JON N. IKENAGA State Public Defender

DEFENDER COUNCIL 1130 North Nimitz Highway Suite A-254 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817

HONOLULU OFFICE 1130 North Nimitz Highway Suite A-254 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817

APPEALS SECTION Tel. No. 586-2080

DISTRICT COURT SECTION TEL. NO. 586-2100

FAMILY COURT SECTION TEL. NO. 586-2300

FELONY SECTION TEL. NO. 586-2200

FAX (808) 586-2222



## STATE OF HAWAII

#### **OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER**

HILO OFFICE 275 Ponah

275 Ponahawai Street Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 Tel. No. 974-4571 Fax No. 974-4574

HAYLEY CHENG

ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER

KONA OFFICE 82-6127 MAMALAHOA HIGHWAY P.O.BOX 1219 CAPTAIN COOK, HAWAII 96704 TEL. NO. 323-7565 FAX NO. 323-7565

KAUAI OFFICE 3060 EIWA STREET LIHUE, HAWAII 96766 TEL. NO. 274-3418 FAX NO. 274-3422

MAUI OFFICE 81 N. MARKET STREET WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793 TEL. NO. 984-5018 FAX NO. 984-5022

February 4, 2025

Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair 415 South Beretania Street, Conf. Rm. 325 State Capital Honolulu, HI 96813

## Re: Testimony in Opposition to H.B. 125: Relating to Firearms Hearing: February 6, 2025, 2:00 PM

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe and Committee Members:

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

In <u>Heller</u>, 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. <u>Heller</u>, 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 ....." <u>Heller</u>, 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." <u>Heller</u>, 554 U.S. at 630, 128 S. Ct. at 2818.

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

February 4, 2025 Page 2

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. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Sincerely, /s/ Henry Ting Deputy Public Defender



Testimony in Support of HB125

February 3, 2025 Lisa Dau, RN, Injury Prevention Coordinator Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition (KIPC)

Rep David Tarnas, Chair, Rep Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair, and Members of the **COMMITTEE ON** JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB125– Firearm Storage Requirements

I am writing to express my **strong support for HB125**, 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 accidental 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 also 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 KIPC, Injury Prevention Coordinator

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

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:58:04 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kainoa Kaku	Hawaii Rifle Association	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting this testimony on behalf of myself and the thousands of members of the Hawaii Rifle Association to strongly **oppose** House Bill 125. While the stated intent of the bill is to promote safe firearm storage, **it oversteps constitutional boundaries, imposes strict liability on law-abiding gun owners, and lacks clarity in enforcement while failing to address the root causes of gun-related incidents.** 

# 1. Constitutional Concerns and Conflict with Supreme Court Precedent

## A. Misinterpretation of Historical Tradition

- H.B. 125 attempts to justify its mandates by citing *United States v. Rahimi* (2024) and the existence of "rules about firearm storage" at the time of the nation's founding. However, the Supreme Court's ruling in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022) requires that firearm regulations must be consistent with the historical tradition of firearm regulation at the time of the Second Amendment's ratification.
- There is **no historical precedent** for laws that impose strict liability or broad storage mandates in private homes. Unlike laws from the 18th century that addressed militia arms in communal storage settings, H.B. 125 **extends state control into private homes** in a way that would likely **fail constitutional scrutiny** under *Bruen*.

## **B.** Violation of Heller and McDonald Precedents

- The Supreme Court's decisions in *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008) and *McDonald v. City of Chicago* (2010) held that the **Second Amendment guarantees the right to self-defense within the home**.
- By mandating that firearms be locked away unless carried on one's person, H.B. 125 **limits a gun owner's ability to rapidly access a firearm in self-defense**, undermining the right protected in *Heller*.
- The bill effectively **punishes individuals for exercising their constitutional rights**, as failing to comply with these restrictive storage requirements could lead to severe legal liability—even if no harm occurs.

# 2. Overbroad and Unfair Liability Provisions

H.B. 125 introduces **strict liability** for gun owners by making them financially and legally responsible for any injuries caused by an unsecured firearm—even if the gun is stolen or misused by another person.

- Strict Liability for Crimes Committed by Others
  - The bill states that a gun owner is automatically liable if a firearm is used to injure a person or property within two years of improper storage.
  - This **removes the burden of proof from the state** and places it unfairly on gun owners, punishing them for the criminal actions of another person.
- No Safe Harbor for Stolen Firearms
  - While an exemption is provided if a firearm is stolen through an **unlawful entry**, this does **not** account for situations where a firearm is stolen through deception, coercion, or theft by someone who lawfully enters a home (e.g., a house guest, roommate, or even a repair worker).
  - By imposing liability even when a gun owner is unaware of the theft, the bill sets an unreasonable standard that punishes victims instead of criminals.

# **3. Redundant and Unnecessary Regulations**

Hawaii already has some of the most stringent firearm regulations in the country, **including existing safe storage laws**. This bill **duplicates existing laws** while increasing the penalties and burdens on lawful gun owners.

- Firearm Retailers Are Already Required to Provide Safety Information
  - Federal law **already mandates** that all firearm purchases include a gun lock or equivalent safety device.
  - The additional requirement that retailers provide a written copy of storage laws is redundant and unnecessary.
- Existing Laws Already Address Negligent Storage
  - H.B. 125 revises Section 134-10.5, which already penalizes negligent firearm storage when a minor is likely to gain access.
  - The revised language expands the law to apply **regardless of whether children or unauthorized persons are actually present**, imposing an **arbitrary government standard on what constitutes "secure storage" in a private residence**.

# 4. Criminalization of Law-Abiding Gun Owners

H.B. 125 unfairly criminalizes responsible firearm owners with **vague and impractical storage mandates**:

- The "Reasonable Person" Standard Is Too Subjective
  - The bill states that firearms must be stored in a location that a "reasonable person" would believe to be secure.
  - This is an **ambiguous and arbitrary legal standard** that **could vary widely** based on individual interpretation.
  - Law-abiding gun owners would be left guessing what constitutes "reasonable storage" in the eyes of the government, opening the door for inconsistent enforcement and prosecution.
- Punitive Measures for Non-Criminal Behavior
  - The bill **criminalizes gun owners even if no harm occurs**, making storage violations punishable with **fines up to \$500 and potential criminal penalties**.
  - The **cumulative effect of this law discourages firearm ownership** by adding excessive regulatory burdens, fines, and legal risks.

# 5. Real Solutions That Protect Both Safety and Rights

Rather than imposing **one-size-fits-all** mandates on responsible gun owners, the state should focus on **policies that actually address violent crime and gun misuse**:

✓ Education and Voluntary Training Programs – Encourage responsible firearm ownership through education rather than punitive measures. Expanding public awareness programs would be more effective than criminalization.

✓ Enforcement of Existing Laws – Ensure that current storage laws are properly enforced before adding redundant restrictions.

✓ Target Criminals, Not Lawful Owners – Focus legislative efforts on illegally trafficked firearms, repeat offenders, and violent criminals, rather than imposing new mandates on responsible citizens.

# Conclusion

H.B. 125 violates Second Amendment protections, introduces vague and arbitrary liability, duplicates existing laws, and punishes law-abiding firearm owners without addressing the real causes of gun-related violence.

For these reasons, I **strongly urge the Legislature to reject H.B. 125** in favor of solutions that respect constitutional rights while promoting responsible firearm ownership.

# Respectfully submitted,

Kainoa Kaku

President, Hawaii Rifle Association 2/3/2025

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:38:51 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Alika Valdez	The Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:35:47 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Craig Kashiwai	Red Letter Industries	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it imposes more liability on businesses. Proper storage of firearms are already part of the required Handgun Safety Course that all applicants and purchasers must take. However, if this is to go through, the exact notice must be provided by the AG or HPD.

#### **Testimony Presented Before the**

#### House Committee on COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

#### HEARING: Thursday, February 6, 2025

#### PLACE: Room 325 State Capital and via videoconference

by Hawaiʻi – American Nurses Association (Hawaiʻi-ANA) HB893 and HB125– Relating to Firearms

Chair David Tarnas, Vice Chair Mahina Poepoe, and members of the Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee, thank you for providing this opportunity for Hawai'i - American Nurses Association (Hawai'i-ANA) to provide testimony **in strong support of HB893 and HB125**, which address critical issues surrounding firearm safety and the prevention of gun violence in our state.

Hawai'i- ANA is the professional association for over 17,000 registered nurses who live and work in Hawai'i. Hawai'i nurses firmly believe that gun violence is not only a public safety issue but also a pressing public health concern that demands immediate and comprehensive action.

## **Overview of HB893 and HB125**

HB893 aims to prohibit assault rifles, assault shotguns, and .50 caliber rifles from being brought into Hawai<sup>c</sup>i, prohibit their sale or transfer, amend existing prohibition to include these, expand the ban on high-capacity detachable magazines, and provide exceptions for police force and military. HB125 focuses on the requirement of businesses and persons who sell firearms to others to provide a written statement to the purchaser on the requirement for safe storage of said weapon, outlining those requirements, and the consequences of failure to abide by the storage requirements. These measures align with the national priorities of the American Nurses Association (ANA) which our local chapter fully supports as a critical measure for the health of our community. ANA has consistently called for meaningful legislation to promote firearm safety, reduce gun violence, and address the public health crisis that firearms pose in the United States, the nurses in our community are no different and stand firmly with our national leadership on this critical issue. The ANA's position is clear: gun violence is a public health epidemic that requires evidence-based solutions and sustained commitment from policymakers, healthcare professionals, and community stakeholders (ANA, 2023).

#### The Role of Nurses in Addressing Gun Violence

As frontline healthcare providers, nurses witness the devastating effects of gun violence daily. The physical injuries, psychological trauma, and long-term health consequences are profound and extend far beyond the individuals directly impacted. Nurses also play a critical role in the aftermath of gun violence, providing care to victims and their families and addressing the broader implications of these tragedies on community health.

The ANA has emphasized that nurses must advocate for evidence-based policies to prevent firearm-related injuries and deaths. In particular, nurses are uniquely positioned to:

- Promote Awareness: Educating patients and communities about the risks of firearm ownership and safe storage practices.
- Advocate for Legislation: Supporting laws that regulate firearm access and usage to reduce the likelihood of accidental or intentional harm.

• Provide Trauma-Informed Care: Addressing the physical and emotional needs of gun violence survivors and their families.

HB893 and HB125 reflect these priorities by incorporating measures that align with public health frameworks for firearm safety and violence prevention. Frankly, gun violence is nursing business and we firmly support every effort our lawmakers are taking in HB 893 and HB 125 to safeguard our citizens, decrease the burden of trauma on our public health, and improve awareness of this problem.

#### The Public Health Impact of Gun Violence

Gun violence is a leading cause of death and injury in the United States, with over 45,000 firearm-related deaths reported annually (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2022). This crisis is not confined to the mainland; Hawai'i is not immune to the consequences of firearm-related injuries and deaths. Research has shown that comprehensive legislative efforts, such as those proposed in HB893 and HB125, can significantly reduce the prevalence of firearm-related incidents (American Academy of Nursing [AAN], 2023).

According to the American Nurses Association, strong legislative action—including measures to regulate firearm access, enhance background checks, and promote safe storage—is essential to mitigating gun violence (ANA, 2023). Moreover, the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) has highlighted the importance of addressing firearm safety as part of a holistic approach to violence prevention, emphasizing the need for community-based initiatives and education campaigns (AAN, 2023).

#### The Importance of Evidence-Based Policy

HB893 and HB125 are grounded in evidence-based practices that prioritize public safety and health. The provisions outlined in these bills, such as prohibit assault rifles, assault shotguns, and .50 caliber rifles from being brought in to Hawai'i, prohibit there sale or transfer, amend existing prohibition to include these, expand band on high-capacity detachable magazines, and provide exceptions for police force and military and the requirement for safe storage at time of sale, have been shown to effectively reduce firearm-related injuries and deaths in other jurisdictions. For example, states with comprehensive firearm safety laws report significantly lower rates of gunrelated fatalities compared to states with less stringent regulations (Giffords Law Center, 2023). Some examples of these improved outcomes related to legislative measures are provided here:

States with the strictest gun laws, such as Massachusetts, have some of the lowest firearm death rates in the country. Massachusetts had a gun death rate of 3.4 per 100,000 people in 2020, compared to states with weaker gun laws, such as Mississippi, which had a gun death rate of 28.6 per 100,000 people (CDC, 2022). Child firearm deaths decreased by 23% in states with child access prevention laws that require safe storage of firearms (Monuteaux et al., 2019).

Additionally, the ANA and other nursing organizations advocate for increased funding for research on gun violence, including studies on its impact on healthcare systems and frontline providers. These bills provide an opportunity for Hawai'i to lead by example, demonstrating a commitment to data-driven solutions that address the root causes of gun violence.

#### Building a Culture of Safety Through Education and Training

Education and training are critical components of any successful gun violence prevention strategy. Nurses, as trusted members of their communities, are well-positioned to lead efforts to educate the public about firearm safety. The ANA's recommendations include implementing training programs for healthcare providers on how to discuss firearm safety with patients, particularly those at higher risk of gun violence (American Nurse, 2023). HB893 and HB125 can enhance these efforts by incorporating funding and resources for educational initiatives. These initiatives could include:

• Community workshops on safe firearm storage.

- Training programs for healthcare providers to identify and intervene in situations involving potential firearm risks.
- Public awareness campaigns to promote a culture of safety and responsibility around firearm ownership.

#### Conclusion

In conclusion, the Hawai'i-ANA strongly supports HB893 and HB125 as essential steps toward reducing gun violence and promoting public health in our state. These bills align with national nursing priorities and reflect the commitment of Hawai'i's policymakers to safeguard the well-being of our communities.

As healthcare professionals dedicated to protecting and improving lives, we urge this committee to pass these measures and continue to prioritize gun violence prevention as a critical public health issue. Hawai'i-ANA stands ready to collaborate with legislators, community leaders, and other stakeholders to ensure the successful implementation of these important initiatives. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. We are available to provide additional information or

answer any questions you may have.

# **Citations:**

- American Nurses Association. (2023). **Gun violence: A public health crisis.** Retrieved from <u>nursingworld.org</u>
- American Academy of Nursing. (2023). **Firearm safety and violence prevention.** Retrieved from <u>aannet.org</u>
- American Nurse. (2023). **The role of nurses in firearm safety.** Retrieved from <u>myamericannurse.com</u>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022). **Firearm violence prevention.** Retrieved from <u>cdc.gov</u>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022). **Firearm Mortality by State**. Retrieved from <u>cdc.gov</u>.
- Monuteaux, M. C., Azrael, D., & Miller, M. (2019). Association of increased safe household firearm storage with firearm suicide and unintentional death among US youths. *JAMA Pediatrics*, 173(7), 657-662. doi.org.

## **Contact information for Hawai'i – American Nurses Association:**

President, Dr. Denise Cohen, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC

Chair of Advocacy Committee: Dr. Linda Beechinor, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

Phone (808) 779-3001. 500 Lunalilo Home Road, #27-E, Honolulu HI 96825



February 4, 2025

To: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Re: SUPPORT OF HB125 RELATING TO FIREARMS

Hrg: Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 2:00pm

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee,

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,

Holly Kessler

Holly Kessler Executive Director

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:40:22 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

## Comments:

My name is Susan Trombley, I live in Kapolei and I am a gun owner, a retired teacher who had an 8th grade student in my classroom with a gun, the mother of a school shooting suirvivor that resulted in a student death, and grandmother. I'm writing because I suport HB 125, which would require all gun owners to keep their guns stored locked when thery'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 a lot about kids and teens getting access to guns - they're at a life stage where decisions can be impulsive. Making it harder for kids and teens to get easy access to guns could be the difference between life and death.



To: Members of the Hawaii House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
From: Agustin Cabrera, Giffords State Legislative Manager
Subject: Support for HB 125
Date: February 6, 2025

Submitted via email

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>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Deborah Azrael, Joanna Cohen, Carmel Salhi, and Matthew Miller, "Firearm Storage in Gun-Owning 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>&</sup>lt;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>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Matthew Miller & David Hemenway, "The Relationship Between Firearms and Suicide: A Review of the Literature," 4 Aggression & Violent Behavior (1999): 59, 62–65 (summarizing the findings of multiple studies).

<sup>&</sup>lt;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,

<sup>8</sup> Link - Giffords Safe Storage

<sup>&</sup>lt;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-upgreat-grandpas-pistol-from-n ightstand-fatally shoots-sister/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;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>&</sup>lt;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>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Link - Giffords Safe Storage

<sup>&</sup>lt;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>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;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 | @GIFFORDS\_org



#### **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.

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

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 8:45:05 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Gena Whitten	Moms Demand Action	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have had 2 of my family members to die from lack of safe storage of weapons in the home, in my lifetime. Many children and adults die from accidents with firearms in the home. More than 1,200 children and teens die buy suicide from guns in their homes. Many random school shootings occur from children accessing parents firearms at home which are not safetly storeed. Criminals obtain guns through theft of carelessly stored guns in homes or cars. Please support HB125. Thank you.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 9:23:48 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Rachel Logan	Moms Demand Action - Hawai?i Chapter	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for hearing my testimony today in support of HB 125. Access to a gun triples the risk of suicide, and with our high rate of deaths by suicide in Hawai'i, we need to be proactive on secure firearm storage. Guns stolen from cars and homes are the single-largest source of guns used in crimes nationally. In more than 75% of active shooter incidents in K-12 schools, the shooter obtained their guns from their home or the homes of relatives. Gun owners have a responsibility to not leave these weapons vulnerable to misuse and secure firearm storage will save lives. Gun violence is the leading cause of death for children in the U.S. and this is a step we can take to try to prevent senseless loss of life. Please support this common sense gun legislation.

Mahalo,

**Rachel Logan** 

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



Testimony of Kelly Sampson, Senior Policy Counsel, Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence Support for HB 125 Before the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs February 6th, 2025

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice-Chair Poepoe and Distinguished Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian 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

<sup>&</sup>lt;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*. <u>www.doi.org/10.1007/s11524-018-0261-7</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;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. <u>https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2017-2600</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;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). <u>https://doi.org/10.1186/s40621-023-00438-5</u>

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;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-lo ck-up-guns-used-by-their-kids

<sup>&</sup>lt;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>&</sup>lt;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. <u>https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.293.6.707</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;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. <u>https://www.researchgate.net/publication/322106454\_Variability\_of\_Child\_Access\_Prevention\_Laws\_and\_Pediatric\_Firearm\_In</u> juries

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;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/usss-analysis-of-targeted-school-violence.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;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>

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), *WISQARS injury data*, <u>https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html</u>
 <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>&</sup>lt;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. <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/S0196064404000691</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;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. <u>https://doi.org/10.1521/suli.32.1.5.49.24212</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;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>&</sup>lt;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>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> See footnote 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;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. <u>https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.292.5.594</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> See footnote 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;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,

Kelly Sampson Senior Policy Counsel Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 10:30:46 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

## Comments:

Good afternoon. As a mother, a member of this community and a volunteer with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense Hawai'i Chapter, 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.



# Testimony of Deb Nehmad, Chapter Lead, Brady Hawaii Before the House Committee on the Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs SUPPORT FOR HB 125

February 6, 2025

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, 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 <u>60% less likely to die</u> 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 <u>are a large source</u> of black-market guns.
  - Between 2010 and 2016, <u>police recovered more than 23,000</u> <u>stolen firearms</u>, 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, <u>8 children and teens</u> (aged 0 to 17) are unintentionally injured or killed by family fire, and <u>4.6 million children</u> 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 <u>reported being able to access</u> <u>the firearm in less than five minutes</u>.
- <u>92% of guns</u> used in accidental shooting deaths among children were left unlocked and loaded.
- <u>89% of unintentional shooting deaths</u> by children occur in the home.
- <u>70-90% of firearms</u> used in unintentional shootings, school shootings, and suicides by minors are acquired from the home, or from the homes of friends or relatives.
- In <u>75% of youth firearm suicides</u> 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 <u>78 percent lower</u> 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 <u>reduce</u> <u>youth firearm fatalities by up to 32%</u>.
- 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 <u>no federal law</u> which requires gun owners to safely store their guns and prevent children from accessing them:
  - The only federal regulation is a <u>2005 law</u> 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.
- <u>26 states</u> 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 <u>2019 poll</u> 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 <u>dnehmad@bradyunited.org</u>







# Submitted via web portal RE: HB 125 (Tarnas): Relating to Firearms - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, 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, <u>much of it involving young people</u>, 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 <u>recovered at crime scenes were stolen from lawful owners</u> who may have failed to take the proper steps to prevent the theft. In fact, guns stolen from cars and homes are the <u>single-largest source of guns</u> 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

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 12:51:19 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am **OPPOSED** to this bill. The Second Amendment shall **not** be infringed.

DATE: February 5, 2025

TO: Honorable Legislators

FROM: Christopher D. Thomas, Attorney at Law

RE: Public Comment and Testimony Regarding HB 125

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 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 primary 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, safter from gun violence. Your proposed legislation would extend safe-storage requirements beyond those already enacted into Law; HB 125 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 <u>the</u> 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 into law will not impede any individual from lawfully carrying and accessing a firearm for self-defense on their own premises. 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 is an overdue extension of already available and accepted protocols of safe gun storage.

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



Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks! is a nonpartisan 501c4 nonprofit committed to advocating for children and their families. Our core issues are safety, health, and education.

To: House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Re: HB 125 Relating to firearms Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 325 & Via Videoconference Thursday, February 6, 2025, 2:00 PM

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Committee Members,

**On behalf of HCANSpeaks!, I am writing in support of HB 125, relating to firearms.** This bill requires retail sellers of firearms to provide purchasers with notice regarding the law on firearms storage, expands the requirements for the secure storage of firearms, and clarifies the offense of criminally negligent storage of a firearm. This bill represents a critical step in protecting our children and communities by ensuring that common-sense gun safety measures are in place. Every parent deserves the peace of mind that comes from knowing our government is taking proactive steps to prevent gun violence.

HB125 does not infringe on the rights of responsible gun owners; rather, it promotes responsible gun ownership by establishing safety protocols that help prevent tragedy. By taking these steps, we are prioritizing the well-being of our neighborhoods and ensuring a safer future for all Hawai'i residents. This bill helps make sure that those who should not have access to firearms are prevented from obtaining them, ultimately keeping our families and communities safer.

As an advocate for the safety and well-being of children and families, I plead for action on gun violence prevention. I urge you to support HB 893, so that Hawai'i can continue to set a positive example for the rest of the country in prioritizing the safety and well-being of its children and families. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **support of HB 125**.

Sincerely, Noreen Kohl, Ph.D. Policy Researcher and Advocate
Aloha, I care about secure gun storage because I as a healthcare provider I know that prevention of accidents is the best way to keep injuries and death rates from guns increasing in Hawaii.

Jane Gallagher Felix, Kailua, 96734

As a resident of Kaneohe, and a mother of two, I beg you to strengthen our common sense gun safety laws. Please put the safety of our keiki and communities over a few gun enthusiasts. Mahalo.

Ashley De Coligny, Kaneohe, 96744

Children should be safe at school! I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Ashley Wolfe, Haleiwa, 96712

Don't let Hawai'i kids end up dead like so many mainland kids! I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Hali McCloud, Kailua, 96734

Gun control will keep our communities, schools and citizens safer. Safe gun storage and no carry laws! I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Kathy Thomas, Kaneohe, 96744

Gun violence devastates families and communities. Please make guns and ammunition less accessible to children

Lily Swan, Hāna, 96713

Gun violence is escalating in Hawaii and we need common sense laws to protect our population. Mahalo.

Jim Cooper, Honolulu, 96816

Hawaii has had a culture of resolving beef (primarily) with fists. The change to guns is increasing but not yet at the tipping point. If that happens the changes will be devastating - and impossible to reverse. Seriously, what is the compelling reason to not have laws regarding secure gun storage?

Ruth Coules, Honolulu, 96816

Hawaii must enact laws to protect people, especially because the neighbor islands like my home of Hawai'i Island has too few police officers and huge, rural areas where law enforcement is challenged. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Tanya Dean, Waikoloa, 96738

I am a teacher and have 2 young daughters who will be in school soon. I want to feel safe at my place of work and I want to feel safe while my kids are at school. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Chardene A Metcalfe, Kalaheo, 96741

I am concerned for children who may access a gun and accidentally shoot themselves, a family member, or friend. I want to protect them. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Mary Ellen Ellen Williams, Honolulu, 96813

I desperately want my children to be safe at school. That includes mental health; they shouldn't be doing active shooter drills or even worry about that. Kids are being traumatized just by the risk of active shooters. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Kimberly Simpson, PAHOA, 96778

I don't feel that any of us are safe with kids getting access to unlocked guns or people. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Amanda Myers, Kailua, 96734

I don't want to have the same alarming number of school massacres or mass shooters here in Hawaii. I want gun owners held responsible for what happens to their guns especially if they are not adequately secured. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Jay Takane, Honolulu, 96822

I fear for the safety of our keiki in our schools. I fear for everyone who just want to go places and not worry that there is someone with a gun ready to shoot everyone. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Patricia Baker, Hanapepe, 96716

I have grandchildren I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Andrea Spangler, Kihei, 96753

I have two kids in school. I feel safer sending them to school if guns are securely stored. It breaks my heart to see tragedies happening in public places due to negligent laws or lack thereof. Mahalo nui. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

McCall Char, Honokaa, 96727

I lived most of my life in Louisiana and lived with gun violence. My children had best 2 friends in separate incidents, shot and killed on the streets. My husband committed suicide at home with a gun. My kids now live in a place where shootings are an almost daily occurrence. THIS HAS TO STOP. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Mary David, Honokaa, 96727

I want my children to be safe! I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Ana Bravo, Honolulu, 96825

It shouldn't feel risky (or like gambling!) to send my kids to school. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Miriam Kotubetey, Kaneohe, 96744

It's important to me that our state remains the safest in regards to guns. It's already such a great place to be a child, please make it a priority for it to be one of the safest. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

McKenzie Johnson, Koloa, 96756

Let's keep Hawaii safe. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Ellen Scherr, Honolulu, 96815

Let's keep Hawaii schools and kids safe and support the right to bare arms but do it safely for those that want them. Let's keep Hawaii safe I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Caity Hansen, Kihei, 96753

Let's stop preventable deaths. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Jerelyn Hammer, Hilo, 96720

My name is Isabella McRae and I grew up in Hawaii. I support a ban on all assault weapons and support the secure gun storage law. In college I took a public health course and one of the classes stuck with me ever since I have graduated. Our teacher provided us with a a graph and information that stated that states that have more stringent gun regulations generally have fewer deaths by suicide. Obviously there are a lot of nuances in the situation; however, it has been shown that if other lethal means are not readily available, more gun control equals less ability for people to access a lethal weapon to commit suicide. Safe storage is a clear example of a law that Hawaii could pass to reduce deaths by suicide. I am not saying that people will stop attempting, but I am saying that there may be less successful attempts by children and teens if this law is passed. I also support banning assault weapons. I grew up in a time where high school shootings occurred frequently. In the increasingly polarized political climate, as a visibly gender non conforming lesbian, I am concerned that weapons like assault rifles have been used to harass my communities across the unified states. A gay bar was shot up and pride events are regularly threatened by far right armed proud boy groups. While I have generally felt safe in my home state, I have been harassed for my sexuality. Placing a ban on assault weapons would make me feel safer in my community and help provide many students and queer people with a larger sense of safety in Hawaii. Thank you for receiving my testimony. Please support these bills. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Isabella McRae, Waipahu, 96797

On our islands, it's imperative that we find ways to get along. Our communities are tightknit. The land mass we live on is limited. There's no place for violence. Hawaii has been a leader in safeguarding citizens and freedoms. Safe gun storage is just plain commonsense. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Deborah Harada, KANEOHE, 96744

One of the best things about Hawaii is the low rate of gun violence. We are one of the safest states and need to keep it that way, to protect our keiki. ? I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Erin deNeeve Baum, Waipahu, 96797

Our children are the most precious and vulnerable members of our society and should be protected. We need to do everything we can to keep them safe and away from harm. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Ana Hernandez, Ewa Beach, 96706

Please help us be safe from gun violence. Protect our children. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Deborah McCormick, Ewa Beach, 96706

Please help us keep our keiki safe by requiring safe storage of guns. Thank you! I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Terriann Mohideen, Kailua, 96734

Please keep my grandchildren safe. My daughter is a teacher and I am afraid of what our schools are becoming. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Lisa Mosbarger, Haiku, 96708

Responsible gun use is crucial to the public's safety especially in a time of political polarization when trust and morale is low. Misunderstandings happen without the extra psychological negativity and with this climate- gun safety is extra important. Nobody is asking to take rights away- but added security measures. That includes age appropriate rules. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Sarah Baker, Kailua, 96734

The gun madness must end. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

joyce Louden, Honokaa, 96727

The gun violence in the US is totally out of control. My kids are grown but I would not send kids to school these days. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Edie Valentine, Keaau, 96749

The number one cause of death for kids in the US is guns. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Grace Wright, Kula, 96790

Too many children have died. I worry for my grandchildren's safety. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Judy Schermer, Kailua Kona, 96740
We are concerned about mental health and know that lawmakers can support protection for children. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

Kathleen Golden, Volcano, 96785

andrea suzuki, Honolulu, 96813

We lived in Santa Fe, TX when that school shooting occurred. The older sister of one of my child's best friends was killed in that shooting. We moved to Hawaii to get away from gun violence. I urge you to support the passage of HB 125, a law requiring all guns in homes be stored locked. Research shows secure storage practices play a vital role in reducing the risk of gun violence. Storing firearms securely protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings, gun suicides, and gun theft. With multiple recent examples of gun violence involving youth, secure storage is more crucial than ever.

HOLLY JACKSON, MILILANI, 96789

Shirley Yamauchi, Kapolei, 96707

Sherry Pettus, Paauhau, 96727

Colin Smith, Lawai, 96765

Elizabeth O'Connor, Honolulu, 96815

Cecile Smith, Honolulu, 96825

Tia Pearson, Wahiawa, 96786

Jan Lubin, Honolulu, 96826

Brian Emmons, Haleiwa, 96712

Bo Breda, Pahoa, 96778

Jim Owens, Kailua, 96734

Lorna Farnum, Keaau, 96749

Joe Woo Jr., Kahului, 96732

Alaina Craft, Kaunakakai, 96748

Lorna Holmes, Honolulu, 96817

eric Jon voorhies, kapaa, 96746

Jacqui Skill, Lahaina, 96761

Alex Oshiro, Honolulu, 96813

Mary True, Pepeekeo, 96783

Carolyn Golojuch, Kapolei, 96707

Maureen Whittemore, Kaunakakai, 96748

Michele Nihipali, Hauula, 96717

Thomas Tizard, Kailua, 96734

Robert Robert Nehmad, Honolulu, 96825

laurie saarinen, Hilo, 96720

Ingrid Nishimoto, Ninole, 96773

Kevin Casey, Lihue, 96766

Frank Gordon, Ewa Beach, 96706

Lorraine Akiba, Honolulu, 96808

Ellen Caringer, Kapaa, 96746

Gregory Puppione, Honolulu, 96826

Peter Wilson, Pahoa, 96778

Katharine Conway, Koloa, 96756

susan kean, lahaina, 96761
Mark laconetti-Cole, Honolulu, 96816

Bridget Scott, Honolulu, 96822

Diane Wernet, Pahoa, 96778

Marya Mann, Kailua Kona, 96745

Andy Sheinis, Kamuela, 96743

Anna Doyle, Honolulu, 96816

Linda Boranian, Holualoa, 96725

Carla Protzman, Kula, 96790

Heatherly Bucher, Mililani, 96789

Michelle Gabriel, Kapolei, 96707

Eric McCarren, Honolulu, 96821

Julie Beers, Ewa Beach, 96706

Peggy Reising, Ewa Beach, 96706

Jill Greengrove, Paia, 96779

Nancy Kickertz, Kailua, 96734

Niki Miller, Kaneohe, 96744

Jeff Dominick Esposito, Mililani, 96789

Vicky Robbins, Pahoa, 96778

Judith White, Kapaa, 96746

Linda Legrande, Honolulu, 96822

Jeanette C Evans, Kula, 96790

Pamela Teehan, Honolulu, 96818

Sara Bailey, Kaneohe, 96744

Janet Andrea, Keaau, 96749

John Hugg, Kahului, 96732

Pamela Patrick, Kihei, 96753

gabrielle toloza, Kailua, 96734

Beverly O Winber, Honolulu, HI, 96826

BARBARA GOMES, Kailua, 96734

Sheryl Gardner, Mililani, 96789

Michelle Takemoto, Honolulu, 96821

Nancy Conley, Honolulu, 96815

Bry Stein, Kihei, 96753

Patty Walker, Waikoloa, 96738

Michele Carvalho, Hilo, 96720

Robert Crone, Kailua, 96734
Lois Langham, Honolulu, 96814

Jo Lum, Honolulu, 96817

Christine Kaminski, Kaneohe, 96744

Louise DiGrazia, Kailua, 96734

lois crozer, kailua, 96734

MaryAnn Jones, Kapolei, 96707

Michele Hondo, Wailuku, 96793

Susan Lord, Honolulu, 96825

Christine Martinez-Suzukawa, Wailuku, 96793

Sherrill j Sturm, Kaneohe, 96744

Sandra Shane, Honolulu, 96815

Virginia Alatasi, Hauula, 96717

Natalie DeBiasi, Honolulu, 96814

Tamara Paltin, Lahaina, 96761

Ruthann Olson-Moore, Keaau, 96749

Charlene Flanter, Honolulu, 96816

Jennifer Strumolo, Haiku, 96708

Tanya Ramseth, Koloa, 96756

Patricia Wright, Kailua, 96734

Lurline Bettencourt, Kapa'a, 96746

Delia Almares, Honolulu, 96816

Tami Dixon, Kaunakakai, 96748

Rachel Hodara Nelson, Makawao, 96768

Kealakai Hammond, Honolulu, 96817

April Ching, Honolulu, 96822

Jennifer Swartz, Kalaheo, 96741

Cindy Mckean, Captain Cook, 96704

Bethany Stetson, Kaneohe, 96744

Carolyn Adams, Honolulu, 96818

Fia Richmond, Koloa, 96756

Jeanne Alford, Kamuela, 96743

Nchewi Imoke, Honolulu, 96815

Ralph Boyea, Keaau, 96749

Kris Lambert, Kailua, 96734

Carolyn Witcover, Captain Cook, 96704

Caleigh Dillon, Waialua, 96791
Jen Lum, Ewa Beach, 96706

Amber Kawamura, Wailuku, 96793

Carlynn Wolfe, Honolulu, 96822

Amy Odom, Kailua, 96734

Delphine Homerowski, Honolulu, 96822

Marcela Montalto, Honolulu, 96815

Earl Kim, Honolulu, 96813

Erica K Yamauchi, Honolulu, 96816

Joslynne Young, Kahului, 96732

Denis Gueret, Kapaa, 96746

Larrilynn Paguyo, Aiea, 96701

Pedro Maynes, Honolulu, 96816

Berta Narbonne, Honolulu, 96821

Jill Tucker, Kaneohe, 96744

Jayme Barton, Waialua, 96791

Javier Mendez, Honolulu, 96817

Lisa Imai, Honolulu, 96821

Julie Henig, Kamuela, 96743

Marcia Pasqua, Honolulu, 96816

Viva Medina, Haiku, 96708

Gabrielle Davidson, Anahola, 96703

Maribeth Anderson, Pahoa, 96778

Karin Olson, Kihei, 96753

Nita Tomaszewski, Pahoa, 96778

Bethann Paul, Kailua, 96734

Kaopuuokaha Weir, Honolulu, 96825

Karolle Bidgood, Kaneohe, 96744

Rachel Logan, Honolulu, 96825

Paul Soluri, Honolulu, 96821

Melody Peralta, Ewa Beach, 96706

Lauren Rolland, Waialua, 96791

Crystal Galla, Kapolei, 96707

Jaime Manuwai, Kaneohe, 96744

Allyson Metzger, Kailua-Kona, 96740

Noel Trim, Kailua Kona, 96740

Roda Aggabao, Kapolei, 96707
Ivy Castellanos, Kaneohe, 96744

Heather Cutts, Honolulu, 96825

Cheryl Buckman, Hilo, 96720

Ashley Katamoto, Kaneohe, 96744

Tina Stewart, Honolulu, 96821

Diana Castaneda, Waipahu, 96797

Julia Duquette, Honolulu, 96813

Corina Scoggins, Kalaheo, 96741

Dianne Higgins, Paauilo, 96776

Marilyn Means, Kapaa, 96746

Carol Abrigo, Mililani, 96789

Peter Anderson, Honolulu, 96825

Jacquelin Sabin, Kailua Kona, 96740

Jennifer Gutierrez, Ewa Beach, 96706

Derek Ahrens, Kapolei, 96707

Gina Willman, Kamuela, 96743

Precious Yasay, Honolulu, 96818

Ellen Mount, Kailua Kona, 96740

Sam Guckenheimer, Captain Cook, 96704

Gina Cacchioli, Kapolei, 96707

Kelley Lacks, Keaau, 96749

Meredith Ing, Hilo, 96720

Ana Trovinger, Honolulu, 96818

Gabrielle Davidson, Anahola, 96703

Rodelie Beck, Kapolei, 96707

Violet Kauhi, Haiku, 96708

Elna Nagasako, Honolulu, 96822

Jeanne Case, Kailua, 96734

Larry Morris, Pahoa, 96778

Michael Berg, Wailuku, 96793

Valerie Iwata, Mililani, 96789

Erica Wigell, Kailua, 96734

Mary Taiariol, Kalaheo, 96741

Adrya Siebring, Anahola, 96703

Shana Laririt, Makawao, 96768

Sierra Dunn, Kula, 96790
Dennis Dunn, Kailua, 96734

Christina Simmons, Kaneohe, 96744

Sungwon Choe, Honolulu, 96822

Francis Guy Mackenzie, Ewa Beach, 96706

Alzira Fernandes, Honolulu, 96822

Linda Damas, Hilo, 96720

Darlene Viggiano, Pahoa, 96778

Nicole TERGEOGLOU, Laupahoehoe, 96764

Dorene Campos, Kihei, 96753

Lori Kizer, Kapaa, 96746

Wanda Costa, Kapaa, 96746

Cedar Wilson, Laie, 96762

Laura Stocker, Ocean View, 96737

Patricia Montgomery, Lihue, 96766

Merri Keliikuli, Waianae, 96792

John Lewis, Waimanalo, HI 96795-1654, 96795

Marnie Honeycutt, Hilo, 96720

Elisa Stern, Kailua-Kona, 96740

Jazzy Bostock, Waianae, 96792

Michael Steuber, Honolulu, 96816

rose Ferreira, ewa, 96706

Marguerite Koster, Honolulu, 96814

Mike Meyer, Kaneohe, 96744

Taylor Pettis, Lihue, 96766

Kuuipo Kanawaliwali, Hoolehua, 96729

Anita Randall-Packer, Kamuela, 96743

Danielle McBride, Koloa, 96756

Stephanie Strong, Kihei, 96753

Erica Wesselman, Captain Cook, 96704

Catherine Taylor, HON, 96825

John Theismann, PAHOA, 96778

Sandee Kishimori, Hilo, 96720

Kathryn Shawhan, Kaneohe, 96744

Mary Michael, Kula, 96790

Remy Toyama, honolulu, 96815

Diane Goya, Milikani, 96789
Ruth Andrade-Alvarado, Honolulu, 96821

Allison Cooke, Honolulu, 96815

Kapua Hussey, Kailua, 96734

C Aronoff, Captain Cook, 96704

Kirsten Carlson, Captain Cook, 96704

Constance Pappas, Kilauea, 96754

Jack Powell, Honolulu, 96816

Laurem E-K, KAPAA, 96746

Wendy Bernier, Honokaa, 96727

Dominique Anders, Honolulu, 96816

Karen Abubo, Princeville, 96722

Christopher Stevens, Kapolei, 96707



Feb. 5, 2024

Aloha, Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, 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'm writing today in strong support of House Bill 125**.

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, as well as gun thefts. While millions of responsible gun owners follow recommended storage practices, unfortunately, research shows that more than half of gun owners do not.

I lost my best friend, Wesley, to gun violence when I was in 10<sup>th</sup> grade. He was staying at his best friend's house when they got into an argument and because his friend's family did not securely store their guns, he lost his life in a tragic way that was completely preventable.

More than 1,200 children and teens die by gun suicide each year, most often using guns belonging to a family member. Over 80% of child firearm suicides take place in a home.

In addition, 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 other family members and relatives.

And when it comes to crime, guns stolen from cars and homes are the single-largest source of guns used in crimes nationally.

Our low incidence of gun violence here in the islands hasn't been by accident, but due to sound public policy and commonsense gun safety laws. On behalf of our three local groups and 2,000+ supporters across the islands, I urge you to pass this bill.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

vica yamanchi

Erica Yamauchi, Volunteer State Co-Lead

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:58:30 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
J. Alexander	Self Defense Solutions Hawaii	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We firmly oppose any more unecessary firearms laws in Hawaii. Enough is enough. The people have a right to defend themselves!



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 LATE \*Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.



February 6, 2025

Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs:Chair David A. TarnasRep. Amy A. PerrusoVice Chair Mahina PoepoeRep. Gregg TakayamaRep. Della Au BelattiRep. Chris ToddRep. Elle CochranRep. Diamond GarciaRep. Mark J. HashemRep. Garner M. ShimizuRep. Kirstin KahaloaRep. Mark J. Hashem

Re: HB125 Relating to Firearms

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs:

The Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV) addresses the social, political, and economic impacts of domestic violence on individuals, families, and communities. We are a statewide partnership of domestic violence programs and shelters.

On behalf of HSCADV and our 25 member programs statewide, I respectfully submit testimony supporting HB125.

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

In homes where domestic violence occurs, children may be at increased risk if firearms are not properly stored. Gun access increases the risk of unintentional injuries, accidents, or even intentional violence directed at the children or other family members.

Domestic violence often involves severe emotional distress, and access to firearms can increase the risk of suicide for both the victim and the perpetrator. Safe storage can act as a safeguard against impulsive acts of self-harm or harm to others.

Perpetrators of domestic violence with access to guns use the threat of gun violence to inflict emotional abuse on their partners or escalate to homicide. The presence of a firearm in domestic violence situations increases the risk of homicide for women by 500%. Additionally, more than half of women killed by gun violence are killed by family members or intimate

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partners.<sup>1</sup> And the trend is worsening: in the ten-year period between 2008 and 2017, intimate partner homicides of women involving guns increased by 15 percent.<sup>2</sup>

Promoting safe firearm storage practices, such as using gun safes, lock boxes, or trigger locks, can reduce the risk of firearms being used in domestic violence situations, thus providing an extra layer of protection for victims and helping to prevent deadly outcomes.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Sincerely, Angelina Mercado, Executive Director

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Campbell JC, Webster D, Koziol-McLain J, Block C, Campbell D, Curry MA, Gary F, Glass N, McFarlane J, Sachs C, Sharps P, Ulrich Y, Wilt SA, Manganello J, Xu X, Schollenberger J, Frye V, Laughon K. Risk factors for femicide in abusive relationships: results from a multisite case control study. Am J Public Health. 2003 Jul;93(7):1089-97. Doi: 10.2105/ajph.93.7.1089. PMID: PMC1447915

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Fridel EE, Fox JA. Gender differences in patterns and trends in the US homicide, 1976-2017. *Violence and Gender*. 2019; doi: <u>10.1089/vio.2019.0005</u>. Data from this study were obtained by Everytown from the author James Alan Fox directly over email dated October 1, 2019 for this analysis.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 1:40:28 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
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 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 2:02:40 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

In Support of HB 125

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee.

This measure moves in the right direction toward greater safety in our communities from death and injury from guns.

Please pass this measure.

Sincerely,

Nancy Moser

in Waikoloa 96738

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 2:31:30 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose.

You guys are making a law for something that doesn't need to be. Basically, creating more ways to trip up a person who makes an honest mistake. It's already against the law for someone to possess a handgun if the owner isn't also there. It's already illegal for someone to possess someone elses handgun and rifle without permission from the owner

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 2:34:24 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Duke malczon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 3:33:42 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support HB 125.

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 3:43:37 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kris Bordessa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is common sense to require firearms to be secured in a manner that prevents children and those will mental health issues from getting hold of them. Gun owners who do not suitably secure their firearms should be held liable. Please support HB125.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 3:59:32 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

HB125 is unconstitutional. Strongly oppose.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 4:07:37 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

### Comments:

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.

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 4:10:00 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this law and any additional storage requirements that only affect law abiding civillians when there are multiple incidents of HPD and other law enforcement agencies in this state failing to properly store their firearms, components, and accessories with no consequences and those agencies would not be affected by this law.

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 4:12:02 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

### Comments:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB125, which mandates that retail sellers of firearms provide purchasers with notice regarding the law on firearm storage, expands secure storage requirements, and clarifies the offense of criminally negligent storage of a firearm. While I fully support responsible gun ownership and the safety of our communities, this bill imposes unnecessary and excessive regulations that infringe upon the rights of law-abiding citizens.

HB125 places an undue burden on firearms retailers, requiring them to provide additional notices to purchasers that are redundant and unnecessary. Gun owners are already subject to federal and state laws regarding safe storage, and this bill adds another layer of bureaucratic red tape that does little to address criminal behavior. Education on safe storage should be encouraged, but not through mandatory and punitive measures that place the onus on retailers rather than on personal responsibility.

Additionally, expanding the legal requirements for secure firearm storage interferes with the rights of responsible gun owners to make decisions based on their unique circumstances. Many gun owners rely on quick access to their firearms for self-defense. Imposing stricter storage laws may inadvertently put law-abiding citizens at greater risk by delaying their ability to protect themselves and their families in critical situations.

Furthermore, HB125's clarification of "criminally negligent storage" could lead to vague and subjective enforcement, increasing the risk of law-abiding gun owners facing unwarranted legal consequences. The bill fails to acknowledge that most gun owners take firearm safety seriously and already take measures to store their firearms securely. Rather than imposing new regulations, efforts should focus on education initiatives and enforcement of existing laws against criminals who misuse firearms.

For these reasons, I oppose HB125 and advocate for policies that promote gun safety through education and personal responsibility rather than restrictive and punitive regulations. Thank you for your time and consideration of my concerns.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 4:17:55 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Representatives of the committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to any and all anti-gun bills or legislation. Such measures do not effectively address the root causes of crime and public safety concerns. Instead, they disproportionately affect law-abiding citizens by limiting their ability to protect themselves and their families. As we all know, criminals do not follow the law, and further restrictions on responsible gun ownership fail to deter crime.

The real issues that need to be addressed are:

1. **Soft-on-Crime Policies**: These policies allow repeat offenders back into society, perpetuating crime rates. Research shows that a significant portion of crime is committed by repeat offenders.

2. **Mental Health and Suicide**: Mental health remains a critical issue that needs immediate attention. Suicide rates linked to untreated mental health challenges are a growing concern and require comprehensive solutions.

3. **Drug Epidemic**: The drug crisis, particularly involving fentanyl, has devastating effects on our communities. My own family has been affected by this tragedy, as my cousin lost his life to a fentanyl overdose in a rehab facility on O'ahu two years ago.

4. **High Cost of Living**: The economic pressures on families, where parents often work multiple jobs, leave little time for guiding and instilling values in their children. This socioeconomic strain exacerbates many underlying societal issues.

The Second Amendment was enshrined in the Constitution to guarantee the right to keep and bear arms for the protection of life, liberty, and freedom. It also serves as a safeguard against government overreach and tyranny. The language, "shall not be

infringed," is both clear and intentional. Efforts to restrict this fundamental right undermine the very principles on which this nation was founded.

I urge you to join me in opposing anti-gun bills and instead advocate for policies that address the true underlying causes of crime and violence.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Mahalo, **Bronson Teixeira** Maui, Hawai'i (808) 463-9438

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 4:33:54 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Infringes on the Right to Self-Defense:

The bill restricts your ability to quickly access your firearm in an emergency, undermining your fundamental right to protect yourself and your family, especially during home invasions or other urgent need situations.

We already have a safe storage law:

Hawaii law already covers safe storage requirements with regard to minors.

Unfairly Penalizes Law-Abiding Citizens:

Responsible gun owners could face fines and criminal charges for minor storage violations, even without any harmful outcome. This shifts the focus from criminal behavior to punishing lawful citizens.

Strict Liability Risks:

The bill imposes automatic legal liability if an unsecured firearm is misused, even if the owner wasn't negligent. This creates severe financial and legal risks, discouraging lawful firearm ownership.

Vague and Subjective Language:

Terms like "a location that a reasonable person would believe to be secure" are unclear and open to interpretation, leading to inconsistent enforcement and legal uncertainty.

Ineffective for Real Safety Concerns:

This bill does little to address the root causes of gun violence, focusing instead on overregulating responsible gun owners rather than targeting criminal misuse of firearms.

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 4:40:19 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I belive this bill does absolutely nothing in regards to proper firearm safety/storage. This bill is nothing more than a money-grabbing scheme aimed towards wrongfully punishing law-abiding gun owners.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 4:46:20 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 4:48:18 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose HB125 because it is unconstitutional and against our 2nd Amendment rights.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 4:57:10 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Steven T Takekoshi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 5:12:54 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

It's a violation of our second amendment rights

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 5:39:01 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Criminals love safe storage laws.
## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 5:58:11 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Cliff mello	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I strongly oppose HB125 as it places an unnecessary burden on law-abiding gun owners while doing little to address actual crime. Requiring additional storage restrictions and expanding criminal liability for law-abiding citizens only weakens the right to self-defense while emboldening criminals who have no regard for firearm storage laws.

Firearm safety is important, and responsible gun owners already take measures to secure their firearms. However, mandating additional requirements and imposing expanded penalties makes it more difficult for individuals to exercise their constitutional right to self-defense in their own homes. The Supreme Court has ruled in *District of Columbia v. Heller* that laws requiring firearms to be rendered inoperable violate the Second Amendment. This bill directly conflicts with that ruling and is therefore unconstitutional.

The government should focus its efforts on enforcing laws against criminals who misuse firearms rather than punishing responsible citizens who follow the law. This bill is not about crime prevention—it is about overregulation and stripping away Second Amendment rights under the guise of safety.

I urge you to reject HB125 and focus on policies that target actual criminals, not law-abiding citizens.

HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 6:07:14 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this unconstitutional bill.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 6:31:10 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

HB125 Infringes on my Right to Self-Defense. The bill restricts ability to quickly access my firearm for self defense. We already have a safe storage law. Hawaii law already covers safe storage requirements with regard to minors. Unfairly Penalizes Law-Abiding Citizens. Responsible gun owners could face fines and criminal charges for minor storage violations, even without any harmful outcome. This shifts the focus from criminal behavior to punishing lawful citizens. Strict Liability Risks. The bill imposes automatic legal liability if an unsecured firearm is misused, even if the owner wasn't negligent. This creates severe financial and legal risks, discouraging lawful firearm ownership. Vague and Subjective Language. This bill does little to address the root causes of gun violence, focusing instead on over-regulating responsible gun owners rather than targeting criminal misuse of firearms.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 6:31:21 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Stephen fralick	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in opposition to this bill, too many laws on the books already and this State doesn't enforce the laws we have

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 6:37:47 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose.

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 6:39:38 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

These new implemented classes that were forced upon us recently covers this.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:02:49 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. It makes absolutely no sense, other than extreme control. Kill this bill.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:14:08 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Mark Fiesta	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

2nd amendment rights

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:19:38 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Wilfred Lum	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am opposition of HB125 and the "need" for the seller of the firearm to now be required to inform the buyer that they need to safely store their firearm. Firearm safety and storage is covered when a person goes for the firearms safety course and the sole responsibility falls upon the owner of said gun. The seller is in no way responsible for what the buyer does with their firearm.

As such, it should fall upon the owner of the firearm to determine what their level of safety and storage means are as determined by their need to readily get to and be able to acquire their firearm when there is a need to do so. The government is over reaching by now dictating how one should determine what happens in their home. And once again, the government is also trying to legislate the blame away from the true criminal who is the one committing the crime. Right now there are laws in place that hold someone accountable if they commit a crime with a gun.

I would like to believe that all lawful gun owners take the necessary means to secure their firearms and to now make it a law seems overreach by the government.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:28:13 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jeffrey Duquez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill doesn't make sense. We already have the safe storage law in effect. It also infringes the ability for a law abiding citizen to protect his/her home in a timely manner. Adding multiple steps to secure your firearm in defense of your life doesn't make sense. If there's a criminal in your home, the difference can be one second between surviving the incident and losing your life. I'm deeply upset that elected officials that my tax dollars are paying and income to would suggest and even propose a bill such as this.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:38:14 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Sharee Orr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Any bill that defies federal and/or state constitution is wasting taxpayer money since it will go to court. This is one of those bills. Auwe.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:39:19 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:56:26 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Mark Pillori	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am against broad firearm locking and storing laws as well as making owner responsible for someone else's misuse.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:59:15 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Samuel Iler	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB125 due to it goes against the spirit of the 2nd amendment to the US Constitution. The 2nd amendment guarantees a US citizen the right to keep and bear arms; whereas HB125 seeks to mitigate this basic right by expanding on storage and third party misuse mandates already in place; which mandates will be a further imposition upon lawful arms ownership per the second amendment.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:00:19 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am in strong opposition of this bill.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:05:20 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Hannah Holmes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB125. Having a handgun locked up at all times inside your own home with no children will hinder my ability to defend myself against an home invasion or robbery. It defeats the purpose of having a handgun for home defense. In my 15 years as a Law Enforcement Officer I have never experienced a case in which a criminal knocked on the door and waited patiently for the home owner to retrieve his/her weapon. I would further argue that in cases a home owner successfully protected himself/herself from an intruder had their weapon readily available and not locked up in a gun case or safe.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:06:20 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

# **Testimony in Opposition to HB 125**

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong opposition to HB 125, which imposes excessive and unnecessary restrictions on firearm storage for law-abiding gun owners. While firearm safety is important, this bill overreaches by mandating that firearms be locked up whenever they are not being carried, regardless of circumstances.

Hawaii already has strict safe storage laws that require firearms to be secured in a way that prevents access by unauthorized persons, including children and intruders. This bill goes too far by eliminating personal discretion in home defense. A firearm that is locked up at all times is essentially useless in a self-defense situation, where quick access can mean the difference between life and death.

Responsible gun owners should have the right to determine the safest and most effective way to store their firearms based on their household circumstances. Forcing all firearms to be locked away ignores the reality that not all homes face the same risks. Those who live alone or without children should not be subjected to the same restrictions as households with minors.

Furthermore, this bill does not address the real issue of criminal misuse of firearms. Those who obtain guns illegally are not following safe storage laws to begin with. HB 125 only punishes responsible citizens while doing nothing to stop actual crime.

For these reasons, I urge you to vote **NO** on HB 125. Firearm safety is important, but it should not come at the cost of self-defense and personal responsibility.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

# **Robert Okuda**

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:06:54 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Andrew Namiki Roberts	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

## Comments:

Honorable Chair David A. Tarnas,, Vice Chair Mahina Poepoe, and Members of the <u>COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS</u>

# Re: Testimony in Strong Opposition to HB125 Relating to Firearm Storage

Dear Chair David A. Tarnas,, Vice Chair Mahina Poepoe, , and Members of the Committee,

I am submitting this testimony in **strong opposition** to HB135, which proposes new mandates on the storage of firearms in the State of Hawaii.

# **Concerns Regarding the Proposed Bill:**

# **Infringement on Constitutional Rights:**

The bill undermines the fundamental right to self-defense as protected under the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. In the landmark case *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008), the U.S. Supreme Court struck down Washington, D.C.'s safe storage law that required firearms in the home to be kept unloaded and either disassembled or secured with a trigger lock. The Court ruled that such requirements violated the Second Amendment because they rendered firearms inoperable for immediate use in self-defense situations within the home.

This proposed bill imposes similar burdens on lawful gun owners in Hawaii. By requiring firearms to be locked in a container, secured with tamper-resistant devices, or kept within immediate reach, the bill restricts the ability of individuals to access their firearms quickly in emergencies. This directly conflicts with the Supreme Court's ruling in *Heller*, which emphasized that the right to self-defense is central to the Second Amendment, particularly within one's own home.

# Unreasonable Burden on Law-Abiding Gun Owners:

While the goal of promoting safety is commendable, this legislation disproportionately penalizes responsible gun owners. It subjects individuals to fines, criminal charges, and strict liability even in cases where no harm results from a storage violation. This approach shifts the focus from actual criminal behavior to the overregulation of lawful activities.

# Strict Liability Provisions Are Overly Harsh:

Holding gun owners strictly liable for any damage or injury caused by an unsecured firearm-

even without negligence—is excessive. It fails to account for unforeseen circumstances, such as theft or unauthorized access despite reasonable precautions. The law should differentiate between genuine negligence and unavoidable incidents.

# Vague Language Leads to Legal Uncertainty:

Terms like "a location that a reasonable person would believe to be secure" are subjective and open to varied interpretations. This ambiguity could lead to inconsistent enforcement and confusion among law-abiding citizens attempting to comply with the law.

# **Potential to Criminalize Victims:**

In situations where a firearm is accessed by an unauthorized person, this bill could result in the criminal prosecution of victims who were already harmed by the incident. Rather than providing justice, it risks revictimizing individuals who have suffered a crime.

# **Recommendations:**

Instead of punitive measures, I urge the Legislature to consider:

- Enhanced Firearm Safety Education: Promote voluntary programs that encourage safe storage without imposing criminal penalties on responsible owners.
- Focus on Criminal Acts: Target laws at individuals who commit crimes with firearms, not those who legally own and responsibly use them.
- Legal Protections for Lawful Owners: Ensure that self-defense rights are not compromised by overbroad regulations.

# **Conclusion:**

I respectfully request that the Committee **reject this bill** in its current form. While the intent to promote public safety is important, this legislation overreaches, infringes on constitutional rights, and unfairly targets responsible citizens. Public safety can be advanced through education, community support, and enforcement against actual criminal behavior—not by criminalizing lawful conduct.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Namiki Roberts

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:07:11 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Travis Baguso	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 125, which mandates that firearm retailers provide purchasers with storage law information and expands firearm storage requirements. While I recognize the importance of responsible firearm ownership, this bill introduces unnecessary regulations that infringe upon the rights of law-abiding citizens without effectively addressing firearm safety concerns.

# 1. Existing Laws Already Address Safe Storage

Hawai'i already has strict firearm storage laws under HRS §134-10.5, which impose criminal penalties for improper storage. Law-abiding gun owners are well aware of their responsibilities through existing education and legal requirements. Adding more mandates will not deter criminals who disregard the law in the first place.

# 2. Burden on Retailers and Law-Abiding Citizens

Requiring firearm retailers to distribute additional storage law information creates an unnecessary bureaucratic step that does little to enhance public safety. Most firearm purchasers already receive extensive safety training, including instruction on secure storage practices. This bill would add redundant regulatory burdens without providing any measurable benefit.

# 3. Unenforceable and Ineffective Measures

The expansion of firearm storage requirements raises serious concerns regarding enforcement. Law enforcement cannot reasonably monitor compliance within private residences without infringing on constitutional protections. Instead of penalizing responsible gun owners, policymakers should focus on enforcing existing laws against those who misuse firearms unlawfully.

# 4. Potential Constitutional and Legal Challenges

This bill may face legal challenges on constitutional grounds. The Supreme Court has reaffirmed the individual right to keep and bear arms in decisions such as *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008) and *McDonald v. Chicago* (2010). Any law that excessively restricts a citizen's ability to access their legally owned firearm for self-defense could be subject to constitutional scrutiny.

# Conclusion

Rather than imposing additional mandates on responsible firearm owners and retailers, the

Legislature should prioritize initiatives that effectively target criminal misuse of firearms, such as harsher penalties for illegal gun possession and enhanced mental health services. HB 125 does not enhance public safety but instead creates unnecessary restrictions on lawful firearm owners.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to oppose HB 125. Thank you for considering my testimony. I appreciate the opportunity to participate in this important discussion.

Sincerely,

Travis baguso

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:15:31 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Terry Donaghy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a U.S. Citizen, I oppose this measure. Do Not infringe on my right to bear arms. I am a law abiding citizen, who enjoys the sport of shooting at the range. Do not restrict my rights.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:34:25 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

To whom it may concern, this bill is unconstitutional and affects legal gun owners and businesses. I oppose this bill because it will make law abiding citizens in to criminals.

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:39:32 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Alison T Wolford	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments: I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed legislation concerning the safe and secure storage of firearms. While the intention to enhance public safety is commendable, I believe that this proposal is overly restrictive and does not adequately address the complexities of gun ownership and storage. With current laws and requirements to purchase/acquire firearms (class requirements) firearm owners are made aware of safe storage requirements and options and as responsible gun owners already practice safe storage methods to prevent such incidents. Adding another responsibility of retailers appears to me to be a waste of time and resources. The proposal does not account for the potential challenges and practicalities of enforcing such regulations. Again, I truly believe resources should be allocated towards initiatives that directly target the root causes of gun violence, such as mental health support, community programs, and law enforcement training. I urge the legislature to consider alternative measures that respect the rights of responsible gun owners while addressing the underlying issues contributing to gun violence. Sincerely, Alison Wolford

HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:39:39 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

No more laws regulating law abiding citizens.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:40:02 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Peter Roa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We the people oppose

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:40:38 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Gian Vicuna	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. This is nothing but simple over reach. Firearm storage safety education is a requirement before purchasing firearms. As a parallel example, STDs are also very rampant that is why we have sex education as a means of addressing that. One of those ways is to encourage the use of protection when engaging in sexual activities. When the state comes in and starts forcing everybody to use condoms because some people have STDs is akin to requiring everybody to start requiring safes. I agree with safe storage and I have one myself but for the state to overstep and start doing this then they should also start knocking on everybody's bedrooms to make sure everyone is wearing condoms. If you think thats outrageous then you understand why its common sense for this bill to be outrageous and that is why i strongly oppose it.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:41:14 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

No more oppressive and expensive regulations for law abiding citzens who legally acquired their firearms. All these things are covered in the courses we must take. The Supreme has ruled we have the right to own firearms. Vote no.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:45:36 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kehaulani matsumoto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:55:58 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Mickey H Gainer	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I think its a bad idea on the HB125 because all your realley doing is making it difucalt to portect ourselves and just setting in another Law to deter.... the American citizen from being able to protect themselve and there Family!

lets breake it down: so if my fierarm needs to unloaded and in a locked safe or Lockbox and someone breakes into my House wile we are all sleeping it would take me atleast 2 to 4 minits to get coherent and get to my safe or Lockbox to get it open and thats not even Loading my weppen yet so you add on another 1 to 2 and maybe 4 minits to that and you have 8 minits and by that time.... you or some one in your house hold is "DEAD" by then! so yes I vote NO on HB125 for the saftey of me and my Loved ones, I often ask myself what countury we Live in because it seems Like every time we go thrugh these New Laws our state imposes on the working class American people and try to find ways to Take our rights to protect our selves in our own Homes witch they have no right doing and stepping on our right to own and bear Arms completely stepping on the 2nd Amenment is beon me!

Lets remmber something here, you can put the restrictions on the American People all you want but you can't stop the criminal from disobaying your Law..... so thats why your out of bounds reach in what you can say what we can and can't do in our own House is just right down stepping over our rights as citicinz of the Unitied State Of America when you should protecting our right to bear Arms and not giving the criminals an easy Target.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:57:18 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
elijah thierbach	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:00:10 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
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.

Please take a moment to consider how firearms are obtained in Hawaii. 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 Hawaii. 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 Hawaii at any point. As a legal firearm owner in Hawaii I would not necessarily ever buy a firearm from a licensed Hawaii based firearm seller. This bill will likely harm access to law abiding firearms owners in Hawaii 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. 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

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:00:34 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Martin Dixon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:11:53 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:14:42 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:14:44 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Hello,

I am writing testimony in opposition for this bill. We already have a safe storage law inside the home and place to keep for transportation to and from approved places. §134-10.5, 134-23, 24, and 25.

This bill would start to unfairly target law abiding citizens that want to keep their rights and not get in trouble for minor storage violations. Focusing on law abiding citizens and not on the people who are breaking the law and misusing firearms.

Thank you!
# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:24:10 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Alyce Dodge	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Legislators,

I support this common sense bill that requires secure storage for firearms.

Mahalo,

Alyce Dodge

# <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:37:34 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
David P. Alvarado Jr.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In opposition to HB125; as a state with some of the nations strictest gun laws already in place, furthering the hindrance on constitutional freedoms seems outright frivolous. Thank you for your time.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:38:51 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
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

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:54:57 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose HB125 for the following reasons

- 1. It restricts your ability to quickly access my firearm undermining my right ro protect myself and my family.
- 2. We already have strict laws on safe storage and requirements regarding unauthorized people including minors.
- 3. This bill seeks to criminalize the law abiding and shift focus away from criminal behavior.
- 4. It is ambiguous and does nothing to address the root causes of gun violece and instead focuses on over regulating law abiding gun owners and not criminal misuse.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:00:05 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Danielle E. Sagun- Apilado	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose bill HB125

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:00:22 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Joshua Diringer	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this legislation. The state of Hawaii needs to address the root causes of legal socoetal issues, and stop wasting tax payer monies on frivolous legislation that has no marked effect in keeping the public safe.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:11:41 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please oppose HB 125.

#### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:15:50 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Legislators,

Please do not pass this restriction on the carrying of firearms by the public.

These restrictions excessively burden the public who have a right to self-defense from having access to their tools where ever they may face a dangerous confrontation. Why do you feel it necessary to limit the public's ability to defend themselves when the aggressors, criminals, have no such limitations? Criminals can do anything but we the public have limitations? Who are you protecting with these ordinances anyway?

Perhaps you should read the 2nd Amendment and the 14th Amendments before you jump to the wrong conclusions regarding the rights of the People who you are violating.

Why spend the taxpayer's time and money defending laws that are clearly against the U.S Constitution or even passing these ordinances in the first place? Everyone has the right to self-defense not just the criminals who break the laws and seem to have access to firearms with few consequences. The police do not have the responsibility to ensure the safety of the individual citizens and most of us can't afford private armed guards. Most of us have a difficult time affording our basic daily needs. What about the people who deal with dangerous individuals every day at the bus stop who protects them? This proposal will embolden the criminal element in our neighborhoods. They will know we can't defend ourselves things will only get worse for the public.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:25:12 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Anthony Dean	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

I strongly oppose any law that restricts my constitutional rights as an American. The 2nd amendment clearly state that "it shall not be infringed." As public servants, you must follow the constitution and stop trying to mess with our rights. You people already took away to many rights and keep making it harder for local families to stay in Hawaii.

Anthony Dean

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:31:49 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

as a responsible firearms owner, more rules for me (someone who already follows the rules) doesn't make it safer in the real world. We need to focus on the real issues like broken homes, illegal activities, etc. not more confusing laws that NO ONE knows the answers to.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:32:01 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**I STRONGLY OPPOSE** this Bill that infringes on our 2nd Amendment rights. I urge all members of the Committee to **VOTE NO** on this Bill.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:39:27 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Legislature,

I am writing to express my opposition to House Bill 125, which mandates specific storage requirements for firearms, particularly concerning the notice provided to purchasers. While the intent to ensure firearms are stored safely and reduce accidental shootings is understandable, I believe this bill, as it stands, presents several issues:

Arguments Against HB125:

Redundancy with Existing Laws:

Hawaii already has laws in place that regulate the safe storage of firearms, especially concerning minors. HB125 seems to overlap with these existing regulations without adding substantial new safety measures. This redundancy could lead to confusion among gun owners and law enforcement about compliance.

Infringement on Personal Responsibility:

The bill suggests that additional notice at the point of sale is necessary for gun owners to understand their responsibilities. However, responsible gun ownership is already emphasized through mandatory safety courses and licensing in Hawaii. This implies a lack of trust in the current education and licensing system, which could be seen as an overstep into personal responsibility.

Potential for Increased Government Overreach:

By mandating notices and potentially more regulations on how guns are stored, this bill could open the door to further government oversight into private homes. Such intrusions could be viewed as a violation of privacy and could set a precedent for more invasive firearm-related policies.

Economic and Administrative Burden:

Requiring retail sellers to distribute specific notices adds an administrative burden to businesses. This could increase costs for retailers, which might be passed on to consumers or lead to reduced service quality. Additionally, the state would have to allocate resources to ensure compliance, diverting funds from potentially more effective public safety initiatives.

Effectiveness in Reducing Accidents:

While safe storage is crucial, there's debate about how much additional notice at the point of purchase will affect behavior. Education and reinforcement through community programs might be more effective than relying solely on printed notices. The evidence supporting the bill's effectiveness in directly reducing accidental shootings is not conclusively established.

Focus on Education and Enforcement:

Instead of expanding regulatory frameworks, efforts should be directed towards enhancing education on firearm safety, supporting community-based programs, and strictly enforcing existing laws. This approach would tackle the issue at its roots without adding layers of bureaucracy.

In conclusion, while the goal to promote firearm safety is commendable, HB125 does not seem to offer a proportional solution to the problem it aims to address. It risks over-regulating an already heavily regulated area without clear benefits. I urge you to consider alternative, more targeted measures that truly enhance safety while respecting the rights and responsibilities of gun owners.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this matter.

Sincerely,

Ryota

HB-125 Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:45:53 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

As a tax paying citizen, I oppose

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 11:08:21 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Stephen Yuen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in opposition to this bill as it does not increase safety but hinders my constitutional rights.

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 11:35:26 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Eric Hammond and I strongly oppose this bill. Every legislature session, we the people who value our safety and rights, have to deal with those of you who want to dictate every aspect of our lives "in the name of safety". What we choose to do in our home is private. This includes how WE choose to store our guns and ammunition. Most people who have guns and ammunition here in Hawaii (that I have come across) understand the importance of storing our firearms safely, especially with children.

Stop sacrificing our rights for security.

Please prevent this bill from leaving the committee.

Mahalo

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 11:40:32 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

### Comments:

I strongly oppose House Bill 125 (HB125) on the grounds that it represents a vast overreach of governmental power and contradicts the protections established by the U.S. Supreme Court in *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008). The Heller decision reaffirmed an individual's fundamental right to possess firearms for self-defense, and this right extends to the states under the incorporation doctrine, as affirmed by subsequent rulings.

HB125, which imposes restrictions on the storage of firearms, infringes upon the constitutional right to keep and bear arms by placing undue burdens on lawful gun owners. While I understand the intent behind promoting gun safety, the bill's approach would effectively undermine the core principles of the Second Amendment, creating unnecessary barriers to responsible firearm ownership.

The provisions of HB125 are excessive and fail to respect the legal boundaries set by the Heller decision, which made clear that individuals have a right to possess firearms in a manner that allows them to exercise self-defense, including the ability to store firearms in a way that is practical and reasonable for that purpose. The bill's broad regulatory framework could inadvertently criminalize individuals who lawfully store and use their firearms in accordance with their rights.

By imposing these additional regulations, the bill demonstrates a troubling pattern of governmental overreach—interfering with personal freedoms and placing undue burdens on lawabiding citizens without effectively addressing the root causes of gun violence or enhancing public safety in a meaningful way.

I urge lawmakers to reconsider HB125 and avoid actions that infringe upon the constitutional rights of Hawaii's residents. Rather than resorting to restrictive and overbearing measures, we should focus on solutions that respect individual freedoms while still promoting responsible gun ownership and safety.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/3/2025 11:47:17 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I Oppose due to the fact that WE as LAW ABIDING citizens are subjected to more infringement on our rights where criminals DON'T follow any Laws period.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 12:03:35 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this measure because I believe the current law is already sufficient. This law is overly burdensome and would make it so that some common forms of firearm concealment within a house would be illegal now, even if there are no minors present or ever living/visiting the home.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 12:05:08 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Bradd Haitsuka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in opposition to this bill. While its intentions seem good, I believe it is government overreach and violates constitutional rights. This bill should not be passed.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 12:06:03 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Vladimir Cabias	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a law abiding citizen, I strongly oppose HB125 as it creates more unnecessary storage requirements. Responsible gun owners are taught proper storage through the courses we have to take in order to get the permits to acquire.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 12:15:10 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose HB125. This bill is an infringement on the second amendment, and is therefore, unconstitutional. HB125 is a solution for a problem that does not exist.

Firearm storage is an important part of firearm ownership. The decision of how firearms are stored, should be solely left up to the discretion of the law abiding citizen. The state should not have any say, in how anyone should choose to store their firearms.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 2:35:52 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Cops keep guns locked in their vehicle all the time. The concept is not that difficult. Why are citizens not afforded this right?

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 2:46:09 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Rob Mihada	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose any bill that infringes upon the Second Amendment because it directly undermines the constitutional right to bear arms, a fundamental freedom that is essential for self-defense and individual liberty. Restricting this right not only jeopardizes personal safety but also weakens the checks and balances designed to protect citizens from government overreach.

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 3:38:29 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I do not find this bill in favor of the people. If I remember correctly this has already been set up to be unconstitutional by the supreme court and only sets up the state to lose more of it's own people's taxes that should be used to be help the people prosper and live happy lives. I do not think enforcing laws on people's personal lives and lifestyles especially if they are living by themselves or without children should be punished by such an overreaching and unconstitutional law.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 4:13:01 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Roch Leblanc	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose to House Bill 125 as a responsible gun owner. This would inpeed on self defense in my home.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 4:56:49 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

We all ready know what the law is by owning a firearm.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 5:12:17 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Barry Aoki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

I respectfully request you OPPOSE this bill. Current safety training already addresses safe storage of firearms. If you are a legal purchaser of a firearm this will already be a part of the required safety training. Criminals are not and will not follow any laws. Please OPPOSE.

Thank you

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 6:21:50 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jonathan Fong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose bill HB 125. This bill is unconstitutional and directly goes against the Supreme Court's ruling. They have already ruled that you can't force anyone to keep their firearms in a safe.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 6:37:39 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Bernice Jarra	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose to This bill

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 6:53:27 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Alex Akui	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly opposed@

HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:20:05 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Timothy Miyao	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please oppose HB125.

Mahalo!

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:21:15 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Claudia Pokipala	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill which is in violation of my right to bear arms; infringing on my freedom to store my firearm in my own home as I see fit; Also, placing my life in danger should I quickly need by firearm to defend my life

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:29:31 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Clifford Chee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

Please respect my 2nd Amendment rights. I have served my Country/Community and have enjoyed target shooting for over thirty years and have always been a responsible firearms owner. Elements of this Bill would label me a criminal.

Please focus on the real criminals committing crimes in our neighborhoods, not the law-abiding citizens that enjoy the shooting sports. I work hard to be a good citizen...please treat me as such.

Thank you for your service to the State of Hawaii

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:41:49 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Bunnie Harrington	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:44:42 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strongly oppose.
# <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:46:05 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Justin Arzaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

### Comments:

### 1. Infringes on the Right to Self-Defense:

- 2. The bill restricts your ability to quickly access your firearm in an emergency, undermining your fundamental right to protect yourself and your family, especially during home invasions or other urgent need situations.
- We already have a safe storage law: Hawaii law already covers safe storage requirements with regard to minors.

# 4. Unfairly Penalizes Law-Abiding Citizens:

Responsible gun owners could face fines and criminal charges for minor storage violations, even without any harmful outcome. This shifts the focus from criminal behavior to punishing lawful citizens.

## 5. Strict Liability Risks:

The bill imposes automatic legal liability if an unsecured firearm is misused, even if the owner wasn't negligent. This creates severe financial and legal risks, discouraging lawful firearm ownership.

# 6. Vague and Subjective Language:

Terms like "a location that a reasonable person would believe to be secure" are unclear and open to interpretation, leading to inconsistent enforcement and legal uncertainty.

# 7. Ineffective for Real Safety Concerns:

This bill does little to address the root causes of gun violence, focusing instead on overregulating responsible gun owners rather than targeting criminal misuse of firearms.

I oppose.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:46:49 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose

HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:52:40 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
KELVIN AWAYA	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB125.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:54:03 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Ted Baldonado	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The storage of the firearm should be under the discretion of the owner as the owner has the resposibility of its safe keeping and knows thier situation best.

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:00:11 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Lois Langham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill to keep Hawaii safe from gun-loving hoodlums. You don't need a gun in paradise.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:08:00 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Mike Harrington	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:09:56 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:10:54 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Tina Lia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill violates my constitutionally protected rights.

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:14:18 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

HB 125 is a blatant infringement of (we the people's) 2nd amendment right to keep and bear arms .

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:18:08 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Gavin Heideman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this proposed bill H.B 125, secure storage laws are beneficial in that they motivate people to properly store their firearms. We encourage this without imposing penalties on people, also the retailers are forced to take on an additional cost of business in the form of supplies and resources (Paper, Ink, wear on printing machines) when the most up to date information is available online for free and can be offered in a manner much more environmentally conscious and considerate of the people. Except for the very rare few who do not have a smart phone which we could accommodate, instead of handing out masses of paper and ink to everyone with the entire Internet at their disposal.

# <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:23:22 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

### I OPPOSE thus bill.

1. We already have a safe storage law: Hawaii law already covers safe storage requirements with regard to minors.

# 2. Unfairly Penalizes Law-Abiding Citizens:

Responsible gun owners could face fines and criminal charges for minor storage violations, even without any harmful outcome. This shifts the focus from criminal behavior to punishing lawful citizens.

# 3. Strict Liability Risks:

The bill imposes automatic legal liability if an unsecured firearm is misused, even if the owner wasn't negligent. This creates severe financial and legal risks, discouraging lawful firearm ownership.

### 4. Vague and Subjective Language:

Terms like "a location that a reasonable person would believe to be secure" are unclear and open to interpretation, leading to inconsistent enforcement and legal uncertainty.

# 5. Ineffective for Real Safety Concerns:

This bill does little to address the root causes of gun violence, focusing instead on overregulating responsible gun owners rather than tar

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:26:27 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strontly oppose

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:32:44 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Bruce F Braun	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly Oppose

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:32:57 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:35:17 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

"...shall not be infringed."

Opposed

HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:37:37 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Tim Huycke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I very enthusiastically support HB125.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:39:35 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Bo Breda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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 takeplace 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.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:40:25 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Peter Wilson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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 takeplace 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.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:47:25 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Alfred Farrow	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. The laws are already in place. This is a waste of tax payers money, government resources, and time. Criminals will not abide by this law. Law-abiding citizens will not violate the current laws. Create better laws that protect citizen from armed cirminals like giving law-abiding citizens the right to defend themselves from criminals. The Hawai'i State Legislature is for the people, by the people.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:47:31 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. As a mother, I already take steps to secure my firearms from unauthorized usage/handling. No law is needed for this as criminals will never obey any gun laws.

This also violates the supreme courts ruling about requiring that guns be kept locked up, not accessable in time.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:59:46 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

There are so many laws on the books already. NONE of them stop CRIMINALS from doing bad things. Making new laws won't stop them either. Murder, assault, rape, theft, kidnapping etc. all illegal dut they still happen. You're only making it hard for the law abiding citizens to protect themselves. Can you GUARANTEE the public's safety? Nothing bad going happen to us?

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:04:10 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Those who wrote this legislation and those who vote in favor of it are in direct violation of the constitution--the highest law of the land. They are working to destroy the foundational elements of our country. The Ameican people have outright rejected democrats and their agenda. The Legislatures who are in favor of infringing on our right to bare arms are a threat to our consistutional republic and need to be removed from office. They are inviolation if the oath they took to uphold the constitution.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:04:55 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
william metzger	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The passing of this bill is critical to the safety of our keiki and our community. Please support it.

mahalo,

William Metzger

# <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:20:12 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Mr. & Mrs. O'Neill	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB 125. This is in direct violation of our Second Ammendment rights.

Regards, Steve and Linda O'Neill

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:26:53 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Sara Wallace	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments: I oppose HB125.

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:28:24 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Noela von Wiegandt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose HB125. Most law abiding citizens are well aware of the retail sellers duty to inform the purchaser of the rules and regulations in owning and proper storage of firearms. Stop treating the law abiding citizens who own firearms like little children. We know the absolute importance of storing firearms properly. Once again stop wasting our tax dollars on these bills, that once again, whittle away at our Second Amendment Rights. You took an Oath to Protect the Constitution. Honor your Oath!

Thank You

Noela von Wiegandt

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:32:25 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Gerald Yamada	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please do not pass this. Hawaii already has a law regarding firearm storage.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:46:51 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Henry Bruckner	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Measure is intrusive and unnecessary. Would hinder self defense in an emergency.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:06:20 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
MICHAEL ING	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:07:02 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Lesha Mathes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. You "the government" do not have the right to tell us "We the People" what to do with our guns. This is not practical for defense. Are you planning on invading people homes to see if they are sorting their guns 'properly'? NO!

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:15:22 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

.

HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:16:28 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS BILL

Unneeded and Unnecessary Government Overreach

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:24:44 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
kamakani de dely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill !

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:27:05 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill !

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:29:32 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill !

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:29:33 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This just makes it more difficult for law abiding citizens to own guns, adding more layers of unnecessary laws. The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness. The righteous thing to do is stop submitting ridiculous bills like this and instead make sure real criminals are getting taken off the street.
#### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:32:16 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
RICHARD HOLIBAUGH	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for reading my testimony. The State of Hawaii already has HRS 134-10.5, **Storage of firearm; responsibility with respect to minors.** HB125 will impose an added cost on businesses by obligating the firearms seller by law to "provide to the purchaser of a firearm a written copy of section 134—10.5". And "Any person who violates this section shall be deemed to have engaged in an unfair or deceptive act or practice" Do we really want to impose a penalty on a business and charge them with engaging in an unfair or deceptive act if they forget to provide a written copy of a law? Thanks again for reading my testimony.

#### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:38:09 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Madam and Sirs,

This letter is to ask you to not impose, to not diminish, to take away anymore of the people's freedoms. Protect the Constitution. Honor it. No more to striping away rights and new gun restriction proposals is exactly that. The rights of "We the people" weren't given by you and should not be restricted by you. We live in a state that is already one of the most strictest states in the nation regarding gun laws and ownership. Passing any more will not make any change, but turn many law abiding citizens into criminals. You'll have many overnight. Laws will not stop the acts of a madman. Assault is an action, it could be done with bats, sticks, knives, hammers, vehicles and even empty handed, I don't see you go after those. Inanimate objects are harmless without the intentions behind it. On the flip side they can be used for good. Tools to build, fix and repair, sport, family time and protection. Please don't go forward with ANY gun control measures, they will not stop violence, they will only harm law abiding citizens as myself. Whatever amends to terms you want to make will not do anything to criminals. Again, it'll only affect law abiding citizens. It's a slope this country is already sliding down. Let the people be who are - Americans. Free. Not your subjects.

Sincerely,

Daniel Yoro Sr.

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:38:41 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose. This is government overreach. You do not have the right to tell me what to do on my own property.

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 11:08:48 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this bill HB125. It is an important extension of our state's existing efforts to require safe storage of firearms.

o It allows buyers to make educated decisions about owning and storing guns, which is a meaningful step towards preventing gun violence.

o Educating purchasers can increase compliance with safe storage laws and reduce risks associated with firearms in the home.

o Informing buyers about proper storage techniques can help prevent unintentional shootings, suicides, and gun thefts.

o Providing information at the point of sale can reduce the risk of self-inflicted and unintentional death and injury among children and teens.

o Education on safe storage can significantly decrease the risk of unintentional gun injury among children. Households that lock both guns and ammunition are associated with a major risk reduction for unintentional gun injury among children compared to those that lock neither.

Thank you for seeking to protect our residents from gun violence.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 11:12:58 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Michele McLean	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill and HB893. These important safety measures are needed NOW, before we have any serious events that these bill would likely have prevented from happening. Gun safety measures are usually reactive, after a preventable tragedy. Let's be proactive and pass these reasonable requirements now, before there is post-disaster public outcry for them.

Mahalo!

### Against HB125 Stringent Storage Requirement

I am here to testify against HB125, specifically the stringent requirement on how I secure, store and ultimately use my firearm.

My husband and I have a rifle and shotgun. We are both NRA certified (now expired) rifle and pistol instructors.

These restrictions leave upstanding citizens significantly disadvantaged in their own home, against violent criminals who are willing to commit violent crime, will certainly not obey lesser laws of carrying weapons. These restrictions ultimately infringes on my second amendment right to keep and bear arms, in my own home.

My husband has been working as a federal law enforcement agent/officer for the past 20 years. I would be passing the same background database checks as him. Whenever a firearm is purchased, the purchaser already goes through the same database checks as any law enforcement officer/agent.

# **Rather than limiting upstanding citizens in their** 2<sup>nd</sup> **Amendment Rights and their right to self defense, Hawaii should focus on laws that target criminals and their criminal behavior.** Laws should be changed as follows:

- 1. increasing the penalties of felons, especially violent and repeat offenders;
- 2. limit the authority of the parole board, which is much, much too lenient.
- 3. Bail/bond guidelines needs to be drastically overhauled, making bond significantly higher for felons, especially violent and repeat offenders.
- 4. Drug court is a sham, a farce and is much too lenient. Prison or at least inpatient/incustody rehab is much, much more effective than out-patient, and is needed for harsher drug addictions like cocaine, meth, and opioids.
- 5. Hawaii's judicial system is much, much more lenient, than, for example the US federal system.

Respectfully Submitted, Lori Fujmoto

### Against HB125 Stringent Storage Requirement

I am here to testify against HB125, specifically the stringent requirement on how I secure, store and ultimately use my firearm.

My wife and I have a rifle and shotgun. We are both NRA certified (now expired) rifle and pistol instructors.

These restrictions leave upstanding citizens significantly disadvantaged in their own home, against violent criminals who are willing to commit violent crime, will certainly not obey lesser laws of carrying weapons. These restrictions ultimately infringes on my second amendment right to keep and bear arms, in my own home.

I have been working as a federal law enforcement agent/officer for the past 20 years. My wife would be passing the same background database checks as me. Whenever a firearm is purchased, the purchaser already goes through the same database checks as any law enforcement officer/agent.

# Rather than limiting upstanding citizens in their 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Rights and their right to self defense, Hawaii should focus on laws that target criminals and their criminal behavior. Laws should be changed as follows:

- 1. Increasing the penalties of felons, especially violent and repeat offenders;
- 2. Limit the authority of the parole board, which is much, much too lenient.
- 3. Bail/bond guidelines needs to be drastically overhauled, making bond significantly higher for felons, especially violent and repeat offenders.
- 4. Drug court is a sham, a farce and is much too lenient. Prison or at least inpatient/incustody rehab is much, much more effective than out-patient, and is needed for harsher drug addictions like cocaine, meth, and opioids.
- 5. Hawaii's judicial system is much, much too lenient, and much more lenient than, for example the US federal system. Hawaii's criminal system needs to administer much longer, tougher sentences.

Respectfully Submitted, R. K. Fujmoto, S/A

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 11:56:18 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Vincent Tibbles.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is completely unconstitutional. I get to decide what flies in my own private residence. If I wanna have a firearm somewhere in my home, that is not locked up as somebody with a 100% disability it is much easier for me to defend myself if a criminal breaks in and tries to kill me or my family. If this bill passes, I will be suing the state of Hawaii for violating my second amendment rights. So not pass this bill. It is unconstitutional.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 12:11:32 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oposse

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 12:28:42 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Mary Smart	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Do not pass HB125.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 1:04:40 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
James Revells	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this measure on the grounds it's interfering on my 2nd Amendment rights

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 1:13:43 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Erek Riccobuano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Hawaii Legislature isn't here to protect us from ourselves. We, as citizens, should have the autonomy to decide how we store our firearms in a manner that suits our safety and accessibility needs. There's no need for government mandates on how we manage our own homes.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 1:18:51 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Blanca Larson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 1:19:03 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Bradle Lindsey	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 125 (HB125), which requires retail sellers of firearms to provide purchasers with notice regarding the law on firearms storage, expands the requirements for the secure storage of firearms, and clarifies the offense of criminally negligent storage of a firearm.

While I understand the intent behind HB125 to promote safety and responsible firearm ownership, I believe that this bill imposes undue burdens on law-abiding citizens and retailers. The additional requirements for secure storage and the clarification of criminally negligent storage may have unintended consequences that infringe upon the rights of responsible gun owners.

Firstly, the requirement for retail sellers to provide notice regarding the law on firearms storage places an unnecessary burden on small businesses. Retailers already comply with extensive regulations, and adding more requirements may result in increased costs and administrative burdens that could be detrimental to their operations.

Secondly, expanding the requirements for secure storage of firearms may not effectively address the issue of firearm safety. Responsible gun owners already take measures to ensure the safe storage of their firearms. Imposing additional regulations may create compliance challenges without significantly enhancing safety. Instead, efforts should be focused on education and awareness programs that promote responsible firearm ownership and storage practices.

Lastly, the clarification of the offense of criminally negligent storage of a firearm may lead to unintended legal consequences for responsible gun owners who take reasonable steps to secure their firearms. The definition of criminal negligence can be subjective, and law-abiding citizens may face legal challenges for incidents beyond their control.

In conclusion, I urge you to reconsider the passage of HB125 and to explore alternative measures that promote firearm safety without imposing undue burdens on law-abiding citizens and businesses. It is essential to protect the rights of responsible gun owners while also addressing public safety through effective and targeted measures.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 1:21:45 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

for the sake of safety, mahalo for slupporting this bill.

Barbara Best, Wailuku

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 1:28:55 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I would like to oppose firearm storage mandate that would hold third party liable of misues.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 1:44:45 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Shall not be infringed!

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 1:51:50 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Rita Kama-Kimura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

... again in Opposition!

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 1:59:15 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
scott shimoda	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Representatives and Senators,

I oppose HB125. How will this be enforced? This forces gun owners to allow law enforcement to do inspections. So if someone commits suicide with my gun then i am now to blame for this? This is unacceptable.

Mahalo for your time

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 2:05:57 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Larry Duclayan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

#### Testimony in Opposition to Hawaii House Bill HB125

Aloha,

I am writing this to voice my strong opposition to House Bill HB125. This legislation, if enacted, would significantly undermine the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens in Hawaii, rights which are not only constitutionally protected but essential to our personal security and liberty.

**Violation of Constitutional Rights:** The Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." This right has been reaffirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court in landmark cases like District of Columbia v. Heller (2008) and McDonald v. Chicago (2010), which have established that this amendment safeguards an individual's right to possess firearms for traditionally lawful purposes, such as self-defense within the home.

HB125, with its proposed restrictions on the types of firearms that can be owned or its regulations on where firearms can be carried, blatantly ignores these legal precedents, effectively infringing upon our constitutional rights.

**Impact on Law-Abiding Citizens:** This bill would impose further restrictions that disproportionately affect those who follow the law. For example, any new limits on magazine capacities or bans on certain types of firearms do not address the root of gun violence, which is often linked to criminal activity rather than legal gun ownership. Law-abiding citizens should not be punished or have their rights curtailed because of the actions of criminals.

Moreover, the right to bear arms is not just about self-defense; it's about maintaining the balance of power between the government and the people, a principle deeply embedded in our democratic tradition. HB125 would tip this balance, reducing the autonomy and security of individuals.

**Legal Precedents and Judicial Review:** Recent federal court decisions, including those from the Ninth Circuit like Young v. Hawaii and Teter v. Lopez, have started to dismantle overly restrictive state gun laws, signaling a judicial trend towards broader Second Amendment protections. HB125 flies in the face of these legal developments, likely setting the stage for

costly legal battles and potential judicial overturning at the expense of the state's resources and taxpayers' money.

**Public Safety and Criminal Behavior:** The argument that such laws increase public safety is fundamentally flawed. Data from states with more permissive gun laws often show no significant increase in gun violence compared to those with stringent laws. Instead, crime rates are more closely correlated with socio-economic factors, mental health support, and law enforcement effectiveness. By focusing on gun control rather than these underlying issues, HB125 misses the mark on genuinely improving safety.

**Conclusion:** House Bill HB125 is an infringement on our constitutional rights, a misstep in public policy, and an unnecessary burden on law-abiding citizens. It does not address the real issues surrounding gun violence and instead penalizes those who respect and adhere to the law. I strongly urge the committee to vote against this bill, to uphold the Second Amendment rights of all Hawaiians, and to seek more effective strategies for enhancing public safety.

Mahalo for your consideration on this vital matter.

Sincerely,

Larry Duclayan

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 3:09:54 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kent Kurihara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

This testimony is in OPPPOSITION to HB125, as it places undue responsibility on legal retailers, when it is the duty of firearm owners to maintain control of their own devices. The government should not have the right to dictate how any person should store his legally owned possessions. NO one should attempt to overstep the authority bestowed upon our government and representatives.

Kent Kurihara

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 3:27:26 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier</b> Position	Testify
Gavin Lohmeier	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

another bill that is a waste of time. not necessary

sincerely,

Gavin Lohmeier

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 3:38:36 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose bill

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 3:50:28 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Nestor L Robles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB125 because it's unconstitutional.

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 4:00:02 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Tamara Mckay	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

I am writing in **strong opposition** to **HB125**, which seeks to impose additional firearm storage mandates on law-abiding gun owners. While firearm safety is a priority for all responsible gun owners, this bill is **an unnecessary government overreach** that infringes upon the rights of Hawaii's citizens and imposes impractical and excessive requirements.

# HB125 is Redundant and Unnecessary

Hawaii already has some of the most **strict firearm storage laws in the nation**. Current statutes already require responsible storage of firearms to prevent access by unauthorized persons, particularly minors.

- Mandating how a firearm must be stored ignores self-defense realities. A firearm locked away in a manner that prevents quick access could cost an innocent life in a home invasion or emergency.
- Law-abiding gun owners understand firearm safety. Most responsible gun owners already practice safe storage methods without government mandates.
- **Requiring additional notices at the point of sale is redundant.** Current firearm purchase procedures already involve extensive background checks, training, and regulations.

# HB125 Criminalizes Responsible Gun Owners

The bill expands criminal liability for firearm storage, **turning law-abiding citizens into criminals** for failing to comply with vague or impractical requirements.

- "Clarifying" criminally negligent storage could lead to subjective enforcement. Gun owners should not be unfairly punished for circumstances outside their control.
- **Gun control does not stop criminals.** Violent criminals do not follow storage laws, and HB125 does nothing to address **illegal gun possession or gun-related crimes**.
- Firearm storage should be a personal responsibility, not a government dictate. Mandating specific storage requirements violates an individual's right to defend themselves in their own home.

# HB125 Ignores Supreme Court Precedents on Self-Defense

The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly affirmed the right to keep and bear arms for selfdefense in one's home. In District of Columbia v. Heller, the Court struck down overly restrictive firearm storage laws, ruling that such mandates violate the Second Amendment. HB125 ignores this precedent and oversteps constitutional boundaries.

# HB125 Does Not Address Crime or Public Safety

Instead of criminalizing responsible gun owners, lawmakers should focus on **real crime prevention**—such as cracking down on repeat offenders, illegal gun trafficking, and gang violence. **HB125 does not target criminals**—**it only makes firearm ownership more burdensome for those who follow the law.** 

I urge you to **oppose HB125** and stand against further restrictions on responsible firearm owners. This bill is unnecessary, unconstitutional, and does nothing to enhance public safety. **Vote NO on HB125.** 

HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 4:02:06 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Justin h	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We don't need more frivolous or unlawful laws.

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 4:11:44 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Please support the constitutional rights of your constituents and vote NO. mahalo. Chanara Richmond HD42

# <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 4:28:36 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

How I store my firearms is non of your concern.

My body, my choice.

My guns, my choice.

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 5:11:12 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
gary post	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill ignores SCOTUS rulings. Hawaii will again be spending money defending unconstutional laws in Federal Court.

All legislators swore an oath to the US and Hawaii Constitutions. Take that oath seriously

#### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 5:18:13 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Brett Kulbis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Tarnas and Committee Members,

My name is Brett Kulbis, I'm a 26yr Navy Veteran and Retired Civil Servant. I live in Ewa Beach.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB-125.

This bill expands upon Hawaii's existing firearm storage mandate by requiring firearms to be stored in a locked box, safe or with a trigger locking mechanism, with limited exceptions. Any violation would be a misdemeanor offense, and HB 125 would also hold the firearm owner strictly liable for third-parties misuse of a firearm that was not stored in compliance with the provisions of the legislation.

Respectfully, I STRONGLY encourage you to vote NO on HB-125.

#### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 5:25:04 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jeffrey King	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Just another infringement (on an already endless list of previous infringements) on our god given and constitutionally protected 2nd amendment rights by needlessly making it more difficult for law abiding citizens to exercise their right while making them criminals without committing a crime. Legislators need to stop writing and pushing unconstitutional bills. Those who do should be conosidered unfit for their positions and grounds for their removal.

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 5:27:46 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Teina Anthony	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

#### To Whom It May Concern:

I come before you today to address a matter of great importance: the continued overreach of the government in restricting the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens. The right to keep and bear arms is not merely a privilege granted by the government but a fundamental right enshrined in the Constitution. Recent legislative efforts and regulatory overreach threaten the very core of this right, infringing upon the freedoms of responsible gun owners across the country. When will the left be satisfied? Never.

The Second Amendment states unequivocally that "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." Despite this clear and unambiguous language, we have seen an increasing number of laws and regulations that seek to chip away at this fundamental liberty. From so-called "assault weapons" bans to red flag laws that strip individuals of their rights without due process, the erosion of our constitutional freedoms has reached an alarming level.

One of the most concerning aspects of this overreach is the implementation of sweeping firearm restrictions that do little to prevent crime but disproportionately burden law-abiding citizens. Restrictive background checks, arbitrary limitations on magazine capacities, and bans on commonly owned firearms serve not to enhance public safety, but to criminalize responsible gun ownership. These measures ignore the reality that criminals, by definition, do not abide by the law, while law-abiding citizens are forced to navigate an increasingly complex web of restrictions simply to exercise their constitutional rights.

Moreover, the push for so-called "universal background checks" and national gun registries raises significant concerns regarding government surveillance and control. The ability of a government to track and regulate firearm ownership to such an extent poses a direct threat to individual liberties and has historically been a precursor to broader disarmament efforts. The American people must remain vigilant against such encroachments, lest we surrender our rights under the guise of safety and security.

Additionally, red flag laws, while often presented as a means of preventing violence, lack essential due process protections and create a dangerous precedent where individuals can lose their Second Amendment rights based on mere allegations rather than concrete evidence or legal conviction. These laws not only violate constitutional rights but also open the door for potential

abuse, wherein personal grievances or political motivations could be weaponized against lawful gun owners.

We must also recognize the broader implications of government overreach in this area. The Second Amendment was designed not only as a means of self-defense but as a safeguard against tyranny. An armed populace is a crucial check on governmental power, ensuring that citizens retain the ability to defend their freedoms against any form of oppression. Any attempt to undermine this fundamental right is an affront to the very principles upon which our nation was founded.

It is imperative that we, as a people, stand firm against efforts to erode the Second Amendment. We must advocate for legislation that upholds the Constitution, preserves individual rights, and ensures that law-abiding citizens are not unduly burdened by government overreach. The focus should be on enforcing existing laws against violent criminals rather than imposing further restrictions on those who pose no threat to public safety.

In closing, I urge our elected officials and fellow citizens to reject any measures that infringe upon our right to keep and bear arms. The preservation of this fundamental liberty is essential not only to our personal security but to the very fabric of our democracy. We must remain vigilant and steadfast in our defense of the Second Amendment, ensuring that future generations inherit the freedoms that we hold dear today.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 5:33:40 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kynan Oishi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The use of safes for the storage of firearms is a good gun safety practice that is used by responsible firearms owners including myself. I do NOT believe however, it is the government's place to mandate the usage of a safe, as such measures simply stand against the spirit of the 2nd Amendment, that the right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.
<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 5:53:44 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Gary Kastle	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

# <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 6:01:42 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
TERI SAVAIINAEA	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Committee Members,

I oppose HB125.

Kind regards,

Teri Kia Savaiinaea

District 45, Wai'anae Resident

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 6:01:43 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose HB125. This bill expands upon Hawaii's existing firearm storage mandate by requiring firearms to be stored in a locked box, safe or with a trigger locking mechanism, with limited exceptions. Hawaii already has adequate recommendations and rules for firearm storage without expanding upon those existing rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in opposition to this bill.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 6:03:46 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kehaunani Andrade	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE THIS BILL AS IT TAKES AWAY MY CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT AS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN! THERE ARE TOO MANY CRIMINALS THAT ARE OUT THERE KILLING INNOCENT PEOPLE WHILE THE REST OF US SUFFER GREAT LOSSES. NOW THIS BILL WANTS TO LEAVE US EVEN MORE VULNERABLE! TOTALLY AGAINST THIS BILL!!

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 6:08:52 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Iric Viscarra	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly opposed Hb125.

## <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 6:14:05 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Patricia Alexa King- Foley	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it will curtail our constitutional rights as given in Amendment 2 to bear arms. It is not right to make law-abiding citizens to lock up firearms, thereby making it much more difficult to access them if needed.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 6:31:41 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE HB125.

# <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 6:36:25 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
james wallace	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

I oppose HB125 because anyone can store there gun however they want. They can hang on the wall if they want. Unless the government will buy us gun safe.

HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:00:25 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Steven Fukuhara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill!

Please dont let this bill pass!

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:31:33 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:58:32 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Opposed

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:01:23 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	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 does so by infringing upon individual liberties and imposing unjust burdens on responsible gun owners.

Unlike many other 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 refrain from imposing unnecessary and excessive restrictions on firearm ownership.

Hawaii remains subject to the U.S. Constitution's Second Amendment, which has been reaffirmed through key Supreme Court rulings such as *District of Columbia v. Heller (2008)*, *McDonald v. Chicago (2010)*, and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen (2022)*. These decisions make clear that the right to keep and bear arms is a fundamental individual right, not a privilege subject to arbitrary government interference. This bill violates the spirit of these rulings by imposing unnecessary restrictions that burden law-abiding citizens while doing little to prevent crime.

This bill assumes that the government, rather than individuals, is best suited to determine how a person secures their own firearm. The fundamental right to keep and bear arms necessarily includes the right to determine how those arms are stored within one's own home. Just as the government has no authority to dictate how we store our kitchen knives or medications, it should not impose a one-size-fits-all mandate on firearm storage.

Responsible gun ownership entails personal responsibility, not government micromanagement. Many law-abiding citizens already take reasonable precautions to secure their firearms in a manner appropriate to their specific circumstances. Imposing broad legal mandates disregards the diverse realities of firearm ownership and home defense.

This bill would penalize gun owners with strict liability if their firearm is accessed and used improperly, even if the gun was stored in a way they believed to be secure. It fails to account for scenarios in which an individual may need immediate access to a firearm for self-defense. In a home invasion or violent encounter, a locked or disabled firearm could cost innocent people their lives.

Furthermore, strict liability provisions punish gun owners who may themselves be victims of theft or break-ins. If a criminal unlawfully enters a home and steals a firearm, it is the thief who should be held responsible—not the law-abiding citizen who was victimized.

Laws mandating firearm storage are inherently unenforceable unless the government intends to conduct intrusive inspections of private homes, which would be a blatant violation of the Fourth Amendment. Without such enforcement, this law would primarily function as a tool to punish gun owners *after* a crime has already occurred, rather than preventing crime in the first place.

Moreover, studies have shown that mandatory storage laws do not significantly reduce firearmrelated accidents, suicides, or crimes. Criminals, by definition, do not obey laws, and minors who unlawfully access firearms often do so despite existing laws. This bill would do little more than impose an unnecessary burden on responsible gun owners while failing to address the root causes of violence and crime.

This bill is part of a broader effort to gradually erode Second Amendment rights under the guise of "safety regulations." Once the government asserts authority over firearm storage, what is to prevent future mandates requiring biometric safes, annual home inspections, or outright bans on certain firearms deemed too "dangerous"?

This slow encroachment of gun control measures undercuts the very purpose of the Second Amendment, which is to ensure that individuals can protect themselves, their families, and their communities against threats.

I urge this committee to reject this bill and uphold the rights of Hawaii's people. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Nicholas Zehr

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:10:41 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Justin Arnold	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I can not oppose this any more vehemently. This is an agregious overstep of my constitutional rights. The 2nd amendment is quite clear and the Heller and Bruen decisions were crystal clear for those who lack the intelligence (like those who submitted this bill) to understand it.

Furthermore, STOP wasting MY tax payers dollars on legislation that your constituents oppose. WE WILL make note of these individuals and democracy will prevail as you will be relieved of your duties that you so quickly neglect. YOU swore an oath to serve the people, your constituents, and uphold the CONSTITUTION of the UNITED STATES. Continue to be direlect in your duties and you will be dealt with accordingly. Historically, they had a specific punishment for traitors. You've been informed.

Aloha

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:17:45 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

House Bill 125 expands upon Hawaii's existing firearm storage mandate by requiring firearms to be stored in a locked box, safe or with a trigger locking mechanism, with limited exceptions. Any violation would be a misdemeanor offense, and HB 125 would also hold the firearm owner strictly liable for third-parties misuse of a firearm that was not stored in compliance with the provisions of the legislation.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:24:46 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Rita Wong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose Bill HB125

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:32:27 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Leah McRae	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB125 as part of gun sense legislation. One of the most effective ways to prevent unintentional shootings by children is to ensure all guns are stored securely. Mahalo to our lawmakers for their commitment to keeping Hawaii's keiki safe.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:33:07 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

### Comments:

I am opposed to HB125 and ask respectfully that you take time to educate yourselves on the process to buy a firearm in Hawaii and you will see where this would not logically prevent any firearm accidents related to firearm storage. It is not the job of a car salesman to provide me with parking laws or rules of the road. It is the duty of the government agencies that licensed me to drive said vehicle. The major difference between this analogy and gun sales is that owning a firearm is a protected right and not a privilege, whereas car ownership is a privilege. Hawaii lawmakers have clearly stated that this shouldn't be a right and I feel they should reread the constitution.

If you buy a firearm from a website, it is shipped to an FFL (Federal Firearms License holder.) They assist in the process but by no means are selling that firearm. If you bought a firearm somewhere else and then shipped it through an FFL to FFL transfer then it would also arrive in Hawaii legally. Nothing of this bill would make that dealer share about firearm storage as they did not sell it to the person. Now let's say they do give this information but it's not as clear as it should be in someone's eyes and they choose to turn around and sue the state for not giving clear guidelines and the shop for negligence. Would they win and take more of our tax dollars? Again it is not the duty of the store to educate of laws, but of the responsible adult who chooses to possess these items. This bill is an overreach of government by those not willing to better educate the population. Spend the money on safe firearm education and make it free for our citizens. Encourage a safer society and stop trying to regulate safety through fear and banning object. The only thing that can be done to prevent violent crime with firearms is to educate and uplift those who are least visible, forgotten about, poor, those who feel let down and those who are hurting. This bill although good in its intentions for education of current laws, should fall upon the state and government bodies to educate and not firearms sellers. Also would I have to provide legal advice for how to store a firearm if I sell one legally despite doing the transfer with the police department? Maybe the police department should be the one passing out this information with the permit to acquire a firearm!

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:37:47 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Keleb I. Paglinawan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm opposed

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:38:09 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose any deviation from, or addendum to the second amendment!

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:42:13 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Isabella McRae	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the safe storage law. One of the best ways to prevent preventable child deaths from firearms is to ensure that guns in their house are stored properly and locked up. Thank you for taking the time to keep our children safe.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:20:07 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill would create undue liability and financial burden on gun stores by requiring them to provide printed copies of the laws. The safe storage laws will turn many lawful gun owners in to criminals and if convicted of a misdemeanor they will lose their second amendment rights!

Please vote NO on HB125.

Mahalo!

Jon

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:28:43 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Stop infringing on our Second Amendment Rights!

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:53:01 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Adrian Flack	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The proposed legislation, which mandates that firearm retailers provide notice regarding storage laws, expands secure storage requirements, and broadens the definition of criminally negligent storage, represents yet another unconstitutional restriction on the Second Amendment. In addition to the clear legal issues, this proposal would impose significant financial and operational burdens on firearm retailers, negatively impacting small businesses and the broader firearms industry.

The Second Amendment guarantees that "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." The Supreme Court's decision in New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen(2022) reaffirmed that firearm regulations must align with the nation's historical tradition of gun laws.

1. No Historical Basis for Mandatory Storage Requirements

• The government cannot impose broad restrictions on how individuals store their firearms in their homes, as this interferes with the fundamental right to self-defense.

• District of Columbia v. Heller (2008) struck down mandatory firearm storage laws, ruling that such restrictions violate the Second Amendment by preventing individuals from having immediate access to firearms for self-defense.

• Expanding criminal liability for so-called "negligent storage" further erodes the ability of law-abiding citizens to exercise their constitutional rights without fear of prosecution for subjective determinations of compliance.

In addition to constitutional concerns, this proposal imposes undue burdens on firearm retailers, particularly small businesses, leading to negative economic consequences.

1. Increased Compliance Costs

• Retailers would be forced to develop and distribute new compliance materials, increasing operational costs.

• Additional record-keeping and employee training requirements would place financial strain on small firearm dealers, many of whom operate on thin margins.

2. Deterring Firearm Sales and Driving Customers to the Black Market

• The expansion of storage laws and increased penalties could deter potential lawful gun buyers, reducing revenue for licensed firearm dealers.

• Excessive regulations often push consumers toward unregulated or black-market alternatives, undermining the intent of legal firearm sales and responsible gun ownership.

3. Risk of Legal Liability for Retailers

• Ambiguous or overly broad requirements could lead to legal liability for firearm dealers who fail to meet unclear or ever-changing regulatory standards.

• Potential lawsuits or government penalties for alleged noncompliance could drive small retailers out of business, consolidating firearm sales among a smaller number of large corporations while harming local economies.

Conclusion

This proposal is not only unconstitutional under Heller and Bruen, but it also imposes harmful economic consequences on firearm retailers. By increasing compliance costs, deterring lawful firearm sales, and exposing businesses to unnecessary legal risks, this bill threatens the viability of small gun dealers while doing little to improve public safety. Lawmakers should reject this proposal and instead focus on enforcing existing laws that target criminal misuse of firearms rather than burdening responsible gun owners and business owners.

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:48:03 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Charlene Mersburgh	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB125

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 11:07:36 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Another bill that will turn law abiding citizens into criminals totally unjust and unfair

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/4/2025 11:08:42 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Daniel Mersburgh	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Requiring firearm storage guarantees a firearm won't be ready if / when it is needed without warning.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 12:57:13 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Malia Shimokawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dr. Malia Shimokawa, and I am a board-certified pediatrician, former Army officer, and mother of three. I grew up in Kaimuki and I've spent the majority of my life here in Hawai'i. I'm raising my family in Nu'uanu. I served nearly a decade in the military, including a deployment to Iraq. Today, I care for thousands of keiki in our community as a pediatrician in 'Aiea.

I am submitting testimony today in strong support of the proposed legislation strengthen our requirements for secure storage of firearms.

Gun-related injuries are now the leading cause of death among children and teens in the United States. Accidents occur in homes where young children and teens unintentionally injure or kill themselves or others due to unsecured firearms. People struggling with mental health who becomes suicidal, including children and teens, are more likely to die from suicide if they attempt with a firearm. Secure storage can save lives.

I am writing to support HB125. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Malia Shimokawa, MD, FAAP U.S. Army Veteran

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:03:28 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Daniel Oshima	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Subjecting firearm owners to liability when unauthorized taking or use of their firearm(s) is attempted should never be passed as a law. The criminal individual who has made a decision to conduct theft or take possession of the firearm which is not owned by them should be the one who is prosecuted. Please oppose this bill.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:13:24 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier</b> Position	Testify
Mark Woodward	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB 125.

This bill does not address the root causes of gun violence in the State of Hawaii. It only results in the over-regulation of responsible gun owners rather than targeting criminal misuse of firearms. The bill imposes automatic legal liability if an unsecured firearm is misused, even if the owner wasn't negligent. This would create severe financial and legal risks, discouraging lawful firearm ownership. This bill would also restrict my ability to quickly access my firearm in an emergency, undermining my fundamental right to protect myself during home invasions or other urgent need situations.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 3:51:53 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this and any legislation that seeks to criminalize any actions within my own property. Furthermore, retailers should not need to tell customers anything since the customer should ALREADY have gone through a firearms safety class as a prerequisite for purchase. I view this legislation as intrusive, unenforceable and redundant

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 4:04:40 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

## Comments:

This bill is unconstitutional, violates prescident set in past Supreme Court rulings including Caetano, Heller, and Bruen, and would unfairly infringe upon the rights of Americans. Representatives who support this bill are not representing the people of Hawaii but rather the agendas of anti-gun, anti-American-values national organizations such as Everytown Et al. Each new year we the people have to fight to protect our second amendemnt rights here in Hawaii as representatives like the ones who have introduced this bill seek to restrict and infringe upon those rights. These actions are not going unnoticed. We must vote to replace those representative who place the interests of anti-gun national organizations over the rights of the people.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 5:10:36 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Adam Klevin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is unconstitutional, violates prescident set in past Supreme Court rulings including Caetano, Heller, and Bruen, and would unfairly infringe upon the rights of Americans. Representatives who support this bill are not representing the people of Hawaii but rather the agendas of anti-gun, anti-American-values national organizations such as Everytown Et al. Each new year we the people have to fight to protect our second amendemnt rights here in Hawaii as representatives like the ones who have introduced this bill seek to restrict and infringe upon those rights. These actions are not going unnoticed. We must vote to replace those representative who place the interests of anti-gun national organizations over the rights of the people.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 5:41:10 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB125 because it is unconstitutional and dangerous to the safety of gun owners. It expands Hawaii's existing firearm storage mandate by requiring firearms to be stored in a locked box, safe or with a trigger locking mechanism, with limited exceptions. Firearm owners store their guns at home or at their place of sojourn to be ready for an attacker within seconds. Please, kokua, don't micromanage this. HB125 could impede the ability of parents to defend their children during a home attack.

These penalties are too harsh for being ready for a criminal attack. Any violation would be a misdemeanor offense, and HB125 would also hold the firearm owner strictly liable for third-parties misuse of a firearm that was not stored in compliance with the provisions of the legislation. HB125 will be ignored by all criminals and those who acquire guns illegally. Only the law-abiding citizens will not be ready to defend themselves.

If passed, civil-rights organizations that defend gun owners will oppose this legislation in the courts. Save everyone the trouble of a lengthy court battle by voting NO on HB125.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 5:51:26 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Joshua Drye	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello and thank you for your time. I oppose of Bill HB 125. Which violates our second amendment rights. If you can please cancel these bills thank you very much lol
# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 6:11:50 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Ka'eo Ortiz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a dirrect violation of our 2nd ammendment rights!

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 7:16:41 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Hawaii State Lawmakers,

I am writing in opposition of HB 125 and urge you to oppose this bill as well. I am a law-abiding citizen of The United States of America and Hawaii, a taxpayer, registered voter, a husband, father, grandfather and also an owner of legal firearms. I own them because I admire the technology and enjoy using them at firing ranges and hunting. I also own them to exercise my right as a US Citizen and Hawaii Citizen per the Constitutions of The USA and the State of Hawaii. I am a constituent of yours and by denying me these rights you are misrepresenting me. interestingly enough, as I have spoken to many who share my opinion of these basic rights, many are in the dark about what our state legislation is doing in denying our rights. As such, I would expect a groundswell of outcry against this law, if it passes. That will result in legal action, likely to the Supreme Court, and much cost and greater division in our country. It may also result in law abiding citizens breaking the law unintentionally. People who do no harm to others, being harmed by this law. These things would be detrimental to us all.

It poses the question of why this bill is being considered. Some will say to make us safer. I disagree. The problem is not an inanimate object. It is our society that has fostered desperate individuals or enemies of our country who enter illegally with mal intent. This bill will make it illegal for law abiding citizens to own safe and effective firearms for hobby, hunting or defensive use but will do nothing to stop the proliferation of illegal firearm possession. Indeed, this bill will render those of us who desire to follow the law, defenseless against those who would possess them illegally!

This bill is not founded on fact and reason but rather fear and myth. Please step back from the brink and let's work together as Americans and Hawaiians to heal our society and maintain the basic rights that our respective constitutions guarantee. Vote no on SB 3196!

Thank You! Aloha, Sam Cavitt Kihei, HI

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 7:19:50 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

STRONGLY oppose this government overeach!

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 7:22:30 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kenneth Pascarelli	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please oppose this bill as it just turns average people that are legal gun owners to become criminal if they do not store their gun properly. Just another law against law biding citizens and encroachment on our rights through the second amendment

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 7:23:49 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Christopher Gouveia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 7:44:13 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Creighton Phillips	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The storage of my firearm in my own home is no business of the government. The government's authority does, and must end at the property line. The enforcement of such a rule would also be problematic, as clearly outlined by the 4th amendment of the United States constitution. The search and seizure without probable cause or warrant of firearms in a private residence is tyrannical and unconstitutional.

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 8:11:43 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jay Franzone	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair and members of the committee,

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.

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 8:17:30 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

OPPOSE

Over reaching and unconstitional to limit common use items. Only hurts law abiding citizens, doesn't stop criminals.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 8:49:54 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Angela McCarthy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Angela McCarthy from Kailua, HI.

As a physician and a mother of 2 boys I am committed to the health and safety of our community. I support this common sense bill which asks those who have the privilege to own a firearm to do the responsible thing and store their firearm properly. Such simple measures of care can help keep firearms from falling into the wrong hands - those of our children and those with mental illness.

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 8:52:39 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Brent Uemae	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Focus should be placed on the criminals and not law abiding firearms owners. My analogy would be if someone stole my vehicle and crashed into another vehicle or person. I shouldn't be held responsible for the vehicle accident.

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 8:55:48 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This violates the 2nd amendment to our Constitution! Stop infringing on our rights to bear arms. Gun control does work and should even be in existence. Instead, you should spend time, resources, and energy to educate and train your citizens. Not take away the rights or make it more difficult to be a law-abiding citizen.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 9:30:07 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Betsey Strauss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Betsey Strauss and I am writing is stong support of HB125. As a mother of four children, I have serious concern for their saftey. Proper storage of firearms is a very effective and common sense way to prevent gun violence, mass shootings, accidental shootings and suicide. Educating firearm purchasers on the importance of properly securing their guns and ammunition will go a long way in preventing tragic shootings and accidents.

Please support HB125. Mahalo.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 9:37:58 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Let's insure that all the guns in Hawaii are stored safely. Guns should be in a locked compartment or safe and away from curious children. There are thousands of death by guns of children and teen agers every year and most are caused by easy access to guns casully stored at home or in the homes of friends or relatives. Some of the deaths are accidental and some are suicides or in school. Almost all could be prevented if the guns were securely stored.

Let's keep Hawaii safe.

REWilhelm

# <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 9:39:41 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**I strongly oppose HB125.** It is common sense to want to lock up your firearms in a safe and not just leaning it against the wall in your closet. I don't need the legislature to tell me how I need to store a firearm in my own home. What I do on my property is my business and you have no authority on my property. All of my firearms are locked up on a regular basis except for my current carry firearm which is on my person or always in close proximity to me when it is out.

Bradnon Leong

President

Lessons In Firearms Education

HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 10:17:21 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Dylan Gentaro Fujitani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support passage of this bill.

Aloha,

I am submitting this testimony in **strong opposition** to HB125, which expands requirements for the secure storage of firearms. While firearm safety is important, **this bill is entirely unnecessary because Hawaii already has strict safe storage laws in place.** This legislation **duplicates existing regulations**, imposes redundant penalties, and places additional financial burdens on law-abiding gun owners.

# Hawaii Already Has Safe Storage Laws

- HRS §134-10.5 currently requires firearm owners to store their guns securely to prevent access by minors or unauthorized persons.
- HRS §707-714.5 criminalizes negligent storage of firearms when a minor gains access.
- These laws already address the very concerns raised in HB125, making this bill completely redundant and unnecessary.

# **Unnecessary Expansion of Existing Law**

- 1. **HB125 does not introduce meaningful new safety measures.** Instead, it **repackages existing law** and adds vague new standards that are not needed.
- 2. Creates legal confusion. This bill alters and redefines existing firearm storage laws, making it harder for gun owners to understand compliance while offering no additional safety benefits.
- 3. Enforcement and penalties already exist. Current laws already penalize gun owners for failing to store firearms securely. HB125 simply adds more **bureaucratic regulations** rather than improving enforcement of existing ones.

# Unjustified Costs and Burdens on Gun Owners

- Gun owners already invest in compliance with current laws, including the purchase of safes, locks, and storage solutions. **This bill adds additional financial burdens** for no justifiable reason.
- Creating **overlapping regulations** only increases **the risk of unintentional noncompliance** due to unnecessary legal complexity.

# Conclusion

HB125 is a redundant law that duplicates existing firearm storage requirements in Hawaii. Rather than passing unnecessary legislation, lawmakers should focus on enforcing current laws to address firearm safety concerns. I urge this committee to vote NO on HB125 and avoid imposing unnecessary regulations on responsible firearm owners.

# Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Jason T Wolford

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 10:39:35 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I OPPOSE BILL HB125. AS PER SUPREAME COURT RULLING I HAHE THE RIGHT TO KEEP MY GUNS READILY AVALIBLE IN (MY HOME) FOR IMMEDIAT USE WHEN AN INCIDENT OCCURES.

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 10:41:50 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Samuel Webb	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this Bill, because this is just unneeded busy work for firearm stores, people have allready have been informed of our laws, when we take mandatory classes to aquire a firearm.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 10:46:27 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

As a military veteran, I strongly support Hawaii's proposed House Bill 125 because safe firearm storage is essential for preventing unnecessary tragedies. In the military, we are trained to handle and store weapons responsibly to ensure they don't fall into the wrong hands, and the same principle should apply to civilian firearm ownership. Unsecured firearms pose a serious risk of accidental shootings, theft, and misuse, especially by minors. HB 125 establishes clear requirements for responsible gun storage, reinforcing the idea that firearm ownership comes with a duty to protect others. By holding gun owners accountable for securing their weapons and providing strict liability for damages caused by an unsecured firearm, this bill prioritizes public safety while respecting Second Amendment rights. Just as we secured our weapons to prevent accidents in combat zones, we should do the same in our homes and communities to prevent avoidable harm.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 10:56:05 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

As a father, I wholeheartedly support Hawaii's proposed House Bill 125 because responsible gun storage is essential to keeping our keiki safe. The risk of accidental shootings, suicides, and firearm theft increases significantly when guns are left unsecured in homes. I want to raise my children in an environment where they don't have to live in fear of tragic, preventable accidents. HB 125 ensures that firearm owners are held accountable for properly securing their weapons, requiring locked storage or other safety measures to prevent unauthorized access. This bill is a common-sense step toward protecting our families while still respecting responsible gun ownership. No parent should ever have to experience the heartbreak of losing a child due to an unsecured firearm, and passing this legislation is a necessary step toward preventing such tragedies.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 10:58:47 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier</b> Position	Testify
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill will help save lives. Please pass HB125.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 11:18:23 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill requires firearms to be locked up or with a trigger locking mechanism which requies a key to use. Did you know that? It would require the owner of ONE gun to purchase an expensive safe or trigger locking mechanism which perhaps they couldn't afford. Also, if there is an intruder in your house, you need rapid access to a weapon to protet yourself and your family. To have to unlock a safe or use a key to unlock the trigger locking mechanism takes valuable time that you don't have when trying to protect your family and yourself.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 11:31:54 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Sharan Sadowski	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Arms need to be readily accessible to the user and should be stored in accordance with an individual's unique circumstances.

## HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 11:36:59 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
davin asato	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern,

I am asking that you support your citizens in opposing HB125. Those that are cleared to purchase firearms have already attended a pistol safety class as is law which covers safe storage laws. It is not the responsibility of the seller to ensure that the buyer is informed of the laws but the buyer who has the sole responsibility of following the laws to remain law abiding.

Please join me in opposing HB125.

# <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 11:40:57 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Unconstitutional to personal freedom.

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 11:47:46 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Luanna H Meyer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is common sense. Retailers and wholesalers of guns and weapons of any kind must act responsibly and inform purchasers of the laws, regulations, and guidelines relating to the purchase of a gun that can kill and maim human beings. There have been far too many examples of young children and unauthorized adults accessing deadly weapons improperly secured and using those weapons to kill and maim. This is a simple requirement for those who sell guns to follow in order to support the safety of the public and welfare of others.

HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 11:48:57 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Buck Giles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB125

Paul Giles

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 11:48:58 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Sheila Gage	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 11:55:38 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Allegra Giacchino	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of HB125 pertaining to the safe storage of firearms. Secure firearm storage is one of the most effective steps we can take to protect children and families from gun suicide, unintentional shootings, school shootings, and domestic violence homicide. Research shows that more than half of gun owners do not store all of their guns securely and over 80% of child firearm suicides take place in a home. Additionally, guns are frequently stolen from cars and homes, often ending up in the hands of people with dangerous histories.

There are many affordable options for firearm storage that provide owners with quick access to their guns, such as using fingerprint biometrics, while still preventing access by children and people at increased risk of harming themselves or others.

This legislation will ensure gun buyers are informed, in writing, of their responsibility to securely store their guns.

Thank you for helping keep Hawaii not only a beautiful -- but safe -- place to live.

Sincerely,

Allegra Giacchino

96816

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 11:59:41 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Chris Marvin	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Chris Marvin. I am a former Army officer and a combat-wounded veteran residing in Nu'uanu. I strongly support for House Bill 125, which seeks to enhance firearm safety through improved storage requirements and increased accountability.

Throughout my military service, I adhered to the three fundamental pillars of military gun culture: training, safety, and accountability. A critical component of this culture was the secure storage of all firearms in designated arms rooms, ensuring that unauthorized access was strictly prevented. This practice not only safeguarded our equipment, but also protected our fellow service members and the communities we served.

Currently, Hawaii law mandates that firearm owners take reasonable measures to prevent minors from accessing firearms. This includes storing firearms in a securely locked box or container, or keeping them on one's person or within close proximity for immediate retrieval. However, there is no explicit requirement for unattended firearms to be stored in a certain way, nor is there a mandate for locking devices to accompany the sale of a firearm.

HB 125 proposes to strengthen these existing regulations by requiring retail sellers of firearms to provide purchasers with written notice regarding the law on firearms storage. It also expands the requirements for the secure storage of firearms, mandating that they be kept in a locked box, gun safe, or with a tamper-resistant mechanical lock or other safety device, with limited exceptions. Any violation would be a misdemeanor offense, and the bill would hold the firearm owner strictly liable for third-party misuse of a firearm that was not stored in compliance with these provisions.

Implementing these measures aligns with the military principles of responsible firearm handling and storage. By mandating secure storage and providing clear guidelines to firearm owners, we can reduce the risk of unauthorized access, accidental discharges, and firearm thefts. This not only protects individuals and families but also enhances public safety across our communities.

As someone who has witnessed the devastating consequences of improper firearm handling, I firmly believe that HB 125 is a necessary step toward fostering a culture of responsible gun ownership in Hawaii. It reflects our collective commitment to training, safety, and accountability—values that are essential to both military and civilian life.

I respectfully urge the committee to pass HB 125 to ensure that all firearm owners in our state adhere to the highest standards of safety and responsibility.

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

Mahalo,

Chris Marvin

## <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 12:04:07 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Todd Yukutake	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

I oppose HB125 and suggest amendments.

I oppose this bill because law abiding gun owners are always targeted and penalized by gun control laws and we have had enough. It is time to focus entirely on criminals with enforcement, penalties, and passing new laws that penalize criminals and in no way affect law abiding gun owners.

This law could be amended to include anything that can be used as a weapon or can do harm that is not secured. Kitchen knives. Car keys. Cars. Machetes. Prescription drugs. And other things. These things are stolen or taken without authorization and kill or hurt people too.

Why does this bill exempt law enforcement? Their guns get stolen like anyone else.

Todd Yukutake

toddyukutake@gmail.com

# HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 12:06:24 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Len Corpuz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose hb125 due to its infringement of the second amendment amendment

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 12:25:46 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Glennon T. Gingo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:
HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 12:27:33 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier</b> Position	Testify
Timothy Hehemann	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

Timothy John Hehemann

(808) 740-2828

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 12:51:08 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Reginald Eubanks	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting testimony in opposition to HB 125. The proposed changes to HRS-134 will not prevent accidental injuries, suicides, or thefts as the legislature outlines. The legislature's historical context of firearms storage is also mischaracterized because the citizens of that period were using black powder guns which were explosive in nature.

I also oppose this bill because it creates an undue burden on FFLs who could have their license revoked for simply failing to hand out a piece of paper. FFLs are not responsible for the firearm after it is transferred and should not be required to provide any such information at the point of sale.

Lastly, the fact that this bill allows a minor to obtain and possess the firearm during an unlawful entry to the premises, makes the entire bill moot.

Please vote no on HB 125.

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:08:19 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

#### Comments:

This is another example of more legislation trying to be pushed every year that wastes tax payer money and time. We have politicians trying to introduce legislation that is vague, poorly written resulting in confusion, inconsistency in application and unfair outcomes. For example, in this bill terms like "a location that a reasonable person would believe to be secure" are unclear and open to interpretation, leading to inconsistent enforcement and legal uncertainty.

In addition, as mentioned in a slew of proposed gun related legislation this session, "Crime is on a Rise." However, this bill also restricts your ability to quickly access your firearm in an emergency, undermining your fundamental right to protect yourself and your family, especially during home invasions or other urgent need situations.

Not to mention law abiding gun owners could face fines and criminal charges for minor storage violations, even without any harmful outcome. This shifts the focus from criminal behavior to punishing lawful citizens.

What about the automatic legal liability if an unsecured firearm is misused, even if the owner wasn't negligent. This creates severe financial and legal risks, discouraging lawful firearm ownership.

Lastly, this bill does little to address the root causes of gun violence, focusing instead on overregulating responsible gun owners rather than targeting criminal misuse of firearms.

In the future, I suggest you work with the firearms community to get a better "Real World" assessment and maybe even get a hands on perspective with regard to the operation and storage of firearms.

Not only will the above give you a more well rounded knowledge before you introduce a bill, but you will regain confidence and credibility that has been lost in our politicians.

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:13:28 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Vanessa Ruderman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Vanessa Ruderman, and I live on Hawai'i Island. Mahalo for hearing my testimony in support of HB 125.

I know that 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.

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.

Please help protect our keiki in our community by passing HB 125.

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)

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:18:04 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Mitchell H. Weber	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE HB125,

It is the responsibility of the gun owner to assess and properly store & mitigate safety hazards in regards to their property not the government. I also challenge the members of the committee to read US V. Rahimi. The case listed as the precedent of this proposed bill deals with restrictions to individuals with a restraining order. Do the members of this committee view the ownership of legal firearms as a crime in itself?

#### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:25:21 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jennifer Cabjuan	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Oppose this bill because of its overreaching search and seizure concerns. How will this law be enforced? Will I be subject to random inspections looking for a crime? Misdemeanor offense for this law would mean a felony if I have a CCW based on a previous bill passed last legislative session. It would also hold me responsible for third party non compliant storage? Stop creating laws that try to punish law abiding citizens and focus on criminals with illegal guns.

### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:32:54 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Circumstances may require that a firearm be stored other than securely and in unusable condition. Also, how is anyone to know that a minor, acting surrupticiously, might try to access a firearm.

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:45:14 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
William J M. Evans	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is a superb example of common sense. Any dangerous item needs to be stored safely and securely so that it cannot accidentally fall into the wrong hands or be used by someone else. This is not a hypothetical risk as there are now numerous well-docmented cases of firearms being accessed by children or burglars with tragic consequences for innocent citizens.

### <u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:45:39 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this bill and think it's important to properly advise gun owners of the storage requirements to keep the public safe.

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs (JHA) Hearing: Thursday, February 06, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. Regarding: **HB125 (Relating to Firearms) Voter Position: OPPOSITION** 

Representatives of the JHA Committee,

I express my opposition to HB125 (Relating to Firearms).

### **Irrational Prosecution**

**HB125** seeks to criminalize lawful gun owners by expanding liability of injury or property damage caused by another individual's 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.

### Severability Clause Shadow

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 incorporated within **HB125** casts a shadow of doubt concerning the overall validity of **HB125's** purported public safety benefits. A bill of true integrity should be able to stand in whole upon its own merit. If not, it 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 unauthorized use of such unauthorized firearm acquisition is 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** would free up key time needed to ensure that law enforcement capabilities can ensure 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 House District 48

#### HB-125 Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:54:25 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Karen L Worthington	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear House Committee Members:

I strongly support HB125 and urge you to pass this law. As a children's law and policy attorney and as a mother, I understand the risks to keiki and the impacts on their 'ohana when firearms are improperly stored. HB125 is a common-sense step to continuing to keep our keiki safe.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Karen Worthington, Kula, Hawaii

<u>HB-125</u> Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:59:56 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Samuel M. Aquino Jr.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

## <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 2:01:00 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strongly oppose

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 2:02:58 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I OPPOSE HB 125. It does nothing for public safety. It only causes more hardship for us, the law abiding citizens who purchase firearms legaly. It's just basically feel good law that aimed at law abiding people who actually obey the laws of Hawaii.

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 2:06:25 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
April Ching	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a citizen and mother of two watching the numerous mass shootings take place over the decade has been extremely challenging. These shootings take place in public spaces where many people have been killed. I do not want an increase in public danger for Hawaii, my home, particularly for my children and all children. Secure storage for deadly weapons is a public health imperative. Weapons have no place in public spaces and must be carefully regulated. Protect our public spaces by requiring secure storage for firearms.

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 2:27:41 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

OPPOSE. This bill is burdensome to the person who acquires the firearm for home self-defense, and defeats the purpose of having a firearm for self defense when "something goes BUMP in the night.

Please focus more on keeping criminals behind bars, adult and juvenile, rather than criminalizing the law-abiding, and on restricting victim's rights.

You can die many times over in the time it takes for HPD to respond to your call.

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 2:40:50 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Daniel Covert	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. While I understand and respect the intention behind the proposed firearm safety storage bill, I must express my concerns about its potential unintended consequences.

First and foremost, this bill imposes additional burdens on law-abiding gun owners, many of whom already take firearm safety seriously. Mandating specific storage requirements does not necessarily lead to increased safety. In fact, it may inadvertently criminalize responsible gun owners who might not be able to comply due to various circumstances, such as the cost of purchasing new storage equipment or limitations in living spaces.

Additionally, the bill overlooks the practical realities of self-defense. In situations where every second counts, individuals need quick access to their firearms for protection. We are all aware that HPD response times are high and not able to help protect citizens quickly. What other options do vulnerable citizens have for self defense if they cannot defend themselves at the time of need and HPD can't get to them quickly? The proposed storage requirements could hinder a person's ability to defend themselves or their loved ones effectively, particularly in high-risk areas or times of increased threat.

Moreover, this legislation fails to account for the wide variety of storage solutions that exist and the preferences of responsible gun owners. Many already use safes, gun lockers, or other methods to secure firearms, and imposing one-size-fits-all regulations could be overly restrictive and ineffective.

Finally, there is no conclusive evidence that the proposed bill would have a meaningful impact on reducing gun violence or accidental shootings. Resources could be better spent on targeted interventions that address root causes of gun violence rather than penalizing law-abiding citizens for how they store their firearms.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to reconsider or reject this bill. It is important that any firearm legislation balances safety with the rights and responsibilities of responsible gun owners.

Thank you.

## <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 2:42:09 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Legislature:

I submit this testimony in opposition of HB125.

Sincerely,

David Fukuzawa

## <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 3:52:36 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill doesn't reduce crime and only addresses a non-existant problem

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 4:05:02 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kualii Makaneole	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB125 because it expands Hawaii's existing firearm storage laws. The legislation mandates that firearms must be stored in a locked box, a safe, or with a trigger lock, with few exceptions. Any violation of these requirements would be classified as a misdemeanor offense. Additionally, HB 125 would hold firearm owners strictly liable for any misuse of their firearms by third parties if the guns were not stored according to these regulations. Firearm owners should not be forced to lock up all their firearms, especially if they may need them for self-defense.

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 4:09:39 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Edward Conna	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill for the same reasons everyone else who opposes this bill.

Hawaii would do far more good by enforcing existint laws. I currently have a neighbor, who is a known felon, with a long history of domestic abuse, violence, and currently has active restraining orders against him, who was found to be in possession of firearms WEEKS AGO, when he was featured on a youtube video hunting.

Yet, 3 weeks later, still has not been arrested.

Until Hawaii starts prosecuting criminals, giving them serious jail time, and there is no crime, the state shouldn't be restricting law abiding citizens from being able to defend themselves.

If this and other bills pass, we WILL be leaving Hawaii, and the state will lose a highly qualified medical professional.

#### Dennis M. Dunn

#### Kailua, Hawaii 96734

#### dennismdunn47@gmail.com

TO: Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

House Committee on judiciary and Hawai'ian Affairs

RE: HB 125, Relating to Firearms

HEARING: Thursday, February 6, 2025, 2:00 P.M.

Good afternoon, Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawai'ian Affairs. My name is Dennis Dunn, and I am the retired Director of the Victim Witness Kokua Services in the Honolulu Prosecuting Attorney's Office, having retired after 44 years of service. Prior to that I was a volunteer Victim Advocate for People Against Rape. I am testifying today **in strong support of HB 125.** 

Too often during my career in victim assistance I have had to console victims of gun violence or their surviving family members. Particularly traumatic were the stories from domestic violence victims who lived in constant fear due to their abusers who maintained easily accessible firearms in their homes as a tool of intimidation. They lived in fear not only for themselves but for their children, who may accidentally come across the firearm and harm themselves or others, or both. Safe and secure storage of firearms in the home is also critical to public safety as well as to the individuals who live in a home where there are firearms present. Unsecured firearms in the home becomes an easy target for burglars and contribute significantly to the prevalence of illegal firearms on the streets. In addition to my concerns about readily accessible firearms utilized in a pattern of intimidation of DV victims and the safety of children, I am also ever mindful of the increasing use of firearms to commit suicide, a growing trend among the elderly. Often the likelihood of the use of weapons for this purpose is directly related to the easy access of the firearms. Making safe and secure storage of firearms mandatory can add additional time for someone to more carefully consider the full implications of their actions for themselves and their loved ones. For the reasons cited above I believe that this measure can help save lives and make all of us safer.

Please support HB 125. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mahalo!

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 6:13:24 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Brendan Balthazar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Lot of us ranchers don't have kids and we have our guns in the house not only for use on the ranch but for protection. If someone is breaking in we can't tell them to wait until we go open the safe and take out the trigger lock.

Brendan

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 6:55:26 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Abraham Antonio sr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill no matter how many laws you folks make criminals will still get them some way or some how you should make laws that get get criminals and protect the people that do this the right way.

It is already difficult don't need to make it more difficult

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 7:19:42 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly Oppose HB 125. Lawful owners should not be held responsible for the misuse of items by Third Parties. Would someone by liable if someone stole their firearm and then perpetrated a crime? Would that be true in the case of a car?

As for lock and safe, the vast majority of firearm owners already do secure their property in a safe manner. Let people take care of their own items.,

V/R

Kevin J. Cole, Col USAF Ret. Mililani

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 7:38:06 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Janessa Bonifacio	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB 125.

While the intention of promoting safety is admirable, the proposed regulations are overly restrictive and place an undue burden on law-abiding firearm owners. Holding firearm owners strictly liable for third-parties' misuse of a firearm that was not stored in compliance with these provisions is unreasonable. Additionally, keeping firearms locked up defeats the purose of owning them for self-defense purposes. Criminals are unlikely to adhere to these storage requirements, and such a mandate disproportionately affects responsible gun owners.

I request that you oppose HB 125.

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 7:38:44 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Shane Correia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB 125.

While the intention of promoting safety is admirable, the proposed regulations are overly restrictive and place an undue burden on law-abiding firearm owners. Holding firearm owners strictly liable for third-parties' misuse of a firearm that was not stored in compliance with these provisions is unreasonable. Additionally, keeping firearms locked up defeats the purose of owning them for self-defense purposes. Criminals are unlikely to adhere to these storage requirements, and such a mandate disproportionately affects responsible gun owners.

I request that you oppose HB 125.

## <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 8:43:21 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 8:56:23 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Renny Chee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Firearms owners are the most heavily vetted citizens in Hawaii before they are permitted to own firearms. What statitistics brought forth this overreaching bill? More people are killed due to drunk drivers, inattentive drivers and outright criminal behaviors yet drivers are not as rigorously investigated as firearms owners nor are they targeted every year with restrictive bills such as this one. If this bill is passed it is logical to mandate the same requirements for vehicle storage. Firearms owners are an inherently more responsible subset of the general population due to lengthy background checks. Government does not have the authority to dictate the state of private property nor does it have the authority to enforce this law when firearms are stored in a private residence.

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 10:13:54 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB125, which I believe constitutes a direct violation of the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution. This bill, if enacted, would unduly infringe upon the rights of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms, as protected by the Second Amendment.

Mahalo,

Darren C. Clemen

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 10:18:23 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Derek Sato	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Members of the Committee,

I am submitting this testimony to express my strong opposition to Hawaii Bill HB125. This bill proposes significant and unconstitutional amendments to firearm regulations in our State of Hawaii. This bill will unjustly infringe upon the rights of law-abiding citizens.

Why not focus on the real problem. Criminals. Build more prisons. When someone steals something that does not belong to them, maybe we should punish them. We need to be serious about crime and start prosecuting and locking up the criminals. We should not be making it mandatory for persons who own property to lock up their things and how to lock up their things. Does this bill make it mandatory for Home Depot or Lowes to do a better job locking up their battery tools that when stolen will be used to commit more crimes like cutting gates and locks to gain entry to private property? Does this bill make it mandatory to install bars on all windows of a home to deter criminals? These statements may take a position that can be viewed as ridiculous. However, what this bill is proposing is not addressing the root cause. Perform a RCA (Root Cause Analysis) and find out what the actual root cause of the criminal act of theft is and lets propose a bill to address that. This proposed bill does not solve any problem, it only infringes on the rights of law abiding American Citizens.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 10:51:00 PM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Benjamin Rex	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

HB125 must not be approved. The current law as written is designed to protect minor children, and has merit, but to change this law in such a severe fashion is not supported by the facts. Hawai'i is the third safest state in the U.S., and this legislation would have the opposite effect as what is desired. If enacted, this will embolden criminals to act because they know that private law-abiding citizens who follow the law will have their guns locked away where they cannot possibly reach them during the commission of a violent crime in their home. The Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gives us the right to keep and bear arms, for many reasons including for our self-protection on our lands and in our homes. To force all law-abiding citizens who do not have children in their homes to lock up their guns as if they do, is inviting criminals to invade more homes. It is not going to have any impact on suicide rates either, because a person who wants to commit suicide by firearm is already going to have access to that weapon, and there is no valid evidence that adding any kind of lock is going to deter that suicide attempt. Also, at the end of page 3, line 4, the word "or" should be added, otherwise requirements (1) AND (2) must be met, which is not possible because these requirements are not mutually supportive in any way. The vague wording of requirement (2) is also a concern, "Stores the firearm in a location that a reasonable person would believe to be secure;" Who gets to judge what a reasonable person believes to be secure? In conclusion, the existing legislation provides sufficient protections against accidental firearms injury by minors in a home, and this proposed legislation is unnecessary and infringes on my rights as a citizen of this state and this nation.

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 6:31:55 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose HB 125 which requires retail sellers of firearms to provide purchasers with notice regarding the law on firearms storage. Expands the requirements for the secure storage of firearms. Clarifies the offense of criminally negligent storage of a firearm.

Mahalo,

Theresa Thompson

## <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 7:59:45 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

You people love to violate American citizens 2nd Amendment!! US

## <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 8:23:25 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I Oppose House Bill 125

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 8:57:23 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
John Harper	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

again another usless law that will stop nothing, lock the criminals up and leave the guns alone, why do you politicans hate the second amendment ?

## <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 9:00:11 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Joseph Gary Dela Cruz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

support.

## <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 9:12:22 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Cherry Ann Galiza	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support.

## <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 9:12:30 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Ernelle Leong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i support

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 9:43:02 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Vince Yamashiroya, MD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a pediatrician, I have been asking parents about guns in the home. Firearms is the leading cause of death in children and is involved in teen suicide. Unfortunately, not all parents and gun owners keep their guns in a securely locked box or container. Unintentional firearm injuries and teen suicide/homicide by firearms are entirely preventable. I ask that you support this common sense bill. Thank you.

## <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 9:52:02 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Phebe Kahoiwai	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Mahalo.

## <u>HB-125</u>

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 10:07:55 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Pearson Ahuna	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 10:17:50 AM Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am in opposition to this bill.

The current statutory limitations to our 2nd Amendment rights are sufficiently imposing and it is self evident that an increase in regulations will negatively affect the law abiding citizens of Hawaii by curtailing our rights; furthermore, the proposed bill operates on the absurd principal that criminals will stop being criminals and will decide in 2025 to start following additional laws.

Mahalo, David Okumura