NEVER follow your laws, you are only helping them by criminalizing those who do, which gives them, the criminals, more freedom to hurt you, kill you, or hurt us and kill us.

WAKE UP, TAKE OFF YOUR BLINDERS, AND PROTECT US BY GIVING LAW ABIDING CITIZENS THE FREEDOM AND NOT THE REAL CRIMINALS. PROTECT ME AND MY FAMILY BY SUPPORTING THE LAW ABIDING GUN OWNERS !

I NEED THEM, WE ALL NEED THEM. 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏

Louella Vidinha

Hawaii resident

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 9:24:09 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mariano Castillo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is called overreach of the our constitution !! I oppose this bill hb125

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 2:54:18 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Weist	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

“Dear Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Wakai, Members of the Committee

on Public Safety & Military Affairs.

I am writing in opposition to HB125, which mandates the secured storage of firearms and imposes strict liability on gun owners for the misuse of their firearms by others in their household. While I fully support responsible gun ownership and the importance of safety, I believe this bill represents an overreach that ultimately punishes law-abiding citizens while failing to effectively address the root causes of crime and public safety concerns.

HB125 imposes onerous requirements on responsible gun owners who already take the necessary precautions to store their firearms safely. By making secured storage mandatory, this bill undermines the principle of personal responsibility and self-governance. Many gun owners have developed their own safe storage practices that suit their unique circumstances, and imposing a one-size-fits-all mandate disregards the diverse needs of our communities. Responsible gun owners should not be penalized for the actions of others, especially when they are already adhering to safety protocols.

The strict liability provision in this bill raises significant concerns regarding fairness and justice. If a firearm owned by a responsible individual is stolen or misused by someone living in their household, that individual would be held criminally liable for actions beyond their control. This could lead to unjust prosecutions of innocent individuals who made every effort to secure their firearms. Rather than addressing criminal behavior, this provision shifts the focus onto law-abiding citizens, creating a chilling effect on gun ownership and eroding trust within communities.

While the intent behind HB125 may be to enhance public safety, it ultimately fails to tackle the underlying issues of crime and gun violence. Research indicates that the majority of gun violence is perpetrated by individuals who obtain firearms illegally, not responsible gun owners. Instead of imposing punitive measures on law-abiding citizens, we should focus on addressing the root causes of violence, such as mental health support, community engagement, and effective crime prevention strategies. Evidence-based solutions that foster collaboration between law enforcement, community organizations, and mental health professionals will be far more effective in creating safer environments for everyone.

I urge you to reconsider the implications of HB125. This bill unfairly penalizes responsible gun owners and does not effectively address the complex issues surrounding crime and public safety. Instead of promoting safety, it fosters division and resentment among those who adhere to responsible gun ownership practices. Let us focus on solutions that enhance community safety without infringing on the rights of law-abiding citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope you will stand with responsible gun owners and oppose this legislation.



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 6:38:12 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Glenn Miyata	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please vote NO on HB 125. These firearm bills are an overreach that punishes responsible gun owners while failing to address crime or public safety.

Glenn

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 7:01:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Zon Sullenberger	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Wakai, Members of the Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs.

I am writing in opposition to HB125, which mandates the secured storage of firearms and imposes strict liability on gun owners for the misuse of their firearms by others in their household. While I fully support responsible gun ownership and the importance of safety, I believe this bill represents an overreach that ultimately punishes law-abiding citizens while failing to effectively address the root causes of crime and public safety concerns.

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While the intent behind HB125 may be to enhance public safety, it ultimately fails to tackle the underlying issues of crime and gun violence. Research indicates that the majority of gun violence is perpetrated by individuals who obtain firearms illegally, not responsible gun owners. Instead of imposing punitive measures on law-abiding citizens, we should focus on addressing the root causes of violence, such as mental health support, community engagement, and effective crime prevention strategies. Evidence-based solutions that foster collaboration between law enforcement, community organizations, and mental health professionals will be far more effective in creating safer environments for everyone.

I urge you to reconsider the implications of HB125. This bill unfairly penalizes responsible gun owners and does not effectively address the complex issues surrounding crime and public safety. Instead of promoting safety, it fosters division and resentment among those who adhere to responsible gun ownership practices. Let us focus on solutions that enhance community safety without infringing on the rights of law-abiding citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope you will stand with responsible gun owners and oppose this legislation.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 7:16:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tad Araki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

I oppose HB125, as it does not address the root cause of firearm violence. Instead, it punishes the law abiding citizens of Hawaii

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 7:29:30 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Richy Chang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I ask Hawaii state representatives to **OPPOSE** HB125 as it declares that a private home is a public place and not a safe place to store a firearm, thus taking away a law abiding citizen's right to protect family and property and possession of arms given by the 2nd amendment in the US constitution.

HB125 also ignores the Supreme Court ruling in D.C. v. Heller (2008) which rules : "the requirement that any lawful firearm in the home be disassembled or bound by a trigger lock is unconstitutional because it makes it impossible for citizens to use arms for the core lawful purpose of self-defense."

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 7:58:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
chad maeda	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 7:56:16 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nathan higuchi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill, like many other firearms related bills that have been proposed as of late, look to further punish citizens that are trying to follow the law.

Why would a citizen trying to follow the law who gets their house broken into and their firearms stolen have to be labeled a criminal, when they did not do anything illegal?

"This bill does not protect or benefit law abiding citizens, it only impedes their ability to protect their loved ones with over redundant rules and regulations."

Please think of the phrase above when proposing future bills.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 11:44:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 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 Legislative Representative,

I am writing this testimony in opposition of HB125 HD1.

Sincerely,

David Fukuzawa



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:49:32 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alice Abellanida	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. It is an overreach of government and a violation of the 2nd amendment.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 7:13:47 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chasity Ito	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The 2nd Ammendment shall NOT be infringed.

Further, this bill does nothing to address the root cause of crime and gun-related incidents. This, and other bills intended to impose upon the rights of gun owners, punishes law-abiding people instead of punishing criminals.

Our right to bear arms for self defense in our own private homes and on our own pricate property is infringed upon if we are not able to have quick, rapid access to self defense firearms in an emergency situation.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 10:38:55 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose.

Put more liability on the retail gun seller. This is only designed to trip up a retail seller for making an innocent mistake. It also isnt' their job to know the laws that others need to obey. They just need to know the laws that they must follow.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 11:43:44 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
steven a kumasaka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONGLY OPPOSE

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 12:26:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Fukuda	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. It is poorly written and does not deserve to be a law.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 1:21:07 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lyle HIromoto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 4:11:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Angela M Anderson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB125, which mandates secured storage of guns and imposes strict liability for misuse if someone other than the gun own deer accesses the fire arm. While I support responsible gun ownership and public safety, I believe this bill represents an overreach that unfairly punishes law-abiding gun owners.

My concerns include:

The potential for misdemeanor charges against lawful gun owners even if they take reasonable precautions.

The lack of evidence that mandatory storage laws effectively address crime or enhance public safety.

The burden this places on responsible gun owners without targeting the root cause of gun misuse, it is not responsible gun owners typically committing crime with guns, it is criminals. This bill places restrictions on citizens while failing to address the crimes.

I urge you to reject HB125 and consider alternative measures that balance safety and the rights of law-abiding citizens. This bill and several others in the state seem to be an attack on the second amendment - eroding away at the rights of law abiding citizens while protecting the criminals.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 6:40:32 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chase Cavitt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing today to oppose HB125. I am understand and appreciate the state wanting the safest community we can have. I would argue that law abiding firearms owners are arguably the safest people in the state. This does not include criminals who will use any tool at their disposal to harm individuals. This bill will not help prevent criminals or illogical people from committing a crime. If anything this would be used after the fact to prosecute someone who already harmed others or allowed their tools to be used by others to do so. I am deeply concerned with the ways this bill can be used to harm responsible firearm owners and it infringes on our constitutional rights to keep and bear arms. Specifically it is imperative to actually be able to use these arms when necessary and the expansion of rules on storing is beyond what the state is capable of enforcing. This is an after the fact bill and could ruin the lives of many. This is also a bill that is asking firearms sellers and individuals who sell a firearm to do the job of the state. This state should provide firearm law info when obtaining a permit to aquire and the burden should be on the state and not a FFL or individual who sells a firearm legally.

Please take a moment to consider how firearms are obtained in Hawai'i. This bill asks of licensed sellers to provide information regarding firearm storage. I have bought most of my firearms from out of state and had them transferred to a FFL in Hawai'i. The licensed seller in this case is not the FFL that I paid a small fee of around \$30 to transfer the firearm. I can also send my firearms from another state the same way without the seller being in Hawai'i at any point. As a legal firearm owner in Hawai'i I would not necessarily ever buy a firearm from a licensed Hawai'i based firearm seller (FFL). This bill will likely harm access to law abiding firearms owners in Hawai'i as they would not know what information to provide a purchaser with as it is state by state based and not something a out of state firearm seller would know about. This bill is disruptive to a very well maintained and law abiding group of firearms owners and businesses and would not prevent any harm caused by someone with a firearm.

FFL's should not be forced to provide this information to a seller at their expense. If anything the state should provide this information when a law abiding citizen is obtaining a permit to aquire. This is essentially like asking a car salesman or owner who is selling a car to provide a copy of the driving laws when selling. This is the responsibility of the state and this body should consider this when voting on this bill.



I encourage you to think harder and work with firearms owners and ask us how we prevent accidents and encourage safety. We are a tight knit community that cares about our families and neighbors. We are your neighbors, co workers, acquaintances and family. We all want the same thing but we aren't willing to give up our rights in order for some to feel safe while we then are forced to feel unsafe. This is not a game and not about feelings. Please consider facts before voting on political agendas. Please vote NO on HB125.

Mahalo,

Chase Cavitt

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 7:01:13 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bronson Teixeira	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I stand in strong opposition to this bill. This bill infringes on our second amendment rights. This bill prevents citizens being able to use it for its core purpose and design of self defense. Mahalo.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 7:02:58 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tenessa Cavitt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing today to oppose HB125. I am understand and appreciate the state wanting the safest community we can have. I would argue that law abiding firearms owners are arguably the safest people in the state. This does not include criminals who will use any tool at their disposal to harm individuals. This bill will not help prevent criminals or illogical people from committing a crime. If anything this would be used after the fact to prosecute someone who already harmed others or allowed their tools to be used by others to do so. I am deeply concerned with the ways this bill can be used to harm responsible firearm owners and it infringes on our constitutional rights to keep and bear arms. Specifically it is imperative to actually be able to use these arms when necessary and the expansion of rules on storing is beyond what the state is capable of enforcing. This is an after the fact bill and could ruin the lives of many. This is also a bill that is asking firearms sellers and individuals who sell a firearm to do the job of the state. This state should provide firearm law info when obtaining a permit to aquire and the burden should be on the state and not a FFL or individual who sells a firearm legally.

Please take a moment to consider how firearms are obtained in Hawai'i. This bill asks of licensed sellers to provide information regarding firearm storage. My husband has bought most of his firearms from out of state and had them transferred to a FFL in Hawai'i. The licensed seller in this case is not the FFL that he paid a small fee of around \$30 to transfer the firearm. One can also send firearms from another state the same way without the seller being in Hawai'i at any point. As a legal firearm owner in Hawai'i one would not necessarily ever buy a firearm from a licensed Hawai'i based firearm seller (FFL). This bill will likely harm access to law abiding firearms owners in Hawai'i as they would not know what information to provide a purchaser with as it is state by state based and not something a out of state firearm seller would know about. This bill is disruptive to a very well maintained and law abiding group of firearms owners and businesses and would not prevent any harm caused by someone with a firearm.

FFL's should not be forced to provide this information to a seller at their expense. If anything the state should provide this information when a law abiding citizen is obtaining a permit to aquire. This is essentially like asking a car salesman or owner who is selling a car to provide a copy of the driving laws when selling. This is the responsibility of the state and this body should consider this when voting on this bill.

I encourage you to think harder and work with firearms owners and ask how we prevent accidents and encourage safety. We are a tight knit community that cares about our families and neighbors. We are your neighbors, co workers, acquaintances and family. We all want the same thing but we aren't willing to give up our rights in order for some to feel safe while we then are forced to feel unsafe. This is not a game and not about feelings. Please consider facts before voting on political agendas. Please vote NO on HB125.

Mahalo,

Tenessa Cavitt

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 7:36:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Raymond Ishii	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Raymond Ishii and I strongly oppose HB125.

It is already state law that firearms must be secured to prevent a minor from accessing a firearm in your home. This bill will prevent someone living alone from having ready access to a firearm to protect themselves from a home invader. In the recent rampage in Waianae where a madman used a frontend loader to ram a neighbor home and used a gun to murder several people, it was the homeowners ready access to a firearm that he used to defend himself and others to shoot the madman.

The ready access safe mentioned in HB125 while my seem good on paper, in a highly stressful situation the term all thumbs apply. You will loose the fine motor skill that many of those safes require and by the time you are able to open the safe, it may be too late.

Again I strongly Oppose to HB125 and a beg you to vote NO.

Thank You

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 7:39:58 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert Pitman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I respectfully submit this testimony in opposition to HB125, which mandates additional requirements for firearm storage, expands regulations on secure storage, and imposes additional notification requirements for firearm retailers. While I recognize and support the importance of firearm safety, I have serious concerns that this bill overreaches in a way that infringes on individual rights, imposes undue burdens on law-abiding gun owners, and lacks clarity in enforcement.

First, HB125 places unnecessary government mandates on private firearm ownership, restricting individuals' ability to store their firearms in a manner best suited for their personal safety. Secure storage is important, but a one-size-fits-all mandate ignores the different needs of responsible gun owners, particularly those who may need quick access to a firearm for self-defense. By imposing additional storage restrictions, this bill could unintentionally put law-abiding citizens at greater risk in emergency situations.

Second, requiring retailers to provide additional notices regarding firearm storage places an undue regulatory burden on small businesses. Gun retailers are already subject to extensive state and federal regulations, and adding more requirements will increase operational costs, which will ultimately be passed on to consumers. Many retailers already provide safety information voluntarily, making this additional mandate redundant and unnecessary.

Additionally, the expansion of criminally negligent storage laws raises concerns about vagueness and potential overreach. Firearm owners should not be held criminally liable for the actions of others when they have taken reasonable precautions to secure their weapons. There must be clear definitions of what constitutes "secure storage" to avoid unfair prosecution of responsible individuals.

While firearm safety is a shared priority, HB125 approaches the issue with excessive restrictions rather than education and responsible gun ownership advocacy. A more effective approach would be to invest in public awareness campaigns, subsidized safety training, and voluntary safe storage programs rather than imposing new mandates that may have unintended consequences.

For these reasons, I strongly oppose HB125 and urge this committee to reject it. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 7:54:41 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brandon Haught-Aliotti	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose the bill requiring firearm retailers to notify purchasers about storage laws and expanding secure storage requirements. While aimed at improving safety, it burdens lawful gun owners and retailers with unnecessary administrative costs. The expanded storage rules may not be practical, especially in rural areas with limited access to secure storage options. Instead of imposing more regulations, we should focus on promoting responsible gun ownership through education and voluntary safety measures. This bill does not effectively address the root causes of firearm-related incidents and could create more challenges for responsible gun owners

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:14:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Littleton	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB125



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:32:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose HB125. The ATF provides me with free mandatory literature to include when I transfer a firearm with Form 4473. If the State of Hawaii cannot or will not do the same I object.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 9:08:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jerry Ilo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose. Once again this only hinders law abiding citizens and does nothing to adress any sort of crime.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 9:09:32 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicholas Zehr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I write in strong opposition to this bill, which seeks to impose additional firearm storage regulations on law-abiding citizens. While the stated intent of the bill is to promote public safety, it infringes on individual liberties, criminalizes responsible gun owners, and fails to address the root causes of firearm-related violence.

Unlike many states, the Hawai‘i State Constitution does not explicitly protect the right to keep and bear arms. This makes it even more critical that the Legislature not impose excessive firearm restrictions that could further erode the rights of law-abiding citizens.

However, **Hawai‘i is still bound by the U.S. Constitution’s Second Amendment**, which protects an individual’s right to keep and bear arms. The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly affirmed this right in cases such as *District of Columbia v. Heller (2008)*, *McDonald v. Chicago (2010)*, and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen (2022)*. **This bill’s restrictions are inconsistent with those rulings and place unjustified burdens on gun owners.**

The bill assumes that mandatory firearm storage laws will reduce accidental shootings, suicides, and crime. However, **there is no clear evidence that such laws are effective.**

- A study published in the Journal of Law and Economics found no significant decrease in firearm-related deaths in states with mandatory storage laws.
- Research by criminologist Gary Kleck found that most firearm accidents and suicides occur in households with individuals already at high risk—meaning storage laws do little to prevent them.
- **Criminals do not follow storage laws.** Mandating locked firearms does nothing to stop criminals who steal guns or obtain them illegally.

Rather than imposing blanket mandates, firearm safety education and responsible gun ownership are more effective strategies to prevent accidents.

**Self-defense is a fundamental right.** In a home invasion, every second matters, and delaying access to a firearm could cost lives.

- Even so-called "quick-access safes" introduce unnecessary barriers to self-defense, especially under stress.
- **Real-world examples show that restrictive storage laws have prevented people from defending themselves.** In cases where home invaders act swiftly, a locked firearm may be useless.

This bill **prioritizes theoretical safety over real-life security** and **punishes responsible citizens for wanting to protect their families.**

This bill **unfairly imposes strict liability** on gun owners if a firearm is accessed and misused—even if it was stolen.

- **This is equivalent to blaming a car owner if their vehicle is stolen and used in a crime.** Personal responsibility should apply to the criminal, not the theft victim.
- **Firearm owners already take reasonable precautions.** Making them automatically liable ignores the reality that criminals will find ways to circumvent laws.

Gun owners should be encouraged to act responsibly, but punishing them for the actions of others is unjust.

History shows that gun control measures often start with "reasonable" regulations before expanding into outright restrictions.

- In California, initial laws targeted only specific firearms, but over time, restrictions grew to include magazine bans, ammunition background checks, and limitations on concealed carry.
- In Australia, gun buybacks started with restrictions on certain guns, but later led to near-total disarmament of civilians.

Hawai‘i already has some of the most restrictive gun laws in the country. **Once the government dictates how a firearm must be stored, what stops them from regulating how many you can own—or whether you can own one at all?**

The bill references *United States v. Rahimi (2024)* to suggest that firearm storage mandates have historical precedent. This is misleading.

- *Rahimi* addressed firearm restrictions for domestic abusers, not broad, government-imposed storage mandates on all law-abiding citizens.
- **The Supreme Court has never ruled that government-imposed firearm storage laws are a constitutional requirement.**

Citing *Rahimi* in this context **misrepresents its scope** and does not justify this bill’s intrusion on individual rights.

This bill is a direct attack on personal responsibility, self-defense rights, and fundamental liberties. It is based on unproven safety claims, unfairly criminalizes victims of theft, and paves the way for greater government control over firearm ownership.

Rather than punishing responsible gun owners, the Legislature should promote firearm education, enforce existing laws against violent criminals, and uphold the constitutional rights of Hawai'i's citizens. I urge this committee to reject this bill. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Nicholas Zehr

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 10:51:48 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Fedor Polyakov	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha i oppose this bill

Hawaii’s exemplary safety record and comprehensive gun laws demonstrate that the state has already found an effective formula for minimizing firearm-related harm. The proposed bill—requiring storage notices, expanding secure storage mandates, and clarifying negligent storage offenses—offers no clear benefit in light of the state’s low crime rates and existing protections. It risks overregulating responsible citizens, increasing costs, and diverting attention from more pressing public safety priorities. We urge lawmakers to reject this bill and preserve Hawaii’s balanced approach to firearm regulation, which has proven successful without unnecessary escalation.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 11:33:58 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Cabjuan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose this bill. This bill ignores previous court ruling on the topic and will not hold up in court if challenged. Stop wasting our tax money on unnecessary gun control laws that are clearly unconstitutional. Uphold your oath please

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 12:08:12 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kevin Oberhofer	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my opposition to House Bill 125 HD1, which proposes to expand the requirements for the secure storage of firearms and imposes strict liability on firearm owners for misuse of improperly stored firearms.

While the intent to enhance safety is understandable, this bill presents several concerns:

1. **Impractical Storage Mandates:** The requirement for all firearms to be stored in a locked box, safe, or with a trigger locking mechanism may not be practical for all firearm owners, especially those who rely on their firearms for immediate self-defense.
2. **Unfair Liability Provisions:** Imposing strict liability on firearm owners for third-party misuse of improperly stored firearms could lead to unjust penalties, even when the owner is not directly at fault.
3. **Potential Infringement on Rights:** Expanding storage requirements may be viewed as an infringement on the rights of responsible firearm owners, potentially conflicting with constitutional protections.
4. **Enforcement Challenges:** Ensuring compliance with these expanded storage mandates could be difficult to enforce and may divert law enforcement resources from addressing more pressing public safety concerns.
5. **Existing Regulations:** Hawaii already has laws in place regarding firearm storage. Further expansion may be redundant and unnecessarily burdensome to law-abiding citizens.

In conclusion, while promoting safety is essential, HB125 HD1 may have unintended consequences that could infringe upon individual rights and impose undue burdens on responsible firearm owners. I urge you to consider alternative approaches that focus on education and responsible ownership without overreaching regulations.



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 1:10:21 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shelley Hussey	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am oppose to HB125 because these firearm bills ARE overreach of our rights. Stop trying to mess with our second ammendment rights. The more we let get passed the more rights we lose.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 5:51:58 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ruben Ongos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS BILL!

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 7:45:32 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sarah-Lyn Lokelani Jacobson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE GOES AGAINST MY 2ND AMENDMENT RIGHT

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 8:11:50 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robin D. Ganitano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB125 which mandates gun storage and burden sellers. This is unconstitutional and is ruthlessly against our 2nd Amendment rights.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 8:18:15 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lionel Delos Santos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i ooposed this bill because it has nothing to do to stop crime

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 8:21:57 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jacob Char	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly Oppose this bill. This goes against our Constitutional Rights.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 8:23:26 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Miles Chong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly **oppose** HB125.

This arbitrary bill clearly does nothing but **fail** to acknowledge, identify, and effectively address the root causes of crime!

Miles Chong

Hilo, HI 96720

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 8:41:13 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Richard W. Adams	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Committee Members

I oppose this bill and request you do the same. Consider the extent to which this bills intrudes into an individual's personal domain.

This bill attempts to clarify the offense of criminally negligent storage of a firearm.

This act of criminalizing an individual based on the way they/we decide to store a firearm, which is being maintained within the confines of a personal residence, is in itself "Criminal".

When inside my home, my legally acquired firearm, bought for protection of my family and property, shall be stored as determined by the homeowner, not politically motivated, anti-2nd Amendment bureaucrats.

Vote NO on this bill.

Thank you for allowing me to express my opinion.

Richard Adams



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 8:41:55 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shani Hough	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This manates gun storage, burdens sellers, tramples 2nd Amendment!

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 9:06:07 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Wakai, Members of the Committee

on Public Safety & Military Affairs.

I am writing in opposition to HB125, which mandates the secured storage of firearms and imposes strict liability on gun owners for the misuse of their firearms by others in their household. While I fully support responsible gun ownership and the importance of safety, I believe this bill represents an overreach that ultimately punishes law-abiding citizens while failing to effectively address the root causes of crime and public safety concerns.

HB125 imposes onerous requirements on responsible gun owners who already take the necessary precautions to store their firearms safely. By making secured storage mandatory, this bill undermines the principle of personal responsibility and self-governance. Many gun owners have developed their own safe storage practices that suit their unique circumstances, and imposing a one-size-fits-all mandate disregards the diverse needs of our communities. Responsible gun owners should not be penalized for the actions of others, especially when they are already adhering to safety protocols.

The strict liability provision in this bill raises significant concerns regarding fairness and justice. If a firearm owned by a responsible individual is stolen or misused by someone living in their household, that individual would be held criminally liable for actions beyond their control. This could lead to unjust prosecutions of innocent individuals who made every effort to secure their firearms. Rather than addressing criminal behavior, this provision shifts the focus onto law-abiding citizens, creating a chilling effect on gun ownership and eroding trust within communities.

While the intent behind HB125 may be to enhance public safety, it ultimately fails to tackle the underlying issues of crime and gun violence. Research indicates that the majority of gun violence is perpetrated by individuals who obtain firearms illegally, not responsible gun owners. Instead of imposing punitive measures on law-abiding citizens, we should focus on addressing the root causes of violence, such as mental health support, community engagement, and effective crime prevention strategies. Evidence-based solutions that foster collaboration between law enforcement, community organizations, and mental health professionals will be far more effective in creating safer environments for everyone.

I urge you to reconsider the implications of HB125. This bill unfairly penalizes responsible gun owners and does not effectively address the complex issues surrounding crime and public safety. Instead of promoting safety, it fosters division and resentment among those who adhere to responsible gun ownership practices. Let us focus on solutions that enhance community safety without infringing on the rights of law-abiding citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope you will stand with responsible gun owners and oppose this legislation.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 9:12:53 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joelle Seashell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mind your business and stop trying to tell us law abiding citizens how to manage our constitutional rights that you shall not infringe upon.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 9:15:46 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Frank Barber Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Second Amendment to the United States Constitution protects the right of the people to keep and bear arms. It was ratified on December 15, 1791.

- 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-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 9:21:05 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Deven English	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong opposition of this bill.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 9:25:27 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lani Primacio	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 9:32:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jason Stanwood	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Just stop it with ignoring the second amendment. These will all be challenged in court, found to be wrong and you will waste taxpayer money.



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 9:40:02 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lora Santiago	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE HB125.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 11:15:05 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bryan Revell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Clear cut case of government overreach here. Stop trying to control the citizens you swore to serve! We the people are duty bound to protect ourselves against tyranninnic government.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 11:16:04 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Richard Domingo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB125.

We need to focus our attention on educating instead of criminalizing law abiding citizens.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 11:33:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keith Tajiri	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose to HB125

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 11:38:30 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shari saiki Rodrigues	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 11:45:08 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jon-Louis Siracusa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Intrusive overreach

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 11:45:40 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I Strongly Oppose

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 12:05:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Julie A Carter	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Opposed!



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 12:09:30 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Luke Reiss	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Luke Kazuhiro Reiss oppose bill HB125 its is unconstitutional and a direct attack on the 2nd amendment. 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-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 12:27:49 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sean Pepper Shiramizu	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello

I oppose this bill. We already have 134-23 through 134-27. For safe storage laws. This is a bit redundant.

Thanks!

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 1:08:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bart Burford	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I VEHEMENTLY OPPOSE ANY BILL THAT CONTRADICTS/ ERODES/ AND REWRITES OUR 2ND AMMENDMENT RIGHT TO BEAR ARM, & INFRINGES ON OUR PERSONAL LIBERTIES!

SURELY THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF OTHER BILLS THAT CAN BE PRESENTED THAT ARE NOT ANTI-CONSTITUTIONAL, AND A BETTER USE OF TAX PAYERS DOLLARS...

SINXCERELY, PP

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 1:32:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill is another over-reach of the State Government against the rights of Hawaii's citizens to bear arms. This bill will only open the doors to apply subjective penalties against individuals who would otherwise be abiding the law in another state. I find this law to be intrusive and nothing more than another attempt by Hawaii's lawmakers to take more from the people and provide the nothing in return. All the while State Representatives propose a pay raise for themselves, the people continue to suffer and have to bear with the threat of their rights being stripped. This bill is absurd and I strongly oppose it.

Respectfully,

Brian Aguigui

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 1:58:27 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dorinda Ohelo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

Safe storage of firearms is a great idea, but what does it mean?

*Practically speaking:*

Under this bill, we'd be allowed to store firearms in "*a location that a reasonable person would believe to be secure*". **Is not "my home" a location I have a reasonable belief to "be secure"?** If so, then what is the point of this bill? If not, what would I need to do to ensure that my house itself is a "reasonably secure location"?

**Such a law should only apply to *functional* firearms.** Why should it be illegal to have an inoperable firearm above a mantle or door as a decoration piece? It'd be absurd to be legally compelled to put a trigger lock on a gun that's already nonfunctional.

**What is a "firearm" per this bill?** Considering recent testimony pertaining to "ghost gun" legislation, this appears to be quite a confounding question for certain local governmental entities, and that leaves it unclear how this language would be applied. If I have a disassembled firearm in my workshop, would that be a violation of this law? At what point does a pile of firearm parts on a table or scattered across drawers become a firearm? **Would this bill legally require me to leave a trigger lock on a serialized receiver that doesn't even have a trigger installed?**

The "strictly liable" section of this bill seems unwieldy. **If somebody steals a gun from my premises, is it not fair to say they were there unlawfully at that point?**

Pertaining to trigger locks: they may keep children from firing a gun, but they can be cut off with basic hand tools; they might prevent a thief from using a stolen gun for two hours, but definitely not two years. Yet having a trigger lock on my gun would keep me from being criminally liable if one is ever stolen and used? **It would be near impossible to prove that any firearm didn't have a trigger lock on it at the time it was stolen.** So how much of this can really be enforceable?

*Philosophically speaking:*

Why does this bill have an exception for "*person[s] in an exempt category identified in section 134—11 (a)*"? **Why wouldn't law enforcement officers be subject to the same storage requirements of their arms as anybody else?** There have been cases of law enforcement guns being stolen and used criminally. There have even been notable recent cases in Hawaii of firearms being left unattended by law enforcement. If anything, law enforcement should be under *more stringent* storage requirements, as somebody looking to steal a gun can be confident that an officer would have one.

I fail to see the problem or inadequacy with the current law. I'd like to encourage the legislature to propose more useful bills.

Thank you; -Cassidy Kohout, Kihei

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 2:07:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Citizens know best what their firearms storage options should be given their particular circumstances - one size does not fit all. Don't impose rules that are the same for everyone if their circumstances are not the same.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 2:30:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Aukai Ng	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This type of law will impede on someone purchasing a firearm. This will just be another hoop people will need to get through. All these minor requirments are not consitutional. Responsible Gun owners know how to store firearms. Again you will be preventing people from buying firearms that they have a right to own, they shouldn't need to live up to your stupid and unnecessary requirements.



**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 2:41:35 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Winfrey Pablo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am opposed to HB125,

Ignores the Supreme Court ruling in D.C. vs Heller (2008), "the requirement that any lawful firearm in the home be disassembled or bound by a trigger lock is unconstitutional because it makes it impossible for citizens to use arms for core lawful purpose of self-defense."

Makes my home not secure and a locked door a public space. Hinders the ability to defend myself and my family. Unfairly punishes firearms owners for theft or misuse of their firearms by criminals.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 2:45:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ka'eo Ortiz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a 2nd amendment violation

**LATE**

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 3:20:07 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 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

**LATE**

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 3:41:06 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cindy R Ajimine	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**OPPOSE.** Burdens sellers and legal gun owners vs. targeting mitigation of criminal activities & illegal ownership.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 3:51:50 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Noela von Wiegandt	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose HB125. Stop trampling on our 2nd Amendment rights! Thank You.

Noela von Wiegandt

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 7:28:16 PM  
Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Timothy Miyao	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Committee of Public Safety, Intergovernmental Affairs, and Military Affairs,

I urge you to please oppose HB125.

Mahalo!

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 8:33:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tiare Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**\*\*Written Testimony in Opposition to HB 125\*\***

To the Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am Tiare Smith, a Native Hawaiian resident of Kāhala'u, O'ahu, where I have lived for 45 years. As a kama'āina deeply embedded in this community, I write to express my staunch opposition to HB 125, a bill that masquerades as a public safety measure but in truth constitutes a liberty-killing dictate that mandates firearm storage, burdens sellers, and tramples the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens. While I acknowledge the bill's purported aim to reduce firearm-related risks, its provisions are antithetical to equity, personal autonomy, and fiscal responsibility. Below, I outline the pros and cons of HB 125, followed by detailed solutions to its flaws that prioritize safety, efficacy, and cost-effectiveness without disenfranchising Hawaii's people.

**### Pros of HB 125**

The bill presents several arguments that warrant examination:

1. **\*\*Safety Intent\*\***: By mandating secure storage of firearms and requiring sellers to provide written notice of these laws, HB 125 seeks to mitigate risks such as accidental shootings, suicides, and theft.
2. **\*\*Legal Precedent\*\***: The legislature cites *United States v. Rahimi* (2024) to argue a historical tradition of regulating firearm storage, suggesting a constitutional basis for the measure.
3. **\*\*Exemptions and Clarity\*\***: The bill exempts certain categories (e.g., law enforcement under Section 134-11(a)) and clarifies penalties for criminally negligent storage, potentially reducing ambiguity in enforcement.

These points, however, are eclipsed by the bill's profound deficiencies, which I address next.

**### Cons of HB 125**

HB 125 represents an egregious overreach that undermines liberty and equity:

1. **Mandates Gun Storage, Stifling Autonomy**: Requiring firearms to be locked in containers or secured with tamper-resistant devices—regardless of context—imposes a one-size-fits-all dictate that ignores the practical realities of rural life in places like Kahalu‘u, where immediate access to a firearm may be a matter of self-defense. This mandate precipitously erodes personal discretion, a cornerstone of Second Amendment rights.

2. **Burdens Sellers with Unfair Liability**: Forcing retailers to provide written notices under penalty of violating Section 480-2 (unfair or deceptive practices) shifts undue responsibility onto small businesses, many of which lack resources to comply without raising costs or risking legal exposure. This disproportionately harms Native Hawaiian-owned enterprises already strained by economic pressures.

3. **Tramples Second Amendment Protections**: By imposing strict liability for damages within two years of a storage violation—absent self-defense or unlawful entry exceptions—HB 125 punishes lawful gun owners for the actions of others, chilling the exercise of a constitutional right. This liberty-killing measure sets a dangerous precedent for further encroachments.

### ### Detailed Solutions to Address the Cons

Rather than succumb to this oppressive framework, I propose the following solutions, which safeguard safety, efficacy, cost-effectiveness, and equity while preserving Second Amendment freedoms:

1. **Promote Voluntary Storage Education**:

- **Solution**: Replace mandatory storage requirements with a state-funded education campaign—offered through community hubs like churches or cultural centers—teaching safe storage practices tailored to diverse households.

- **Safety**: Reduces accidental shootings by up to 40% through education (RAND Corporation, 2022), without coercive mandates.

- **Cost-Effectiveness**: A \$300,000 annual program for 6,000 participants costs less than the \$1 million projected for HB 125’s enforcement and litigation over five years.

- **Equity**: Avoids penalizing rural or low-income residents, like many in Kahalu‘u, who may lack funds for compliant devices.

2. **Support Sellers with Incentives, Not Penalties**:

- **Solution**: Offer tax credits (e.g., \$200 per year) to firearm retailers who voluntarily distribute storage safety brochures, rather than mandating compliance under threat of legal action.

- **Efficacy**: Encourages awareness without crushing small businesses, fostering goodwill over resentment.



- **Cost Savings**: A \$500,000 incentive program is cheaper than the \$800,000 annual cost of investigating and prosecuting Section 480-2 violations (based on Hawaii AG estimates, 2023).

- **Equity**: Levels the playing field for Native Hawaiian vendors, sparing them disproportionate regulatory burdens.

### 3. **Preserve 2A Rights with Targeted Accountability**:

- **Solution**: Eliminate strict liability and instead enhance penalties for *knowing* negligence (e.g., leaving a firearm accessible to a minor with prior warning), while protecting lawful owners from third-party misuse.

- **Safety**: Focuses on actual risk factors, not blanket assumptions, aligning with Second Amendment principles.

- **Cost-Effectiveness**: Reduces frivolous lawsuits, saving the state \$600,000 annually in court costs (per Hawaii Judiciary data, 2022).

- **Efficacy**: Upholds the right to bear arms while addressing preventable harm.

### 4. **Ensure Equity Through Resource Allocation**:

- **Solution**: Redirect HB 125's enforcement funds to subsidize free or low-cost storage devices (e.g., \$10 trigger locks) for low-income households, distributed via community organizations.

- **Equity**: Empowers underserved populations, including Native Hawaiians, to secure firearms without financial strain.

- **Cost Savings**: A \$400,000 subsidy program for 40,000 devices is more economical than the \$1.5 million incarceration cost for misdemeanor violations over three years.

### ### Conclusion

HB 125 is a liberty-killing dictate cloaked as a safety measure, trampling the Second Amendment, burdening sellers, and mandating conformity at the expense of autonomy. As a Native Hawaiian who has called Kahalu'u home for 45 years, I implore you to reject this bill and its insidious implications. Our rights are not negotiable, nor should our people be saddled with inequitable burdens. Embrace the solutions I have outlined—pragmatic, cost-effective alternatives that enhance safety and equity without sacrificing freedom. Let us blast this overreach and affirm our aloha for justice and self-determination.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Tiare Smith

Kahalu'u, O'ahu

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 11:01:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eric Hammond	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Wakai, Members of the Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs.

Aloha, my name is Eric Hammond and oppose this bill. I read a friends response to this bill and I can't express this any better. These are his words, BUT I FEEL THE SAME! Please see the wisdom in his reasoning:

I am writing in opposition to HB125, which mandates the secured storage of firearms and imposes strict liability on gun owners for the misuse of their firearms by others in their household. While I fully support responsible gun ownership and the importance of safety, I believe this bill represents an overreach that ultimately punishes law-abiding citizens while failing to effectively address the root causes of crime and public safety concerns.

HB125 imposes onerous requirements on responsible gun owners who already take the necessary precautions to store their firearms safely. By making secured storage mandatory, this bill undermines the principle of personal responsibility and self-governance. Many gun owners have developed their own safe storage practices that suit their unique circumstances, and imposing a one-size-fits-all mandate disregards the diverse needs of our communities. Responsible gun owners should not be penalized for the actions of others, especially when they are already adhering to safety protocols.

The strict liability provision in this bill raises significant concerns regarding fairness and justice. If a firearm owned by a responsible individual is stolen or misused by someone living in their household, that individual would be held criminally liable for actions beyond their control. This could lead to unjust prosecutions of innocent individuals who made every effort to secure their firearms. Rather than addressing criminal behavior, this provision shifts the focus onto law-abiding citizens, creating a chilling effect on gun ownership and eroding trust within communities.

While the intent behind HB125 may be to enhance public safety, it ultimately fails to tackle the underlying issues of crime and gun violence. Research indicates that the majority of gun violence is perpetrated by individuals who obtain firearms illegally, not responsible gun owners. Instead of imposing punitive measures on law-abiding citizens, we should focus on addressing the root causes of violence, such as mental health support, community engagement, and effective crime prevention strategies. Evidence-based solutions that foster collaboration between law

enforcement, community organizations, and mental health professionals will be far more effective in creating safer environments for everyone.

I urge you to reconsider the implications of HB125. This bill unfairly penalizes responsible gun owners and does not effectively address the complex issues surrounding crime and public safety. Instead of promoting safety, it fosters division and resentment among those who adhere to responsible gun ownership practices. Let us focus on solutions that enhance community safety without infringing on the rights of law-abiding citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope you will stand with responsible gun owners and oppose this legislation.

**HB-125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 5:30:28 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/19/2025 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sam Cavitt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**1. Constitutional Concerns**

- **Second Amendment & Personal Responsibility:** The government is imposing **additional regulations on private firearm owners and sellers**, infringing on their ability to exercise their Second Amendment rights freely.
- **Unreasonable Burden on Private Sellers:** Mandating **private sellers** to provide state-mandated firearm storage law information is **government overreach**—firearm safety education is the responsibility of the **state, not individual citizens**.

**2. Lack of Effectiveness**

- **Existing Laws Already Regulate Firearm Storage:** Hawaii already has strict gun storage laws. Expanding these regulations does **nothing to prevent gun violence** but adds unnecessary burdens on **responsible gun owners**.
- **No Impact on Criminal Behavior:** Criminals do **not follow gun storage laws**—this law will **only impact law-abiding citizens** while criminals continue to store and transport firearms as they see fit.

**3. Legislative Overreach & Harassment of Law-Abiding Citizens**

- **Unfair Burden on Private Gun Sellers:**
  - Expecting **firearm dealers and private sellers** to act as **legal educators** is **comparable to requiring car dealers to provide copies of state driving laws to every buyer**—an unnecessary and **unfair government mandate**.
  - **Selling a firearm privately should not require additional bureaucratic obligations**.
- **Further Government Overreach into Private Sales:** Expanding **storage laws** and adding **mandatory information disclosure requirements** represents a **continued effort to make firearm ownership more cumbersome and bureaucratic**, discouraging lawful gun ownership.

**4. Conclusion**

- **HB125 unfairly shifts the burden of state responsibilities onto private citizens, does nothing to prevent crime, and further restricts legal firearm ownership. This is an overreach of government power and should be opposed.**