

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



MIKE LAMBERT  
DIRECTOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LT GOVERNOR  
KE KE'ENA

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

*Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai*

715 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

JARED K. REDULLA  
Deputy Director  
Law Enforcement

## TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 401, SENATE DRAFT 2

### RELATING TO FIREARMS

Before the House Committee on

JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Thursday, March 13, 2025, 2:00 p.m.

State Capitol Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

Testifiers: Mike Lambert

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) supports Senate Bill 401, Senate Draft 2. This bill seeks to include any firearm with the capacity to fire ammunition of fifty caliber or higher in the list of prohibited weapons under Hawaii Revised Statutes Section 134-8, with specific exemptions for antique pistols and revolvers, muzzleloaders, and shotguns. The bill also exempts firearms with the capacity to fire ammunition of fifty caliber or higher that were legally obtained before January 1, 2026.

The DLE supports this measure as it addresses a significant public safety concern. Fifty caliber firearms are exceptionally powerful weapons originally designed for military applications, capable of penetrating light armor, vehicles, and buildings from significant distances. These weapons pose an outsized risk to public safety, law enforcement personnel, and critical infrastructure when in civilian hands.

The bill takes a measured approach by including grandfather provisions for legally owned fifty caliber firearms obtained prior to the effective date, while preventing the future proliferation of these exceptionally high-powered weapons in our communities. This balanced approach respects existing ownership while addressing future public safety concerns.

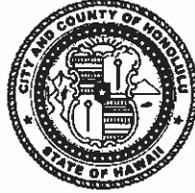
The thoughtful exemptions for antique firearms, muzzleloaders, and shotguns demonstrate that this legislation is narrowly tailored to address specifically the most dangerous high-caliber weapons rather than broadly restricting firearm ownership.

The DLE believes this legislation will enhance public safety without unduly burdening lawful gun owners, and is consistent with Hawaii's longstanding commitment to reasonable and effective firearms regulation.

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

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT  
KA 'OIHANA MĀKA'I O HONOLULU  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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ARTHUR J. LOGAN  
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KAHU MĀKA'I  
  
KEITH K. HORIKAWA  
RADE K. VANIC  
DEPUTY CHIEFS  
HOPE LUNA NUI MĀKA'I

OUR REFERENCE **CL-DNK**

March 13, 2025

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

Dear Chair Tarnas and Members:

**SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 401, S.D. 2, Relating to Firearms**

I am Carlene Lau, Major of the Records and Identification Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD appreciates the intent of Senate Bill No. 401, S.D. 2, Relating to Firearms, and offers the following concerns.

This bill would add to the list of prohibited weapons to include any firearm capable of firing ammunition of .50 caliber and higher, excluding antique pistols, revolvers, and muzzleloaders. This complete ban would affect existing gun owners for these types of firearms.

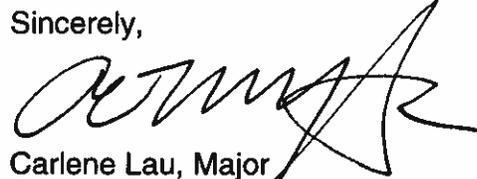
The HPD prefers the language in Senate Bill No. 600, Relating to Firearms, specifically pertaining to the proposed changes to Hawaii Revised Statutes Section 134-8, Ownership, etc., of automatic firearms, silencers, etc., prohibited; penalties, for .50 caliber and higher firearms.

The HPD appreciates the committee's consideration of our comments regarding Senate Bill No. 401, S.D. 2, Relating to Firearms, and thanks you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

  
Arthur J. Logan  
Chief of Police

Sincerely,

  
Carlene Lau, Major  
Records and Identification Division

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 5:45:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wayne Asam	Mid Pacific Pistol League	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**To the Members of the Hawaii State Legislature**

Senate Chambers

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, HI 96813

**Subject: Strong Opposition to S.B. 401 – Relating to Firearms**

Dear Honorable Senators,

I am writing to voice my resolute opposition to Senate Bill 401 (S.B. 401, S.D. 2), which seeks to prohibit the manufacture, possession, sale, or transfer of firearms capable of firing ammunition of .50 caliber or higher, excluding shotguns, antique pistols, antique revolvers, and muzzleloaders. While I recognize the intent to address public safety concerns, this legislation is an unjustified overreach that infringes on constitutional rights, lacks supporting evidence, and unfairly penalizes law-abiding citizens. I urge you to reject this bill and pursue more effective, rights-respecting solutions.

**1. Infringement on Constitutional Protections**

The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution guarantees the right to keep and bear arms, a right upheld by landmark Supreme Court decisions such as *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008), *McDonald v. City of Chicago* (2010), and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022). The *Bruen* ruling mandates that firearm regulations must align with the historical tradition of firearm regulation in the United States. S.B. 401’s blanket ban on .50 caliber firearms fails this test, as such firearms have a long history of lawful use for sporting, hunting, and self-defense purposes without widespread restriction. This bill unjustly curtails the rights of Hawaii residents to possess firearms that are in common use and legally owned across the nation.

**2. Absence of Empirical Justification**

There is no compelling evidence that banning firearms capable of firing .50 caliber ammunition will reduce crime or enhance public safety. These firearms, such as the .50 BMG rifle, are rarely used in criminal activity due to their size, cost, and specialized nature. According to FBI

Uniform Crime Reports, rifles of all types—including those chambered in .50 caliber—account for a tiny fraction of gun-related homicides (e.g., 403 out of 13,620 in 2019). Criminals overwhelmingly favor concealable handguns, not large-caliber rifles. S.B. 401 targets a niche category of firearms with no demonstrated link to Hawaii’s public safety challenges, rendering it a symbolic gesture rather than a practical solution.

### **3. Arbitrary and Overbroad Classification**

The bill’s definition of prohibited firearms—“any firearm that is not a shotgun with the capacity to fire ammunition of fifty caliber or higher”—is overly broad and poorly conceived. It fails to distinguish between vastly different firearms, such as the .50 BMG rifle (a large, heavy, bolt-action rifle used for long-range shooting) and other .50 caliber firearms with legitimate sporting or historical uses. Excluding shotguns, antique pistols, revolvers, and muzzleloaders while banning all other .50 caliber firearms creates an inconsistent standard that ignores functionality and intent. This arbitrary cutoff punishes law-abiding owners of firearms that pose no unique threat compared to other legal weapons.

### **4. Undue Burden on Law-Abiding Citizens**

S.B. 401 effectively criminalizes possession of .50 caliber firearms acquired after January 1, 2026, even with a grandfather clause for pre-existing ownership. This places an unreasonable burden on law-abiding citizens who use these firearms for lawful purposes, such as long-range target shooting, hunting, or collecting. For example, the .50 BMG rifle is a staple in competitive shooting sports, prized for its precision and engineering. Owners of such firearms—often expensive investments—face the prospect of surrendering their property or becoming felons, despite no evidence of misuse. The grandfather clause offers little relief, as it creates enforcement challenges (e.g., proving acquisition dates) and does nothing for future generations of law-abiding enthusiasts.

### **5. Negligible Impact on Self-Defense and Crime**

For individuals in rural or remote areas of Hawaii, where law enforcement response times may be delayed, firearms—including those chambered in .50 caliber—can serve as vital tools for self-defense against large animals or other threats. While .50 caliber firearms are not common for this purpose, their outright ban limits options without addressing actual criminal behavior. Criminals intent on violence will not be deterred by this law; they will simply use other weapons or acquire restricted firearms illegally. Meanwhile, law-abiding citizens lose access to tools they may responsibly employ.

### **6. Economic and Cultural Harm**

Hawaii’s shooting sports community, including hunters and competitive shooters, will suffer under S.B. 401. Firearms like the .50 BMG are celebrated for their engineering and used in national and international competitions. Banning their future acquisition stifles a lawful pastime and harms small businesses—gun shops, ranges, and sporting goods retailers—that rely on

enthusiasts. This legislation erodes a cultural tradition without delivering measurable benefits to public safety.

### **A Call for Practical Alternatives**

If the Legislature seeks to improve safety, it should focus on enforcing existing laws, addressing mental health crises, and targeting illegal firearm trafficking—measures that directly address crime without punishing law-abiding citizens. S.B. 401's focus on a rare and specialized firearm category distracts from these proven strategies and alienates constituents who value their rights.

### **Conclusion**

S.B. 401 is an unwarranted restriction on constitutional freedoms, unsupported by data, and detrimental to Hawaii's law-abiding residents. I respectfully urge you to vote against this bill and safeguard the rights of your constituents. Let us prioritize solutions that address real threats while respecting liberty and reason.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I am available to discuss my concerns further and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to a balanced dialogue.

Sincerely,  
Wayne Asam  
President/Mid Pacific Pistol League

**To:** Members of the Hawaii House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs  
**From:** Agustin Cabrera, Giffords State Legislative Manager  
**Subject:** Support for SB401  
**Date:** March 13, 2025

*Submitted via email*

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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 SB401 which would ban firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of fifty caliber or higher, excluding antique pistols and revolvers, and muzzleloaders.

**Fifty caliber rifles are among the most destructive weapons that may be manufactured and made legally available to civilians in the United States.**

Fifty caliber rifles are military firearms, used by armed forces across the globe, that combine long range, accuracy, and massive firepower. A 50 caliber rifle can hit a target accurately from distances of 1,000 to 2,000 yards, depending on the skill of the shooter, and can reach targets at an even longer range, sacrificing accuracy.<sup>1</sup> Designed for use in urban combat situations, 50 caliber rifles can penetrate structures and destroy or disable light armored vehicles, radar dishes, helicopters, stationary, and taxiing airplanes, and other “high-value” military targets.<sup>2</sup>

The destructive power of the 50 caliber rifle can be magnified by the use of certain types of ammunition that are legal under federal law (although banned in some states). In addition to the standard “ball” round of 50 caliber ammunition, armor-piercing, incendiary, and combination armor-piercing and incendiary ammunition for 50 caliber rifles can significantly enhance their destructive capacity.

**50 caliber rifles can be particularly dangerous when made available on the open market**

Despite these firearms’ capability for destruction, 50 caliber rifles are generally regulated no differently from other rifles or shotguns and are subject to less regulation than handguns in most states and under federal law.<sup>3</sup> In fact, under federal law and the laws of nearly all states, any 18-year-old who passes a background check can buy a 50 caliber rifle.<sup>8</sup> In addition, because federal law and the laws of most states do not require private sellers to conduct background checks, criminals can easily obtain 50 caliber rifles at gun shows and elsewhere.

**Other states have taken steps to increase security regarding the use of 50 caliber weapons**

California, Illinois, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia generally ban .50 caliber rifles, while Connecticut bans a single model of .50 caliber rifle. Maryland imposes various regulations on transfers of

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<sup>1</sup> Tom Diaz, “Voting From the Rooftops: How the Gun Industry Armed Osama bin Laden, Other Foreign and Domestic Terrorists, and Common Criminals with 50 Caliber Sniper Rifles,” Violence Policy Center (Oct. 2001): 7-12, <http://www.vpc.org/graphics/rooftop.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Tom Diaz, “Clear and Present Danger: National Security Experts Warn About the Danger of Unrestricted Sales of 50 Caliber Anti-Armor Sniper Rifles to Civilians,” Violence Policy Center (July 2005), <http://www.vpc.org/studies/50danger.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Office of the Inspector General, “The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives’ National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record, Evaluation and Inspections Report I-2007-006,” U.S. Department of Justice (June 2007), <http://www.usdoj.gov/oig/reports/ATF/e0706/back.htm>

50 caliber rifles. Despite the risks inherent in the use of 50 caliber handguns, no state bans 50 caliber handguns as of yet. However, Hawaii can take the opportunity to strengthen their gun violence prevention framework by ensuring they can protect their communities from these strong and dangerous weapons. With the risks so great, we urge the committee to support SB401.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Agustin Cabrera**

State Legislative Manager | He/Him

c: (806) 335-5819

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

**GIFFORDS**

**ABOUT GIFFORDS**

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

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:33:50 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kim Cordery	Aloha Freedom Coalition	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I appose SB401!

This is another attempt to remove our 2nd amendment rights! Different spin, same deception!  
Guns or ammuniton don't kill, people kill!

Stop SB401

# HAWAII PATRIOT REPUBLICANS

Written Testimony in Opposition to S.B. No. 401, S.D. 2  
Submitted to the Senate Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs  
March 12, 2025

Aloha Members of the Committee,

I write to urge you to vote NO on S.B. No. 401, a bill that seeks to expand the list of prohibited firearms in Hawaii to include any firearm (except shotguns) capable of firing ammunition of .50 caliber or higher, with exemptions for antique pistols, revolvers, muzzleloaders, and pre-existing legally owned firearms. While I respect the intent to enhance public safety, this legislation is misguided, punitive to law-abiding citizens, and likely to yield unintended consequences that undermine both individual rights and community well-being. As a proud advocate for liberty, responsibility, and practical governance—values that resonate across party lines—I present the following objections for your consideration.

## **1. Infringement on Second Amendment Rights Disproportionately Harms Law-Abiding Citizens**

The Second Amendment guarantees the right to keep and bear arms, a cornerstone of American freedom that protects self-defense and individual sovereignty. S.B. 401's ban on .50 caliber firearms (excluding shotguns) targets a class of weapons that, while powerful, are rarely implicated in crime. According to the [FBI's Uniform Crime Reports](#), rifles of all types—including high-caliber ones—account for only about 3% of firearm homicides annually, with handguns dominating at over 60%. By focusing on a niche category of firearms, this bill punishes responsible owners—hunters, sport shooters, and collectors—without addressing the real drivers of gun violence.

Democrats who value fairness should recognize this as an overreach. In California, a similar [ban on .50 BMG rifles](#) enacted in 2004 has not demonstrably reduced crime rates. Instead, it has burdened lawful owners with compliance costs and restricted their rights, while criminals—undeterred by laws—continue using more common, smaller-caliber weapons. Hawaii risks repeating this mistake, alienating citizens who follow the law without improving safety.

## **2. Lack of Evidence Linking .50 Caliber Firearms to Public Safety Threats**

Proponents of S.B. 401 may argue that .50 caliber firearms pose a unique danger, but the data tell a different story. These firearms are expensive, heavy, and impractical for criminal use. A [RAND Corporation analysis](#) of gun policy effects found no conclusive evidence that banning specific firearm types—like high-caliber rifles—reduces violent crime when broader factors like poverty and mental health are unaddressed. In Hawaii, where gun violence rates are already among the lowest in the nation (1.3 firearm deaths per 100,000 people in 2020, per [CDC data](#)), targeting .50 caliber firearms is a solution in search of a problem.

Consider New York's SAFE Act, which broadened restrictions on "assault weapons" and high-capacity magazines. A [study by the University at Albany](#) found no significant drop in gun homicides post-2013, suggesting that such measures fail to address root causes. Democrats who prioritize evidence-based policy should demand proof that .50 caliber firearms threaten Hawaii before supporting this bill.

## **3. Economic Harm to Law-Abiding Gun Owners and Businesses**

S.B. 401's ban, even with a grandfather clause, devalues legally owned .50 caliber firearms by restricting their transfer, sale, or use outside Hawaii. This imposes a financial penalty on owners—many of whom are

middle-class hunters or enthusiasts—and harms local businesses like gun shops and ranges that cater to this market. In states like Illinois, where Chicago’s strict [municipal gun laws](#) have limited firearm commerce, small businesses have shuttered, and legal owners have faced property value losses without compensation.

Democrats who champion working families and small businesses should oppose this bill. It risks repeating Illinois’ economic fallout, where law-abiding citizens bore the cost of policies that failed to curb violence—Chicago’s homicide rate remains among the nation’s highest despite stringent laws. Hawaii’s legislature should not burden its own people with similar unintended consequences.

#### **4. Precedent for Overregulation and Erosion of Personal Responsibility**

This bill sets a dangerous precedent for creeping overregulation, targeting firearms based on arbitrary characteristics rather than their use. Today it’s .50 caliber; tomorrow it could be any rifle or pistol deemed “too powerful” by subjective standards. Such measures erode personal responsibility—a value Democrats and Republicans alike should defend—by assuming citizens cannot be trusted with certain tools, even when they’ve proven law-abiding.

Look to Connecticut, where post-Sandy Hook laws like the [2013 assault weapons ban](#) sparked widespread noncompliance—over 80% of affected owners refused to register their firearms, per state estimates. This bred resentment and undermined trust in government, an outcome Hawaii can ill afford. Democrats who value community cohesion should reject a bill that risks alienating rather than uniting residents.

#### **5. Diversion of Resources from Proven Safety Measures**

S.B. 401 diverts legislative focus from strategies that actually reduce gun violence: mental health support, community policing, and targeted enforcement against illegal firearms. In Missouri, relaxed gun laws coincided with a [spike in homicides](#), but the cause was lax enforcement, not legal ownership. Conversely, states like Massachusetts have paired strict laws with robust social programs, achieving low gun death rates without banning specific calibers.

Democrats who advocate for holistic public safety should push for investments in mental health and education—proven to save lives—rather than symbolic bans like S.B. 401. Hawaii’s resources are better spent addressing root causes than chasing marginal gains from a .50 caliber prohibition.

#### **Conclusion: Vote NO for Freedom, Fairness, and Effectiveness**

S.B. No. 401 is a well-intentioned but flawed measure that infringes on rights, lacks evidence, harms citizens economically, sets a risky precedent, and distracts from real solutions. I urge you—Republicans defending liberty and Democrats seeking fairness and results—to reject this bill. Let’s protect Hawaii’s people with policies that work, not ones that punish the innocent and paper over deeper issues. Vote NO and send a message that governance should unite, not divide, our state.

Sincerely,

*Andrew Crossland*

Hawaii Patriot Republicans

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



# Safari Club International

HAWAII CHAPTER

POST OFFICE BOX 17747 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

TO: JDC Committee Members

Re: SB307

SCI Hawaii Chapter Opposes this bill

We respectfully request your time to review the below testimony when considering amendments to SB307.

This testimony is provided through the Hawaii Chapter, Safari Club International, regarding SB 307 as currently proposed. While the amendments would provide a needed remedy in allowing use of large caliber handguns and muzzle loading rifles, as well as shotguns, the currently proposed restriction on large caliber centerfire rifles is too broad and is unwarranted.

If the intent is to ban the use of the .50BMG cartridge, the bill should so state and should not be a broad-based ban on rifles of .50 caliber and larger. The reason is as follows:

The .50BMG cartridge was developed for the Browning machine gun many decades ago. It saw great service in ground-based weapons and in aircraft, though now largely supplanted by more recent systems. As a cartridge for civilian use, it saw almost no popularity until the sport of shooting at silhouette and paper targets at long range became popular. This made the .50BMG cartridge, with its heavy bullet, aerodynamic design (much like the popular .308 and .30-06 in shape) attractive for those wanting to target shoot at long range. This sport is much more popular on the U.S. mainland than in Hawaii, as there are many places where such longer-range target shooting can be safely done.

Several companies, Barrett among the most prominent, began to craft rifles adapted to .50BMG. These are primarily bolt actions, precisely made but long, heavy and not very portable. They are not made for rapid repeated fire, and certainly not for any form of hunting where mobility matters. Given the weight and unwieldiness of the rifles and the high cost of ammunition, this author personally does not see much application for hunting under Hawaii conditions. However, I also see little harm in someone using the cartridge in an appropriate place with all necessary safety precautions, as with any firearm.

The real issue with SB 307 is that applying a broad ban on .50 caliber rifles bans use of many rifles, both new and vintage, which are widely used for hunting. These rifles are available in single shot configuration, as double rifles (usually with the two barrels side by side) and in a few bolt actions. These rifles and the cartridges for them, were developed in response to the need for those hunting or living in areas where large and potentially dangerous game animals are common. That includes much

of Africa, the Northern part of Australia, Alaska, Western Canada and formerly included South and Southeast Asia.

If you have read Hemingway or seen "Out of Africa", you will know what I refer to. None of these rifles is in any way suitable for some deranged person to use as a so-called 'assault weapon". They are limited to one, two or three shots in almost all cases. Their heavy recoil and low muzzle speeds, plus the fact that many rifles wear the original open sights, make them unsuited to rapid fire or long-range shooting.

Most of the cartridges were designed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Many of the rifles themselves, valued and expensive treasures, are over 100 years old, and tell of an era of loving hand craftsmanship. They are valued possessions, intended to be cared for and handed down from generation to generation, accruing memories on the occasions when they are taken to hunt or just to practice on the range. Modern rifles are crafted for this specialized purpose, but they are faithful to the tradition in form and function. They still shoot the same cartridges and still have the same limitations. They are intended for one purpose: to humanely harvest a large and dangerous animal, and to stop a charging beast, at close range. They are by no means suited for human combat or for spraying the landscape with bullets!

Banning such weapons will do nothing to keep Hawaii safer. It will simply deny owners of these magnificent heirlooms the chance to use them and to walk in the footsteps of long-gone professionals in Africa and elsewhere. Those who own these cherished rifles are among those who lead in advocacy for firearms safety and wildlife conservation.

For the record, while this author has indeed hunted in Africa, Alaska and in Australia, and has once had to stop an inbound dangerous animal (while birdwatching in the African bush), I do not write this as an owner of such a rifle. I wish I had one, but do not. However, you can keep such dreams alive for all of us who care deeply about the environment and the wild places. Please amend SB 307 to allow use of these rifles.

Respectfully,



Nancy Timko  
Treasurer, SCI HI Chapter

# SB 307 .50 caliber ban Mays

Thursday, October 06, 2022 8:33 PM

Honorable Senators,

A bill like this is proposed over and over again. Below please read the testimony provided by Richard Mays a few years ago. He's a member of the SCI Hawaii Chapter board as am I.

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This testimony is provided through the Hawaii Chapter, Safari Club International, regarding SB 307 as currently proposed. While the amendments would provide a needed remedy in allowing use of large caliber handguns and muzzle loading rifles, as well as shotguns, the currently proposed restriction on large caliber centerfire rifles is too broad and is unwarranted.

If the intent is to ban the use of the .50BMG cartridge, the bill should so state and should not be a broad-based ban on rifles of .50 caliber and larger. The reason is as follows:

The .50BMG cartridge was developed for the Browning machine gun many decades ago. It saw great service in ground-based weapons and in aircraft, though now largely supplanted by more recent systems. As a cartridge for civilian use, it saw almost no popularity until the sport of shooting at silhouette and paper targets at long range became popular. This made the .50BMG cartridge, with its heavy bullet, aerodynamic design (much like the popular .308 and .30-06 in shape) attractive for those wanting to target shoot at long range. This sport is much more popular on the U.S. mainland than in Hawaii, as there are many places where such longer-range target shooting can be safely done.

Several companies, Barrett among the most prominent, began to craft rifles adapted to .50BMG. These are primarily bolt actions, precisely made but long, heavy and not very portable. They are not made for rapid repeated fire, and certainly not for any form of hunting where mobility matters. Given the weight and unwieldiness of the rifles and the high cost of ammunition, this author personally does not see much application for hunting under Hawaii conditions. However, I also see little harm in someone using the cartridge in an appropriate place with all necessary safety precautions, as with any firearm.

The real issue with SB 307 is that applying a broad ban on .50 caliber rifles bans use of many rifles, both new and vintage, which are widely used for hunting. These rifles are available in single shot configuration, as double rifles (usually with the two barrels side by side) and in a few bolt actions. These rifles and the cartridges for them, were developed in response to the need for those hunting or living in areas where large and potentially dangerous game animals are common. That includes much of Africa, the Northern part of Australia, Alaska, Western Canada and formerly included South and Southeast Asia.

If you have read Hemingway or seen "Out of Africa", you will know what I refer to. None of these rifles is in any way suitable for some deranged person to use as a so-called 'assault weapon'. They are limited to one, two or three shots in almost all cases. Their heavy recoil and low muzzle speeds, plus the fact that many rifles wear the original open sights, make them unsuited to rapid fire or long-range shooting.

Most of the cartridges were designed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Many of the rifles themselves, valued and expensive treasures, are over 100 years old, and tell of an era of loving hand craftsmanship. They are valued possessions, intended to be cared for and handed down from generation to generation, accruing memories on the occasions when they are taken to hunt or just to

practice on the range. Modern rifles are crafted for this specialized purpose, but they are faithful to the tradition in form and function. They still shoot the same cartridges and still have the same limitations. They are intended for one purpose: to humanely harvest a large and dangerous animal, and to stop a charging beast, at close range. They are by no means suited for human combat or for spraying the landscape with bullets!

Banning such weapons will do nothing to keep Hawaii safer. It will simply deny owners of these magnificent heirlooms the chance to use them and to walk in the footsteps of long-gone professionals in Africa and elsewhere. Those who own these cherished rifles are among those who lead in advocacy for firearms safety and wildlife conservation.

For the record, while this author has indeed hunted in Africa, Alaska and in Australia, and has once had to stop an inbound dangerous animal (while birdwatching in the African bush), I do not write this as an owner of such a rifle. I wish I had one, but do not. However, you can keep such dreams alive for all of us who care deeply about the environment and the wild places. Please amend SB 307 to allow use of these rifles.



*Submitted via web portal*

**RE: SB 401 (Rhoads): 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 SB 401.**

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.

SB 401 would prohibit a specific type of military-grade weapon – firearms capable of firing .50 caliber or greater ammunition. Such rifles were designed for military sniper use, and have the capability of piercing an armored vehicle from a distance of over a mile away. **To be clear – we believe Hawai'i should join the 9 other states who prohibit the sale of all assault weapons.** But we also support efforts to ensure the types of exceedingly dangerous weapons covered in SB 401 aren't available for civilian ownership.

For these reasons listed above, Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action, and Students Demand Action strongly support SB 401.

Sincerely,

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

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:59:11 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ramya Swami	Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill prohibits a specific type of military-grade weapon – firearms capable of firing .50 caliber or greater ammunition. Such rifles have the capability of piercing an armored vehicle from a distance of over a mile away.

While our top priority is to prohibit the sale of all assault weapons in Hawai‘i – and we won’t take our eye off the ball – we support efforts to ensure these types of exceedingly dangerous weapons aren’t available for civilian ownership.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:43:29 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Representatives of the committee,

My name is Bronson Teixeira and I'm born and raised on the island of Maui. I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to voice my opinion and I stand strongly opposing sb308 and sb401. In my written testimony I shall cover my opinions on why I oppose this bill, common available facts, the consequences of this bill does if it goes into effect, and some solutions.

I believe the issue we face in America today is not the so called "gun violence", but rather it is a mental health issue and a gang/crime violence issue as well as the lack of punishment in the judicial system. I don't understand how one can blame a mechanical device or a tool and let's keep in mind that it requires someone or individual to pull the trigger and because of these actions of some individuals us law abiding individuals are being punished by them wanting to take away an efficient an well made rifle that is in common use by millions of people.. It's kind of like blaming the automobile or automobile manufacturers instead of the drunk driver for killing an innocent family, it just doesn't make any sense.

As of 2022 firearm related deaths have been on a slow decline. At its 2021 peak, statistics show 48,830 firearm related deaths. 53% of that is suicide (26,328), 43% is homicide(20,958), and the remaining deaths were either accidental, self defense, or law enforcement involvement. ALL LONG GUNS that's including SEMIAUTOMATIC, BOLT ACTION, AND SHOTGUNS combined make up around ONLY 4% of that firearm homicides. I would also like to mention the fact that the Opioid and Fentanyl epidemic kills over double the amount of firearms, that's well over 100,000 people killed by these drugs. It is a fact that KNIVES, HAMMERS, and the HUMAN Hands kill more Americans per year than these types of firearms.

Now if we were to look and agree on the data and facts that are given above its safe to say we can clearly see that guns are not the issue, societal changes, economic landscape, suicide, crime/gang violence and with a soft slap on the wrist type of judicial system, and as well as Misinterpretation of terms and facts over the years by anti 2a groups have lead us to what we see today and trying to be used in a more so common legislation gun control based on the thought of what is in the best interest of the people but neglecting the fact that criminals can and will still be able to obtain firearms illegally. These are just some of the problems we face today. Banning firearms and making a magazine capacity limit is not the answer, and if just so happen firearms were to be banned and magazines are limited you will see no difference in crimes because

criminals don't follow the law. There has been studies proving that magazine capacity limits have no effect on crime. Please try to understand that firearms can be made at home, you can order replica kits and modify them to be fully operational but it is a fact that self made arms are protected by the constitution under the history and traditions of self made arms, they can be brought in from stateside or imported from out of country and sold on a black market just like the so called illegal fireworks we see every year. As we have seen in multiple shootings in Hawaii nearly all case involved are criminals or convicted felons that get ahold of and decided to do the unimaginable.

Now if you were able to ban these so called "large capacity magazines" (which are in fact standard size magazines, they have always come with 25-30 round magazine) from us law abiding citizens so that we can no longer own them but the criminals are still able to get these magazines illegally you would be making the civilian population more vulnerable to attacks by these types of criminals, it's a fact that more gun control laws leave more people defenseless, it stops good people from protecting themselves and their families and the lives of others. Gun laws do not prevent shootings!

These bills in its current form will decimate our constitutional right and neglects our entire 2nd amendment. This bill is a full overreach. SB308 and sb401 is very poorly written and deceptive. Keep in mind a thousands of law abiding citizens already own a lot of these magazines and firearms, there are firearms that come from the factory with 40+ round magazines and are currently owned by thousands of citizens.

Within the 50 caliber center fire rifle ban bill there are a lot of different types of modern firearms that are lever action, bolt action, revolver and semi-automatic. There are also a lot of different 50 caliber cartridge sizes that are great hunting options as the projectile travels at a slower velocity but still provide great energy upon impact. 50 caliber rifles can and do get used for hunting because there are a lot of different .50 caliber cartridges available and some of them do offer a much more fun and great challenge to hike and hunt with being they require more physical stamina to carry due to the weight and bulk. The bill in its current form does not state any grandfathering or inheritance if I would like to pass my firearms down to my children.

If sb308 were to go in effect you would instantly put thousands of law abiding citizens that would be labeled as a felon and could be arrested and put into jail, what you guys have to understand is these magazines are currently legal to own and completely legal to own under the constitution. There are currently thousands if not tens of thousands of these magazines owned by the people of Hawaii. There are thousands of currently owned .50 cal firearms from pistols/revolvers, bolt action, lever action and semi auto.

I firmly believe there are other areas that need to be focused on instead of attacking our constitutional rights and our god given rights and if we could agree on that I believe we could get much more done. Fixing the mental health care system to start and start handing out stiffer criminal penalty judgements and getting the drugs off the streets will in fact have the biggest impact on the outcome. The attack on firearms seems to be a lazy man's approach to finding the solution, there are better ways to solve the issues we see today and banning our god given right isn't one of them.

I appreciate your time in reading this and if this bill were to pass and become law I as well as the rest of the law abiding citizen firearms owners will not comply, we do not deserve this, we are not the enemy, we are simply fighting for our right. I as well as many others notice that the Democratic policies seem to protect criminals more than the rights or lives of the civilian population and we are ready to make a change because we are tired of this continuation every year of trying to make a law out of nothing it has to stop!

Mahalo for hearing me,

Bronson Teixeira

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:11:46 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael I Rice	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I stand in **OPPOSITION** to this bill. This ban on .50 Caliber firearms is attempting to solve a problem that does not exist. We do not have gangs shooting at each other from long distances with .50 caliber rifles. The state has failed to produce any evidence that there is a threat posed by such arms over the past five years since a similar measure had been introduced. It is irresponsible to maintain any attempt to ban a device whereby there is no proven threat vector.

There are many weapons that would fall under this ban, many of them are used for hunting. Including many handgun calibers. While it was stated that this bill would be changed to exclude shotguns, the wording of the law does not match that intent. 12 gauge shotguns, and even flareguns, are capable of firing a certain type of .50 caliber ammunition. Even though it is unwise to do so, these arms can be modified to fire said ammunition in a safer manner through simple means.

The Supreme Court also said in **Caetano** and **Heller** that bans on arms that are in common use for lawful purposes are unconstitutional. Just like tasers cannot be banned, .50 caliber arms cannot be banned and there are FAR more .50 caliber arms legally out there than tasers.

This bill is founded on pure ignorance, for lack of a better word. The author mistakenly believes that all .50 caliber guns are machine guns and can penetrate the armor of a tank from impossible distances or make commercial airliners explode with a single shot and has stated so publicly, and they think the guns can do this simply because the caliber is .50.

This is all simply not true, not only are not all .50 caliber bullets the same, with some being fairly weak pistol rounds to ones coming close but still so far away from the Mythos surrounding the magical '50 cal'.

I would also like to point out that the ban on Teflon coated bullets is a farce. Teflon coating does not make a bullet armor piercing. When Teflon coated bullets were first designed, the designer simply hypothesized that the coating would improve the bullet's 'grip' on certain surfaces like glass or painted metal, and thus allow the bullet to penetrate rather than deflecting off an angled surface like a car windshield.

This hypothesis was later proven false with further testing and even found that the effectiveness of armor penetrating rounds was actually reduced slightly by Teflon coatings. Teflon coatings were still used because they found the coating significantly reduced wear and tear on firearm

barrels during testing and was worth the minor performance reduction. This however has not stopped those who choose to believe the myth from passing and keeping laws like these.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:19:08 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Whom It May Concern,

I oppose SB401 as it violates my constitutional rights for the 2nd Amendment: the right to keep and bear arms. As an Army Veteran, I swore to defend and protect the constitution of the United States and the American way of life. I rely on the 2nd Amendment to not only protect myself but my loved ones and property. Something that our forefathers have fought bravely and sacrificed themselves to protect these rights.

Mahalo for taking the time to hear my testimony.

Aloha,

Josh

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:25:15 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose any bill that infringes my 2nd amendment right to bear arms

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:30:36 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB 401, SD 2** - Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

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

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Will Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the committee,

My name is Will Caron, and I am a resident of Kahalu‘u, O‘ahu. I strongly support SB401 SD2 and ask that you pass it through the committee.

SB401, SD2 is an important step in the right direction to preserving public safety. Prohibiting firearms with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is a common sense regulation to help reduce the horrific effects of gun violence—particularly in the mass shootings that take place in our schools that often use military-grade weapons that fire high caliber ammunition.

It's time to acknowledge that hundreds of years have taken place between the writing of the Second Amendment and the modern era, and adjust our public policy accordingly. These type of firearms have no place in civilian life or in a well-regulated militia for citizen defense.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:34:42 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:39:01 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401, the .50 cal ban that is a violation of Bruin, Heller, and Caetano.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:48:55 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lory Ono	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

Mahalo,

Lory Ono

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:57:46 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

As a law abiding tax paying citizen I strongly oppose this clear violation of 2nd Amendment rights. This ban is pointless and a witch hunt for firearms that are rarely if ever used in criminal acts. The authors of the bill claim .50 caliber weapons can "destroy a tank" but countless videos are available to the public disputing that fear mongering rhetoric and absolute lack of knowledge on the subject they have no right legislating on.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:59:11 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I opposed SB401

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 12:08:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

SB401 does not make the people of Hawaii safer, it only strips away our rights! It clearly violates our Constitutional rights. Furthermore, it criminalizes responsible gun owners, expands government overreach into legal firearm ownership, fails to address violent crime, and makes criminals out of law-abiding citizens. Stop wasting time and energy on unconstitutional bills, and focus on better education and training of the people. This also criminalizes those that cannot afford all of the fees to acquire a firearms.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 12:10:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

All gun laws are infringements on our second amendment rights

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 12:14:17 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB401. I see no purpose to this bill in terms of improving our lives in Hawaii. It only serves to chip away at rights guaranteed by our Constitution. Please vote NO on SB401 and refocus time and energy on legislation that will help our community flourish.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 12:31:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Bickel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This seems like common sense.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 1:04:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha. Please support SB401. Mahalo

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 1:08:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill should be stopped. It violates the 2A and no reason for it to exist and is already being challenged elsewhere.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 1:13:17 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha

As a law abiding citizen of Hawaii I oppose SB401 as it is a direct violation of our second amendment rights. There are many firearms that uses a so called 50 caliber like a 12, 20, 28 gauge shotguns which is commonly used by a lot of people here in Hawaii for sports like skeet/clay shooting and those who hunt for food to feed their family and friends. Please reconsider and introduce Bills that will target criminals and not law abiding citizens.

Mahalo

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 1:27:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senators, Gun violence is increasing across the US and Hawai'i. We must act now to stop the senseless deaths and injuries. there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. SB 401, SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in the civilian sector.

Thank you for allowing me to share my mana'o.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 1:30:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB401

SB401's ban on .50 caliber firearms is a clear violation of the Second Amendment, which guarantees the right of citizens to keep and bear arms. By prohibiting a specific type of firearm based on its caliber, the bill infringes on the fundamental rights of law-abiding gun owners. The Second Amendment was intended to protect the individual's right to possess firearms for self-defense, hunting, and other lawful purposes. Banning .50 caliber firearms undermines this constitutional right and sets a dangerous precedent for further restrictions on gun ownership.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 1:39:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB40 as it would be a direct violation upon my second amendment rights as a law abiding citizen. Bills like this is a clear example of taking away an everyday vehicle from sober drivers as a result of all the drunk drivers that ends up killing/hurting people.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 1:46:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strongly opposed.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 1:49:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 1:52:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This violates the 2nd amendment of the United States constitution. I oppose this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 1:58:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I insist the representatives of Hawaii to **OPPOSE** SB401 SD2 as it still infringes on the rights given by the 2nd amendment to the citizens of Hawaii. Passing such law will affect current and future generations of Hawaii state citizens both the right to bear arms as well as land management and essential environmental conservation practices such as hunting and wildlife management. SB402 SD2 will also negatively affect common 12 gauge firearms and ammunition that has been a mainstay of these activities.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 2:29:32 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I strongly support SB 401, SD 2!**

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 2:43:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Betsy Scolnik	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

strongly demand that you pass this. Stop messing around with the security and safety of Hawaii for a few votes!!!!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:13:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kayla Marie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this measure

**SB-401-SD-2**

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

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shirley Thompson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai‘i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

Respectfully,

Shirley Thompson

Aina Haina, Honolulu, HI

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:18:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Morgan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I strongly support SB401. Please protect Hawaii's keiki by passing this bill.**

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:20:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marty-Jean Bender	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since carry laws have become more and more lax, I am concerned about more firearms being present and then the temptation is to use them, especially in public places. I believe this bill is a starting point for containing gun violence. Military grade weapons have no place in our communities!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:20:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Veno	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**“Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai‘i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.”**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:20:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emily Thomas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I am a parent and teacher on Kauai and I am deeply concerned about an escalation of gun violence in Hawaii. Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

Please stop keep Hawaii safe!!!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:20:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tamra Hayden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i, sadly a lot of it has been in my community, the West Side of Oahu. We have to do better, all of us in Hawai'i, not just the areas where there has been an increase. To do better I support SB 401 SD2 and see it as an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life. We are not at war with each other, and we need to convey that message.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:22:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ann V Saffery	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Aloha All,**

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

Mahalo for all you do,

Ann V Saffery

Honolulu, HI

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:24:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am a resident of the State of Hawaii and support Bill SB401 and hope that you approve this Bill,

This is needed to protect our residents. Prohibiting firearms wiht high capacity magazines is critical to ensure our safety.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:24:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Penelope Hazzard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support all forms of gun control

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:27:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Karen Chun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Gun deaths and attacks have been increasing in Hawaii because of the Supreme Court loosening gun control laws. We need to do what we can to mitigate this damage.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:31:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Absolute violence is being unleashed across the nation through the ill-conceived and shambolic policies of the current administration. It's imperative we do what we can to protect our community locally.

SB401, SD2 is one tool that can help us do that.

Since the US Supreme Court eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have NO place in civilian life. PLEASE PASS THIS BILL AND MOVE IT FORWARD. Mahalo.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:32:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maryellen Tuttell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stop the insanity. The US is the only advanced nation that has this obsession with guns and that has this issue with mass shootings. Too many people have died.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:35:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
DeWaine Tollefsrud	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**There has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. This bill is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. There is no need for any non-military persons to possess this caliber of firearm.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:36:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. **SB 401 SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

Mahalo.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:37:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen A Valasek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:40:32 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christine L. Andrews, J.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:46:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joy Fisher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:52:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

2nd Amendment

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:53:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dan Gardner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Tarnas and Members of the Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee.

My wife Deborah and I are both military veterans and totally in support of SB410 SD2. Other than Military training, there is absolutely no good reason for 50 caliber ammunition to be used here in Hawaii. While on a destroyer in near shore waters during the Vietnam "conflict" i had the opportunity to fire the 50 Caliber machine gun. I still vividly remember its range and power as I type this today. It presents a threat to everyone including those who would wish use it. Please pass this legislation.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:53:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I want to express my frustration over the power of the gun lobby/NRA. Since the SCOTUS has leaned toward allowing open carry and high caliber guns to be held and carried in the U.S. we have seen a large spike in gun related deaths on mass levels. Personally I don't like guns, but I am ok w/others having a handgun for protection, or a hunting rifle if they enjoy hunting. BUT no one, literally NO ONE needs high powered automatic (or semiautomatic) weapons for protection or hunting. Every developed country around the world has REASONABLE limits on peoples rights to carry ARs in their country, and their gun deaths (esp mass shootings and SCHOOL shootings) are negligible compared to the U.S. We NEED REASONABLE gun regulation in this country, and we need them NOW! Thank you.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:54:03 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Yvonne Geesey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We don't need bazooka guns in Hawai'i.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:56:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Carla Allison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I strongly support SB401.** Military grade weapons have no place in Hawaii's civilian life. Please support SB401 to help protect our Hawaii families.

Thank you,

Carla Allison - Honolulu

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:57:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha State Legislators,

Aloha. Good morning/or afternoon. I'm also reaching out as a law abiding, U.S. citizen. I strongly oppose SB401, as it is a direct violation of our second amendment rights. Thank you again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Allan Sebastian

Pahala, HI 96777

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 3:59:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
JULIA I DAVIDSON	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:00:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laura Margulies	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life! Thank you for making the rational choice.**

Laura Margulies

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:09:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

ChatGPT said:

I strongly oppose SB 401, as it would unjustly turn many responsible firearm owners into felons overnight. The bill is so vaguely written that it effectively bans a wide range of the most popular sporting and hunting rifles, as well as common calibers used by law-abiding citizens. This overreach punishes responsible gun owners who use their firearms for legal and recreational purposes, such as hunting and sport shooting. Rather than addressing any real public safety concerns, SB 401 threatens to criminalize ordinary citizens and unfairly targets tools used for legal and legitimate activities. It is a broad and overbroad solution that does not effectively address the issues it claims to resolve, and I urge lawmakers to reject it.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:15:28 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
vivienne aronowitz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pleae provide protections against gun violence

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:15:32 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Another unconstitutional law. Why ban specific calibers? When was the last time someone died in hawaii from a 50 cal....Focus on real issues for the hawaii tax payers please.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:19:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place near children, families, grandparents, aunts and uncles.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:27:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrew Chang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a resident of Hawaii Kai in Kalama Valley, I support SB401 SD2 as a sensible step to limit access to extreme high-caliber weapons that have no place in our communities. This law enhances public safety without infringing on responsible gun ownership. It's a smart, measured approach to reducing the risk of future threats.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:28:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
christina Gasbarro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:28:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB 401, SD 2** - Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:29:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jesse Hutchison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**As a parent, I am particularly concerned about gun safety. Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:31:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bradley Shields	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly and support this bill.

We need much stronger, gun control legislation

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:34:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leah Morse	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:36:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lorna Farnum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:37:49 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bonnie Fraser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Military-grade weapons have no place in civilian society! Ever since the US Supreme Court eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there have been more gun-related violence incidents in Hawai‘i. SB 401 SD2 is a necessary step in the right direction to protect our community. Please prohibit firearms and/or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher. The military can continue to use them, but there is no reason for civilians to have them.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:41:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:44:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 4:59:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judith White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

Please, support this important, life saving measure.

Judith C. White, Psy.D.  
Kapaa

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 5:02:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please approve this bill to ban 50 caliber firearms. These firearms have no place in civilian hands. SB 401, SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons designed for the battlefield, not for our Aloha State.

Thank you for helping to keep our islands safe from gun violence.

Ellen Godbey Carson

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 5:04:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

Mahalo,

Jennifer Lum, 'Ewa Beach

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 5:07:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose.

Federal law allows this. Leave it as such.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 5:07:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Veronica Abney	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 5:08:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose. Today it's 50cal, next it's a smaller caliber until nothign is left. This is a slippery sloap. The feds already deemed 50 cal and smaller legal.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 5:19:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Derek Priddy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 5:35:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I Strongly Oppose

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 5:37:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dominique Meyer Gere	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Aloha,**

My name is Dominique Meyer Gere, and I am writing in support of bill SB 401.

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. **SB 401 SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

Mahalo,

Dominique Meyer Gere

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 5:51:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janie McQueen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 5:56:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judith Cucco	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**SB 401, SD 2** - Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 6:00:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 6:19:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Beth Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Aloha,**

**45 years ago gun violence was a very rare event in Hawaii. We didn't hear about gun violence like we do almost every night now on the news. This is not the direction we should be heading in.**

**We know that states with fewer gun regulations have more gun violence. The fewer the regulations, the greater the violence. Why would anyone think fewer gun regulations and allowing military type weapons on our streets is a good thing for Hawaii citizens?**

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. Let's not increase that violence.**

**SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**Please support SB 401 and prevent more gun violence in Hawaii. We are the aloha state, not the gun state that we seem to be turning into. Military grade firearms have no place in civilian life. Why would a civilian be allowed to own and carry this type of weapon? How is this in any way good for our State?**

**Mahalo for considering my views.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 6:26:09 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Asia Yeary	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Hello, I am a mother of an elementary school child and I am concerned about him safety in Hawaii. I recently witnessed a gun incident near my home. Children were around. It scared me and everyone nearby. Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life. Please stand up for all of the children and everyone else in Hawaii and support this bill. Please do the right thing to support nonviolence in our communities.**

Thank you!

Asia

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 6:28:55 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

To whom this may concern,

I strongly oppose this bill, it's an overreach of government and infringes on our second amendment rights. It will turn law abiding citizens in to criminals overnight. Hawaii already has struck gun laws but it also has one of the lowest gun crime rates in the country. Please consider all of this and vote no on this bill and protect our constitution!

Mahalo

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 6:31:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 6:38:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill as it's a waste of time and taxpayer money. What positive effect will this have on our community? When was the last time you heard of a crime being committed with a 50 caliber firearm? This is just another infringement on our 2nd amendment right that clearly states "shall not be infringed"

This bill directly violates Supreme Court precedent in Bruen, Heller, and Caetano and should not be passed. I recommend looking into bills that would better our community such as the hearing protection act. Do you community a service, not your country a disservice.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 6:38:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha!

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB401, which aims to ban .50 caliber firearms, despite the fact that crimes committed with these firearms are virtually non-existent. This legislation is unnecessary and will only serve to infringe upon the rights of law-abiding gun owners without addressing the real issues surrounding gun violence in our communities.

It is important to note that crimes committed with .50 caliber firearms are extremely rare. The vast majority of gun crimes are committed with handguns, not with .50 caliber rifles. Banning these firearms will not have a significant impact on reducing gun violence in our communities.

Furthermore, .50 caliber firearms are primarily used for sporting and recreational purposes, such as long-range shooting. Banning these firearms would unfairly target law-abiding gun owners who use them responsibly and safely.

Instead of focusing on banning specific types of firearms that are rarely used in crimes, we should be concentrating on addressing the root causes of gun violence and implementing measures that have been proven to be effective in reducing crime. This includes improving mental health services, addressing poverty and inequality, and implementing common-sense gun safety measures.

SB401 is an unnecessary and misguided piece of legislation that will not make our communities safer. I urge you to reject this bill and instead focus on evidence-based solutions that will address the real issues surrounding gun violence in our state.

Sincerely,

Josh Stueber

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 6:39:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Josef	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 6:44:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Chair and members- please pass this measure. It will make Hawaii's people safer.

Robert Marks

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 6:45:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Hello and thank you for your time. I highly oppose of Bill SB 401. It highly violates our second amendment rights. Our rights for freedoms and the rights to protect ourselves and families. We are law-abiding citizens not criminals thank you very much for your time aloha

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 6:48:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Webster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**SB 401, SD 2** - Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 7:07:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrea J Sussel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 7:30:28 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Christopher Rafael	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it goes against my 2nd amendment right to keep and bear arms which is guaranteed to me by the Constitution of the United States. The Supreme Law of the Land. The framer of the Constitution are not fools like the ones that created this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 7:41:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB 401.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 7:44:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sheila Gallien	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 7:45:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chase Cavitt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing today to express why I am opposed to SB401. I am writing to educate and encourage this committee to see how unnecessary this bill is for Hawai'i and the United States for that matter. Hawai'i has an extremely low number of crimes committed with firearms. This is thankfully due to the way of life and choices of the people here, far more so than the laws created to hinder certain firearm ownership. Facts should not be ignored when making laws to prevent violent crime. The facts in regards to this bill is that is wholesomely unnecessary and in fact unconstitutional. I will prove my claims later in this testimony and ask you to please do your duty and read this entire testimony and see that this is if fact unconstitutional and should not be passed. The fact that no .50 caliber firearm has been used in a single crime in Hawaii should not be ignored and is something most lawmakers seem to either ignore or are somehow unaware despite thousands of us telling these individuals year after year in testimony, phone calls and emails. Either the law makers completely ignore us or cannot understand reading the English language.

First let's define the .50 caliber firearms being discussed in the bill, specifically those that would be banned. The .50 caliber BMG is used with a rifle platform and is arguably the intention of this bill to ban. The 50 caliber handgun load is used with various modern handguns that are widely in circulation and are commonly owned and would be banned by this bill despite amendments made. Both would be banned by this bill if it becomes law in addition to the acquiring of most all shotguns despite the amendments after it is passed. Neither the .50 BMG nor any .50-caliber handguns are widely used in crimes and that is a fact. In fact, in an attempt to refute a 2004 statement from an NRA spokesperson that "The simple fact is that .50-calibers have not been used in crimes.", the Violence Policy Center lists a long list of criminals and crimes where a .50-caliber firearm or round was found, but there were only four cases in the United States, since the early 1990s, where a .50-caliber firearm was actually used to commit a crime. Most importantly, none of those crimes were in Hawai'i. I firmly believe anti-gun lawmakers within Hawai'i work to continue to chip away at rights regarding gun ownership each year. They prove that in any small, even meaningless bill that becomes law, they feel vindicated in their efforts at disarming honest Americans. This disheartens firearms owners and discourages us from speaking out as it is burdensome and time consuming and breaks us all down little by little.

Last year when this bill was being heard (it was not passed then) KHON2 reporters asked Karl Rhoads why the .50 caliber "should be banned if criminals do not often use them," a point not

even lost on the reporter for the station. "Because it's a weapon of war," Rhoads told the channel. "All these gun bills are drawing lines. There's a kitchen knife on this side, and there's a nuclear weapon on this side. So, where is it that you allow civilians to keep having it?" Just so you're aware Mr. Roads, the second amendment was not written strictly for hunting. God forbid our people would have to one day use firearms to protect us from an invading force or a domestic threat but if we did, a disarmed society would be far easier to take control of and an armed population could be a defining factor in remaining a free nation. Recreational range/ sport shooting, plus defense against threats foreign and domestic are integral factors to keeping this nation safe, as clarified within the 2nd amendment. The United States Constitution is very clear and has been even further clarified for all within multiple Supreme Court cases favoring those who hold my beliefs that the second amendment is necessary for this nation. This right is not to be infringed. This is an inalienable right and is not a privilege. This right isn't granted by the government, it is recognized as something granted by God.

As per the Supreme Court Bruen decision, this bill must pass two standards, that I will prove that it fails in both in order to be seen as consistent with the United States Constitution. The first of the two standards is if a firearm is both unusual and dangerous, and the second requirement is if the law matches historical intentions and laws of the land based on the founding father's intentions. The first point of review is that all firearms have some form of danger but they must be scrutinized as whether or not they are unusual and not something seen in the hands of the civilian population. Nuclear bombs would be both dangerous and unusual and would in fact fail the Bruen standards and could be banned from civilian use. The .50 caliber firearm though is something used in this nation widely by citizens throughout the entirety of American history. They are not unusual and are commonly owned by Americans and many of those located in the state of Hawai'i. They are not unusual and dangerous so they fail the first test under the Supreme Court Bruen decision. They are in fact useful for hunting wild boar when a knife and dogs isn't enough for protecting a boar hunter in Hawai'i specifically. I have encountered fully grown wild boar first hand at the ranch I work on and am about to go hunting a herd of 7 wild boars this week in order to keep our ranchers safe and guests that visit our ranch. I doubt many in this committee have ever encountered a wild boar themselves and I'd ask you to think about that for a minute. Would you rather be safe or take away the tools from those that protect others in order to think you are being safer? This tool saves lives and is perfectly useful for that purpose. Anyone who says otherwise is either ignorant or lying. The second point of scrutiny under of this bill would be in regards to historical precedent. This bill does not pass muster there either. This was a common caliber for firearms, hence the addition within this bill to exclude antique .50 caliber firearms. This is a common caliber for a firearm and not something that is not protected by the 2nd amendment and the Hawaii state constitution. This bill is unconstitutional and will fail when brought to the Supreme Court.

This bill will also fail when examined alongside the *Colombia v. Heller* and *Caetano v. Massachusetts* cases. In the *Heller* decision clears up the the 2nd amendment is an individual right, and allows us to protect ourselves not just within our homes but throughout the nation. The arms are protected and necessary for this right to be honored. The *Caetano* case allowed the carry of a stun gun as it was a arm that was commonly used throughout the nation with over 200,000 in

circulation. These firearms being proposed to be banned far outnumber that number and these facts should not be ignored. The fact alone that this bill recognizes that antique firearms must be made an exception from this ban proves that these are common caliber firearms used for centuries in this nation and fully intended to be protected by the 2nd amendment. This body should not be working to tear down the 2nd amendment and should consider legal cases such as these when attempting to take away rights of law abiding Americans citizens.

The costs incurred in tax dollars spent defending an unconstitutional bill could be far better spent on actual firearm education, medical/ mental health care for Hawai'i citizens and even free firearm safety programs throughout all islands that people can attend for free at all ages. A new approach should be considered. Something that addresses the issues and not the tools used. Make our islands safer while not demonizing law abiding citizens and ignoring the actual problems. Please work with us to create firearm training available for those who might have interest. Make it easy and free for citizens and encourage education and stop demonizing law abiding citizens. Talk to judges and prosecutors and get them to actually charge and hold criminals responsible and stop blaming those of us who do not create any issues.

I encourage you to consider facts and reasoning beyond feelings. This bill will not stop crimes that literally are not being committed. This bill will make criminals out of currently law abiding citizens. This unconstitutional bill shall not be passed and will not hold up. Please vote NO on SB401.

Mahalo,

Chase Cavitt

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 7:52:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 8:01:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing today to express why I am opposed to SB401. This bill is unnecessary for Hawai‘i and will not make anyone safer. I’d argue that it would in fact make my husband and many others less safe. Hawai‘i has an extremely low number of crimes committed with firearms and that is a great fact. Facts should not be ignored when making laws to prevent violent crime. The facts in regards to this bill is that is wholesomely unnecessary and in fact unconstitutional. I will prove my claims later in this testimony and ask you to please do your duty and read this entire testimony and see that this is if fact unconstitutional and should not be passed.

First let’s define the .50 caliber firearms being discussed in the bill, specifically those that would be banned. First off, it bans all shotguns by way of ignorance of firearms via the authors of the bill even with the amendment made. A .50 caliber shotgun coach gun or break action shotgun could be used to fire a .50 caliber round. This wouldn’t be smart to do so and most of the powder wouldn’t burn and it would be significantly less useful but it can be used with that round so this de facto would ban all 12 gauge shotguns by way of ignorance or possibly as intended by the authors. The .50 caliber BMG is used with a rifle platform and is the most common but not only .50 caliber rifle. A 50 baeowolf round is also common and would be made illegal to possess with this bill. The 50 caliber round designed for a handgun is used with various modern handguns that are widely in circulation and are commonly owned. All three types of firearms would be banned by this bill if it becomes law. Neither the .50 BMG nor any .50-caliber handguns are widely used in crimes and that is a fact. I would go out on a limb to say not one crime ever has been committed with a shotgun with .50 caliber ammunition yet it would be banned by this bill. In fact, in an attempt to refute a 2004 statement from an NRA spokesperson that “The simple fact is that .50-calibers have not been used in crimes.”, the Violence Policy Center lists a gives a list of criminals and crimes where a .50-caliber firearm or round was found, but there were only four cases in the United States, since the early 1990s, where a .50-caliber firearm was actually used to commit a crime. Most importantly, none of those crimes were in Hawai‘i. I firmly believe anti-gun lawmakers within Hawai‘i work to continue to chip away at rights regarding gun ownership each year. This is a death by a thousand cuts tactic designed to dissuade and diminish opposition and to make lawmakers used to the process of removing rights in an attempt to make it easier for them to choose to do again in the future. Regardless of how small, even meaningless a gun bill that becomes law, they feel vindicated in their efforts at disarming honest Americans.

Last year when this bill was presented and did not pass. Also the year before. The United States Constitution is very clear. This right is not to be infringed. This is an inalienable right and is not a privilege. This right isn't granted by the government, it is recognized as something granted by God.

As per the Supreme Court Bruen decision, this bill must pass two standards, and I will prove that it fails in both in order to be seen as consistent with the United States Constitution. The first of the two standards is if a firearm is both unusual and dangerous, and the second requirement is if the law matches historical intentions and laws of the land based on the founding father's intentions. The first point of review is that all firearms have some form of danger but they must be scrutinized as whether or not they are unusual and not something seen in the hands of the civilian population. Nuclear bombs would be both dangerous and unusual and would in fact fail the Bruen standards and could be banned from civilian use. The .50 caliber firearm though is something used in this nation widely by citizens throughout the entirety of American history. They are not unusual and are commonly owned by Americans and many of those located in the state of Hawai'i. They are not unusual and dangerous so they fail the first test under the Supreme Court Bruen decision. They are in fact useful for hunting wild boar when a knife and dogs isn't enough for protecting a boar hunter in Hawai'i specifically. I am personally worried about this as my husband is a rancher on Maui and hunts boars to keep himself and his workers safe. He literally is going to hunt a group of boars this week as they have been rooting around and have become more brazen and aren't scared of people now and come right up to the barn. I have encountered fully grown wild boar first hand and I doubt many in this committee have themselves but they are not something you want to have cornered without tools to defend yourself. This tool saves lives and is perfectly useful for that purpose. Anyone who says otherwise is either ignorant or lying. The second point of scrutiny under of this bill would be in regards to historical precedent. This bill does not pass muster there either. This was a common caliber for firearms, hence the addition within this bill to exclude antique .50 caliber firearms. This bill is unconstitutional and will fail when brought to the Supreme Court.

The costs incurred in tax dollars spent defending an unconstitutional bill could be far better spent on actual firearm education, medical/ mental health care for Hawai'i citizens and even free firearm safety programs throughout all islands that people can attend for free at all ages. A new approach should be considered. Something that addresses the issues and not the tools used. Make our islands safer while not demonizing law abiding citizens and ignoring the actual problems.

I encourage you to consider facts and reasoning beyond feelings. This bill will not stop crimes that literally are not being committed. This bill will make criminals out of currently law abiding citizens. This unconstitutional bill should not be passed and will not hold up in court if it is passed and will waste Hawai'i tax dollars. Please vote NO on SB401.

Mahalo,

Tenessa Cavitt

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 8:13:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I Strongly OPPOSE Senate Bill 401 because it has already been determined unconstitutional at higher courts that this type of law would prohibit a law abiding citizen to possess any firearm capable of firing ammunition of 50 caliber or higher. If passed, law-abiding gun owners would become criminals overnight for possessing their currently legal firearms.

David V

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 8:16:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I do not support this bill. It is a violation of my second amendment rights as an American citizen

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 8:19:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
gabrielle davidson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Please, please support this bill. This is extremely important. Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life. My stress levels have increased since the Supreme Court ruling and affects my day to day life. I and countless others will feel much safer if they are not allowed. Thank you for the chance to testify.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 8:22:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eileen Cain	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

This bill has far too many exclusions and exceptions. All of these weapons should be banned.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 8:29:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Catherine Lau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Firearms with a capacity to fire ammunition of 50 calibers or higher is unnecessary in civilian life. SB401 SD2 is an important step to protect our community as the Supreme Court has unleashed gun related violence since easing the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places. Having been threatened at work by an angry patient, I would like to go back to a time when we could feel safe in our homes and workplaces.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 8:29:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Collins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 8:33:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ed Au	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to respectfully voice my opposition to SB 401, SD2, which seeks to prohibit firearms with the capacity to fire ammunition of fifty caliber or higher, with limited exemptions.

1. **Disproportionate Impact on Law-Abiding Citizens:** This bill restricts a category of firearms that are predominantly used by responsible gun owners for lawful purposes, including sport shooting, competitive marksmanship, and collecting. The exemption for firearms legally obtained before 2026 provides limited relief and still places a heavy burden on law-abiding citizens.
2. **Limited Practical Benefits:** There is little evidence to suggest that firearms of fifty caliber or higher are disproportionately used in crimes. Banning these firearms may not significantly contribute to public safety and risks diverting attention from more impactful measures, such as addressing illegal firearm possession and improving mental health resources.
3. **Challenges in Implementation and Enforcement:** Regulating and identifying firearms based on caliber poses administrative and enforcement challenges, potentially leading to confusion among both citizens and law enforcement.
4. **Erosion of Constitutionally Protected Rights:** This measure raises concerns about potential infringement on Second Amendment rights. Any firearm regulation must carefully balance public safety objectives with respect for these rights.

I urge the Committee to reconsider this bill and explore alternative strategies that focus on addressing the root causes of gun violence, rather than imposing broad restrictions on responsible gun owners.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 8:34:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha ,

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

I Strongly Oppose,

•SB308

•SB401

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

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

I thank you for your time and your service.

Ronnie Gonzales

(808)385-3343

Ronniec93@gmail.com

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 8:36:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marguerite Koster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life. Thank you for your support.**

Marguerite Koster

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 8:38:10 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401

Again, your only infringing on 2nd Amendment right for "LAW ABIDING " citizens.  
CRIMINALS & EVIL people DON'T care what laws you make. Address the REAL problem,  
people with mental / emotional problems.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 8:53:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill specifically targets firearms that use 50 caliber ammunition and this is completely unconstitutional. How many crimes are committed with this kind of firearm? Why are you trying to ban tools that have been legal for years. Please reconsider this course of action. This measure will not make anyone safer. Stop limiting our ability to choose for ourselves what types of tools we want to use for self-defense. The 2nd amendment is there to limit you the government along with the 14th amendment which is applicable to this you as well. You are violating my constitutional rights. We should not be appeasing Giffords, our current laws already infringe on our rights. Do not pass this Bill. Stop the insanity of banning stuff.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 8:58:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anthony Gasbarro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. **SB 401 SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 9:05:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Luke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Aloha Chair Tarnas, VC Poepoe, and members of the Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee,**

Gun violence has come to our islands and our federal government is in chaos allowing firearms to be carried in our public places. **SB 401 SD2 will help** protect our community. I humbly ask you to prohibit firearms or rifles used to fire 50-caliber or higher ammunition. There is no place in civilian life for military grade weapons.

Please vote to support SB 401 SD2 to protect our community.

Mahalo,

Karen in Ewa Beach

A mile away from Campbell High School

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 9:12:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mary Ellen Williams	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Since the Supreme Court decision to allow firearms to be carried in public places, gun violence has been on the rise. Military grade weapons with the capacity to fire .50 caliber or higher do not belong in the hands of civilians and on the streets. Please support SB 401 to prevent an increase in gun violence.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 9:34:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

There has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii since the Supreme Court made it easier for more firearms to be carried in public places.

I support all bills which will keep our community safe. Firearms are not toys. They kill. Firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of at least 50 caliber, with certain exceptions, should be added to the list of prohibited weapons. Please move this bill forward.

Please move this bill forward.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 9:41:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Stayton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

Please support SB401 SD2. Thank you for your consideration.

Aloha,

Susan, Lawai, Kauai

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 9:48:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose HB401 and ask you to vote NO on it. This is an unconstitutional bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:01:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

“Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai‘i. **SB 401 SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.”

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:01:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB401. Hawai'i's firearms laws are already some of the most strict in the nation. Further bans and restrictions will only criminalize thousands of law abiding citizens, and will further fuel the black market here in Hawai'i. And if you don't believe that the black market will thrive, just take a cold hard look at what it has done with fireworks.

Many Hawai'i citizens are already owners of these firearms with with a capacity for 50 caliber or greater (ie 12 ga shotguns), what will happen to them?

Bans are a bad idea. This arena for firearms is already strict & regulated.

The problem is not firearms, it's irresponsible people that make firearms bad.

These bans won't fix the bad behavior.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:06:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Aloha, I am writing in favor of SB401 SD2. I am for banning these kinds of weapons on the state level. Mahalo.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:13:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:17:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose.

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs (JHA)  
Hearing: Thursday, March 13, 2025, at 2:00 PM  
Regarding: **SB 401 SD2 (Relating to Firearms)**  
**Voter Position: OPPOSITION**

Representatives of the JHA Committee,

I express my continued **opposition** to **SB 401 SD2 (Relating to Firearms)**.

### **Irrational Premise**

**SB 401 SD2** continues the same objective of criminalizing ownership of a firearm with no express justification aside from mere conjecture and imagination. The current Senate draft edition presented before you removed the sections articulating an imagined danger posed. Such removal occurred since there is no real danger posed.

### **SB 401 SD2 Still Sets a Bad Precedent**

The wording in the original **SB 401** draft historically sought to ban lawfully acquired shotguns and would have criminalized shotgun owners with no valid basis. The repeat inclusion of this wording year after year is not accidental. The wording is always included every single time the measure is re-introduced, under a different bill number, of course. **SB 401 SD2** finally corrects this error in its 2025 edition, but the annual re-insertion of language that would have banned shotguns every year prior made me realize something: **SB 401 SD2** is a prototypical legislative platform that will be used to argue that *any* firearm should be banned simply based upon the imagined scenario that *any* firearm may be used by some unspecified threat actor at some unspecified time in the future against some unspecified target.

Passage of **SB 401 SD2** would only enhance calls to ban future lawful acquisition of firearms, whether rifle or pistol. Arguments supporting such future legislation would claim that “dangerous” firearms that can fire .50 caliber rounds were banned in 2025, so why stop there? Why not ban *other* firearms in 2026? If there are no current, real threats posed by current owners of firearms that can accommodate .50 caliber rounds appearing in the news right *now* (at this very moment in time), there will be no such threat *tomorrow*. Such argument of a future threat is purely imaginative.

If there is no clear evidence of a specific threat by a specific threat actor against a specific Hawaii-based target present now, I’ll find it highly suspicious that future calls to ban firearms capable of firing .50 caliber rounds in 2026 are backed by “new reports” that are suddenly generated by a partisan legislative agencies or privatized special-interest lobby groups. Speculation of future dangers will always be generated by fear-mongering special interest groups and such speculation will always be the basis for future firearm bans.

**No Current Threat? No Problem.**

**SB 401 SD2**, like the original draft, continues to fail the logic test once again in 2025. Without a justifiable threat, there is no justifiable need for a ban other than for the sake of pedantic virtue signaling. If baseless conjecture is still used to justify passage of **SB 401 SD2**, then the conjecture that .50 caliber firearms used in a defensive posture against several heavily-armored criminal actors should still be a sufficient conjecture to counter **SB 401 SD2**.

Thank you for taking the time to review this testimony.

Respectfully,

Ryan C. Tinajero

Constituent of **House District 48**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:19:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**STRONG SUPPORT!**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:19:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ellen Ebata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**“Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai‘i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.”**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:23:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I can not oppose this any more vehemently. This is an egregious 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 direct in your duties and you will be dealt with accordingly. Historically, they had a specific punishment for traitors. You've been informed.

Aloha

Why don't you try stopping actual criminals from committing crimes? Not making innocent citizens into arbitrary criminals.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:32:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
martha chantiny	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**The US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in public places, leading to an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai‘i. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:35:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB401 SD2 as it is a direct infringement on our second amendment rights. These jurisdictions always come every year with similar proposed infringements and each year I oppose them strongly. This is not an intelligent direction to combat phantom problems as it neglects the actual issues and is indicative of the pushing of an agenda. You cannot simply implement a grandfather clause and expect people to think it is no longer an infringement.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:47:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bil is clearly unconsitutional.

50 caliber firearms are not more dangerous that any other firearms chambered in any other caliber. So why single them out?

If a law abiding citizen is permitted to acquire and possess such a firearm, a ban on this type of firearm is not lawful.

50 caliber arms as does any other type of firearms falls under Second Amendment protections in that they are in common use by millions off law abiding citizens across our nation and in our state.

They are common, as common as arms chambered in 9mm, 45, 40 S&W, 10mm, 22 cal etc. There is no reason to restrict them just because they are a larger caliber. They are not innately more dangerous and absolutely not unusual.

Please kill this bill and do what is Pono according to the highest law of our land.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:54:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathy Shimata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,.

My name is Kathy Shimata & I live in Honolulu.

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

I urge you to support this common-sense bill.

Mahalo,

Kathy Shimata

Honolulu. 96822

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:08:09 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

SB401 These bills are an overreach that punishes responsible gun owners while failing to address crime or public safety.

please oppose SB401

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:18:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gaye Chan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. This Bill is an important step in the right direction to make us all safer. Firearms with capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:20:55 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

VOTD NO.

i Sri got oppose SB 401

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:43:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Even with the amendments, it's too vague and broadly worded. Regardless of that, it's absolutely an infringement on 2nd Amendment rights. I see no reason this is even necessary in the first place. What crime is being committed with a .50cal? Where are the criminals walking around with one of those? What actual issue is this solving? This just screams more control for sake of control. I strongly oppose.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 11:48:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

i oppose this bill!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:04:21 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wayne Levin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:04:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Let me start by saying I am starting to lose faith in our system. Despite overwhelming testimony against these unconstitutional bills, our voices remain unheard. This demonstrates that the authors of this bill continue to push a personal agenda and do not listen to their constituents.

To my knowledge, no crimes in Hawaii have ever been committed by a 50 cal. I do not own one nor do I desire to own one, but I will not limit the right of anybody who wants to own one. This law tries to solve a nonexistent problem and violate our constitutional rights. This does not have public safety in mind but rather just another personal agenda being pushed by a lawmaker. I strongly oppose this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:18:44 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**I support SB 401, SD2**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:41:49 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill as an infringement of my 2nd Amendment Rights.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:40:53 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Anne Leake	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life. Please pass SB401. Mahalo.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 4:11:10 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christine Dobrowolski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

I'm concerned about the increase in gun violence in Hawaii. It is completely reasonable to prohibit firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher, and I don't see how this violates anyone's constitutional rights because these are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

Thank you,

Christine

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 5:24:42 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
The Rev. Prof. GREGORY JOHNSON	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Military grade weapons have no place in civilian life. Pass this bill. Keep our communities safe.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 5:43:17 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michelle Bonk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i.**

**SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical.**

**These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 5:43:29 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Zoa Dubarry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life. Access to these miliary weapons in public life makes everyone less safe and these weapons have already caused too much tragedy.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 5:45:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I do not support this bill as it continues to infringe on our rights. This is also unnecessary and does not accomplish any thing positive for our communities.

crimes are committed by criminals who DO NOT follow laws!

please terminate this bill as it is meaningless.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:14:52 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:15:50 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Montague	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 401. Hawaii needs stronger gun laws.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:22:30 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This is unconstitutional!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:23:13 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:26:01 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elena Arinaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

Please pass this important bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:37:15 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I still strongly Oppose this bill. This infringes on We the People's Constitutional rights.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:39:40 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Margaret Merryman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Military weapons have no place in civilian life. Please pass this bill to help keep us safer here in Hawai'i. Aloha, Margaret Merryman, Kauai

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:45:10 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB 401 SD2. This bill is an infringement on both the second amendment of the United States Constitution, and Article one; section seventeen, of the Hawai'i State Constitution. The language and the intent of this bill are unconstitutional. SB 401 SD2, is a solution for a problem that does not exist. The language of this bill will make law abiding citizens, into criminals, overnight. The language and intent of SB 401 SD2, does nothing for public safety. SB 401 SD2, does nothing to punish the already existing criminal element, because criminals do nothing to follow the law. If passed, SB 401 SD2, will make soft targets of law abiding citizens, making us more vulnerable to violent criminals and other imposing, tyrannical elements including but not limited to, domestic terrorists and foreign invasions.

Banning the sale, use and ownership of firearms, capable of firing projectiles that are .50 caliber or larger, is a tremendous overreach of the state government. Firearms capable of firing projectiles, .50 caliber or larger, are tools that are needed for a "well regulated militia." These tools in the hands of well trained, law abiding citizens, can be a force multiplier, when defending against tyrannical foreign invasions, and domestic terrorism. We the people, are the militia, and it is our inalienable right to own and possess, these types of firearms, as law abiding citizens, with the intent of use for lawful purposes, if we so choose.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:51:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

As a pediatrician and concerned parent, I strongly support this bill. Mahalo.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:57:20 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill SB401

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:08:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401. As a legal firearms owner and registered hunter, taking away legal firearms calibers goes against our 2nd amendment rights.

Keith Shirota

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:12:15 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Hello All,

This bill violates our Constitutional and God given rights. I strongly oppose.

Very Respectfully,

Quinn S.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:15:23 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SB401. I have felt safer living in Hawaii because of the gun laws we have. Please do not weaken them. Please even strengthen them further! Mahalo

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:18:02 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

All gun laws are unconstitutional

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:23:25 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. It is an infringement on my second amendment rights.

Sincerely,

Tad Sumida

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:23:26 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB401

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:27:26 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Enforce the laws we currently have while encouraging self-defense.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:34:43 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathy Hammes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB410 SD2.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:38:28 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly disagree with SB401

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:40:13 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401 SD2. Bans firearms capable of firing .50 caliber or higher, including many hunting and sporting rifles, with only limited exemptions.

These bills are an overreach that punishes responsible gun owners while failing to address crime or public safety. 2nd Amendment, shall not be infringed.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:43:04 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Stop infringing on our Second Amendment rights!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:44:46 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in testimony to oppose this bill. I believe this bill goes against my 2nd amendment right and will turn law abiding citizens into criminals. I ask that you uphold your vow to follow the constitution and the rights of the people.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:45:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose this bill. Passing such a law will not prevent any more crime or deter criminals. This bill does not make the population safe but just proves how the unconstitutional infringement of the people's 2A rights are being trampled on.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:00:53 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB401

SB401's ban on .50 caliber firearms is a clear violation of the Second Amendment, which guarantees the right of citizens to keep and bear arms. By prohibiting a specific type of firearm based on its caliber, the bill infringes on the fundamental rights of law-abiding gun owners. The Second Amendment was intended to protect the individual's right to possess firearms for self-defense, hunting, and other lawful purposes. Banning .50 caliber firearms undermines this constitutional right and sets a dangerous precedent for further restrictions on gun ownership.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:01:36 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
JANE TOLLEFSRUD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Firearms with high-capacity shooting have no place in our communities- they are made for the military! This would be a good place to begin measures that support safety regulations for purchase and use. Violence has risen dramatically, with no bars of regulation. The time is now! Please support this bill!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:03:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401. It volatile my constitutional rights

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:05:44 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support SB401 SD2

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:09:59 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Ez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:10:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Shall not be infringed. Strongly opposed.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:12:09 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:13:47 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:19:09 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

aloha,

I citizen of the United States of America oppose bill 401 SB. This is an attempt to unconstitutionally restrict and control our 2nd amendments rights specifically firearms capable of firing .50 caliber or higher, including many hunting and sporting rifles, with only limited exemptions further restricting firearm owners.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:23:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am submitting testimony in opposition of this bill. The banning of higher caliber firearms will not affect the crimes committed in our state. It will only erode the rights of Hawaii's law abiding citizens. I strongly urge that this bill not be passed. Protect the rights of Hawaii's law abiding citizens and enact harsher penalties for the individuals who break the law. Thank you for your time.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:25:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

i oppose thi bill does not stop crime

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:27:01 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE BILL SB401

"The right of the people to keep and bear Arms, SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED"

Why do are "elected" officials continue to chip away at law abiding citizens' rights?

This bill will not stop criminals from having weapons or ammunition and who have no qualms regarding hurting innocent people. The only thing bills like this do is prevent law abiding citizens from defending themselves and their families from criminals with weapons and over reaching governments.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:27:23 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:27:31 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Hello,

I would like you to OPPOSE this bill in its entirety. Having owned a 50 caliber rifle this bill will not improve public safety because I have not seen a 50 caliber rifle used in crimes in Hawaii. These restrictions purpose is to slowly erode the constitutional rights of the law abiding firearm owners. It may make anti-gun advocates happy but does nothing else.

Please OPPOSE this bill in its entirety.

Barry Aoki

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:27:34 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patti Hawkins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:27:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I submit this testimony in OPPOSITION to SB401.

I do not support any law or regulation that violates the second amendment of the US Constitution.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:29:24 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill is unconstitutional, I oppose.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:30:40 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose. This bill is not in the best interest of the people of Hawaii.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:33:53 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it infringes upon our Second Amendment rights!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:34:36 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

taking to much from law abiding citizens.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:36:15 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elise Yukimura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:36:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elisabeth Browning	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**SB 401, SD 2** - Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:39:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha to all Honorable Members of Hawaii's Legislature,

My name is Martin Humpert. I am a life long citizen of the State of Hawaii, and have long been involved with the shooting sports. As a certified firearms instructor, I have trained hundreds of members of the public in the safe use and handling of firearms.

As a qualified expert in firearms, I urge all members of Hawaii's legislature to oppose SB401. This bill is an unwarranted intrusion upon the constitutional rights of The Most law abiding portion of Hawaii's population, its vetted gun owners. I am also telling you that SB401 will not do anything to stop criminal behavior because virtually no criminal attacks in Hawaii have occurred using a 50 caliber or larger firearm. National statistics clearly show the vast majority of criminal misuse of firearms entails handguns, not 50 caliber or larger rifles. Nationally, statistics also show the instances of 50 caliber or larger firearms being used in crime is statistically insignificant. It virtually never happens.

In reality, SB401 is completely unwarranted and represents an attack on civil rights, and all of Hawaii's honest law abiding citizens. Please do not deny civil rights by supporting bad legislation that is unconstitutional and will have no affect on criminal activity.

Thank you,

Martin Humpert

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:42:12 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:44:44 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Asta Miklius	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:45:37 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Stop taking Law abiding citizens guns rights away it unconstitutional

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:52:08 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Terri Gately	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since the U.S. Supreme court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried , there has been an increase in gun violence in Hawaii. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of the 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These military grade weapons have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:52:34 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Gasiorek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I support a restriction on guns in Hawai'i. There is no place for military-grade weapons in civilian life in our community. As a mother, educator, and community member, I want to my family, friends, and students to live in a safe community -- which means a community without guns (and especially the kind of guns this bill would restrict).**

**Mahalo for your consideration.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:01:59 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Since SCOTUS eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun related violence in Hawaii. High capacity, military grade weapons have NO place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:03:09 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Hello, and thank you for reading my testimony. I urge you to oppose SB401 SD2. This bill will do nothing to impact crime. Ammunition of fifty caliber or higher requires a firearm that is usually several thousand dollars in price. Ammunition for these types of calibers is expensive, and not readily available. This bill will do nothing except strip away rights of law abiding citizens, and will not impact violent crime. As a federal law enforcement officer who has been working inside the Federal Detention Center, Honolulu, for the past 18 years, I can say from experience I have not ever heard of an individual charged or sentenced for a crime involving a firearm or ammunition at the 50 caliber level or above. Thank you for reading my testimony.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:08:29 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please 50 cal weapons have never been used in crime in Hawaii please stay away from these type of firearms laws, you are wasting our tax dollars. Thank you .

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:09:59 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I believe this bill is an infringement of our second ammendment rights and there is no precedent cases where this bill will be effective.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:10:04 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill which does nothing to address the root causes of violence; a weak and lenient criminal justice system, inadequate mental health services, and rampant drug use. Please show the public statistics where these "high caliber firearms" were used in crimes. I think you will find there are virtually none across the nation. Thus this is another government overreach with no benefit to public safety.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:10:54 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am opposed to this bill for several reasons. Senate Bill SB308 seeks to ban large magazine capacities, and now, it aims to restrict firearms with much lower magazine capacities than those found in many pistols. It appears we are moving toward banning items based on hypothetical scenarios, which is concerning. If we are to justify restrictions based on theoretical risks, then, by that logic, we might also consider banning firearms for police officers due to the theoretical risk of a mental breakdown leading to the misuse of their weapons, potentially harming an innocent civilian. Should we remove firearms from law enforcement entirely in anticipation of such a scenario?

Furthermore, I would like to address a point directly from SSCR552:

“According to the Department of Law Enforcement in its testimony provided at the public hearing held on this measure, fifty caliber firearms are capable of penetrating buildings, vehicles, and protective equipment, making them particularly dangerous when used in criminal activities or acts of violence. This measure addresses this gap in the law by prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of fifty caliber or higher, which is a grade of firearm lacking an essential public use justifying the continued permission of this type of weapon under state law.”

If we follow this reasoning, it would seem prudent to reconsider the use of various other potentially dangerous items. For instance, vehicles, airplanes, and even knives can all be used in harmful ways. Unfortunately, we have witnessed tragic events where planes and vehicles have been used to cause significant damage, yet they remain widely accessible and in high use. It would be valuable to compare the frequency of violent acts and fatalities caused by vehicles and planes with the instances of harm caused by civilian use of .50 caliber firearms.

I urge you to consider these broader implications before proceeding with such legislation.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:11:54 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tryslynn Kauionalani Jones	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose this bill because it strips away my 2nd Amendment freedom as a law abiding citizen.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:13:28 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:13:45 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am in strong opposition of this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:15:20 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it infringes on my 2nd amendment right

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:20:59 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

2A

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:28:37 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:28:42 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a resident of Kaneohe and writing in strong support of SB401. This is simply a common sense safety precaution.

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

Please do the right thing for the safety of our communities. Please choose the safety of the public over the wishes of a few gun enthusiasts.

Thank you,

Ashley de Coligny

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:30:52 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401. Again limiting the firepower of law abiding citizens when the state cannot protect its citizens.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:31:00 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

My name is Sean Collins. I am a National Rifle Association Certified Firearms Instructor. I strongly oppose SB401.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:35:49 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401 because it targets firearms which are rarely used in crimes, making the bill unnecessary. Additionally, these firearms, often costing thousands of dollars, are cost-prohibitive for the average criminal, rendering this legislation an overreach that burdens law-abiding owners without addressing a real public safety threat.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:37:59 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Everyone,

My Name is Taz Gamble, and I am writing in opposition of SB 401. The language of the second ammendment is written as, "shall not be infringed." There is no caveat excluding certain makes, manufacturers, and even calibers from being protected. A blanket ban on one caliber is a stepping stone to banning all calibers and ultimately a ban on all guns. Focusing in on the .50 caliber specifically, this is a caliber that is in common use and ownership across the nation, and use of .50 caliber guns make up less than a percent of firearm crimes in the history of our country. Narrowing down to the state of Hawaii, a .50 caliber firearm has never been used in a criminal way, and therefore banning them under the guise of safety is deceptive. I ask that you uphold our constitutional rights and hope that you vote in opposition to this obvious infringement.

Thank you for your time,

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:39:39 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:43:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

Passage of this will will result in another igoovernmental overreach that penalize law abiding citizens while failing to address public safety.

I request you vote "NO" on SB401

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:45:02 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dawn O'Brien	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Leaders of Hawai'i's People,

TYSVM for taking time for written testimony as I work several jobs to pay taxes & cost of living in Hawai'i & cannot make it to the State Capitol to testify. I'm grateful for this option & your consideration of these testimonies.

I stand in **STRONG** opposition to SB401 outlawing weapons of self-defense. This is an egregious violation of the Constitution of the United States of America, second amendment. We the citizenry are granted inalienable rights to defend ourselves from both foreign AND domestic threats, even our own government. And this is a violation of those rights and exactly why the founding fathers and authors of the Constitution included the 2nd Amendment--against these types of tyrannical powers. This is outrageous overreach!

Why would this be a good idea in Hawaii when most of the population is already without arms? Where concealed carry is highly limited, only recently legalized, and still delayed by the process of permitting? Where is there such a need to regulate the population who are already stripped of rights to arm themselves? NONE.

In summary, this bill will introduce Nazi-like tyranny for a bloodlusting enforcement which is never a good idea. I stand in strong opposition to SB401 and urge you to vote against it also.

Mahalo & Malama,

Dawn O'Brien

President, HOPE HI, Inc.

Lifelong resident & taxpaying citizen of Hawai'i for over 40 years

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:49:12 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB401. It does nothing for public safety. It is nothing more than a feel good law that harasses law abiding citizens. I have never heard of anyone being killed or injured by a .50 cal round. Nor have I heard of and vehicles or aircraft being shot down. It happens only in a Hollywood script.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:52:28 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose bill SB401 it's a direct violation of our second ammendment rights.

Ian Silva Ookala Hi

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:53:40 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joseph P Vesperas Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it violates my constitutional rights.

Joseph Vesperas

Hilo Hawaii 96720

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:55:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Terriann Mohideen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**SB 401 SUPPORT**

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

My name is Terriann Mohideen, I am a mother and a resident of Hawaii. I urge you to support SB 401. Firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of fifty caliber or greater are weapons of war with the capability of piercing an armored vehicle from a mile away. We do not want civilians owning these in our state. Please help keep us safe by passing this bill. Thank you.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:01:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

What part of Shall not infringe do you folks not undetstand? Stop limiting private citizens rights and powers when your are a public servant!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:03:54 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Unlike many written testimonies, I am not an automated bot or a "copy and paste" simpleton.

I write this testimony to voice my opposition of bill SB401. This is yet another infringement of we the people's constitutional right to bear arms and self protection. As a vicious dog attack survivor, I have every right to protect myself and my family.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:10:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose bill because it will declare a range of legitimate large-bore hunting firearms to be illegal. Examples may be found among firearms used for dangerous African game. These are often extremely costly and historically valuable. If the intent of this bill is to address destructive military-grade weaponry, then it should be written specifically for that and not broadly.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:11:10 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. I am a law abiding citizen and this is a direct infringement on my 2nd amendment rights as written in the U.S. constitution.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:14:32 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**Opposition to Hawaii SB401: An Unconstitutional Attack on Law-Abiding Gun Owners**

Honorable members of the committee, Hawaii Senate Bill 401 (SB401) is an unconstitutional overreach that directly violates the rights of law-abiding citizens by arbitrarily banning firearms based on caliber size rather than actual misuse. This bill is not about public safety—it is a blatant attempt to disarm responsible gun owners while doing nothing to deter crime.

**1. SB401 Criminalizes Law-Abiding Gun Owners**

SB401 targets firearms simply because they fire ammunition of fifty caliber or higher, a category that includes common and legally owned firearms. Many shotguns, widely used for home defense, hunting, and sport shooting, exceed this caliber threshold. By enacting SB401, the government is not disarming criminals—it is criminalizing responsible citizens who have followed every legal requirement to own and operate their firearms safely.

**2. No Evidence Supports the Ban**

The foundation of SB401 is built on fear-mongering rather than facts. There is no significant data proving that .50 caliber firearms are used in violent crimes in Hawaii or anywhere else in the United States. These firearms are expensive, large, and almost exclusively used for lawful purposes, such as long-range target shooting and competitive marksmanship. SB401 is a solution in search of a problem, punishing gun owners for crimes they have never committed and never will.

**3. A Direct Violation of the Second Amendment**

The Supreme Court has consistently ruled against blanket firearm bans that fail to justify a substantial connection to public safety. In *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008) and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022), the Court affirmed that the right to bear arms is a fundamental constitutional right that cannot be arbitrarily restricted. SB401 is exactly the kind of unconstitutional infringement these rulings were meant to prevent—an emotionally driven law that disregards precedent and individual rights.

**4. Sets a Dangerous Precedent for Future Gun Bans**

This bill is not just about .50 caliber firearms. It sets a legal precedent that allows the state to ban firearms based on arbitrary classifications. Today, it's .50 caliber rifles—tomorrow, it could be any firearm that legislators deem "too powerful" or "unnecessary." This is a calculated step toward incremental disarmament, stripping citizens of their right to self-defense piece by piece.

#### 5. SB401 Ignores the Real Issue: Criminal Behavior

Gun violence is not caused by responsible gun owners—it is caused by criminals who have no regard for the law. Instead of targeting criminals, SB401 focuses on restricting lawful firearm ownership. Meanwhile, Hawaii continues to struggle with rising crime rates, and this bill does nothing to address the root causes of violence. If lawmakers were serious about public safety, they would focus on enforcing existing laws against violent offenders rather than attacking the constitutional rights of their constituents.

#### Conclusion: SB401 Must Be Rejected

SB401 is a deceptive and unconstitutional attempt to strip law-abiding citizens of their rights under the guise of public safety. It criminalizes responsible gun owners, lacks any evidence of necessity, directly violates the Second Amendment, and sets a dangerous precedent for further disarmament. Hawaii lawmakers must reject SB401 and focus on real crime prevention efforts that target criminals, not the constitutional rights of its people.

I stand against SB401. I stand for the Second Amendment. I stand for the right to self-defense.

Respectfully,

Dwayne Lim

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:15:10 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing to voice my opposition to proposed gun control legislation that will restrict my ownership of any firearm of fifty caliber or higher.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:18:03 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Summer Nakaishi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:18:10 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401 as the language on shotguns does not read well. This bill will have zero impact on crime and will limit rights of law abiding citizens

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:19:19 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Annie Chung	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:19:42 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**Opposition to Hawaii SB401: An Unconstitutional Attack on Law-Abiding Gun Owners**

Honorable members of the committee, Hawaii Senate Bill 401 (SB401) is an unconstitutional overreach that directly violates the rights of law-abiding citizens by arbitrarily banning firearms based on caliber size rather than actual misuse. This bill is not about public safety—it is a blatant attempt to disarm responsible gun owners while doing nothing to deter crime.

**1. SB401 Criminalizes Law-Abiding Gun Owners**

SB401 targets firearms simply because they fire ammunition of fifty caliber or higher, a category that includes common and legally owned firearms. Many shotguns, widely used for home defense, hunting, and sport shooting, exceed this caliber threshold. By enacting SB401, the government is not disarming criminals—it is criminalizing responsible citizens who have followed every legal requirement to own and operate their firearms safely.

**2. No Evidence Supports the Ban**

The foundation of SB401 is built on fear-mongering rather than facts. There is no significant data proving that .50 caliber firearms are used in violent crimes in Hawaii or anywhere else in the United States. These firearms are expensive, large, and almost exclusively used for lawful purposes, such as long-range target shooting and competitive marksmanship. SB401 is a solution in search of a problem, punishing gun owners for crimes they have never committed and never will.

**3. A Direct Violation of the Second Amendment**

The Supreme Court has consistently ruled against blanket firearm bans that fail to justify a substantial connection to public safety. In *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008) and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022), the Court affirmed that the right to bear arms is a fundamental constitutional right that cannot be arbitrarily restricted. SB401 is exactly the kind of unconstitutional infringement these rulings were meant to prevent—an emotionally driven law that disregards precedent and individual rights.

**4. Sets a Dangerous Precedent for Future Gun Bans**

This bill is not just about .50 caliber firearms. It sets a legal precedent that allows the state to ban firearms based on arbitrary classifications. Today, it's .50 caliber rifles—tomorrow, it could be any firearm that legislators deem "too powerful" or "unnecessary." This is a calculated step toward incremental disarmament, stripping citizens of their right to self-defense piece by piece.

#### 5. SB401 Ignores the Real Issue: Criminal Behavior

Gun violence is not caused by responsible gun owners—it is caused by criminals who have no regard for the law. Instead of targeting criminals, SB401 focuses on restricting lawful firearm ownership. Meanwhile, Hawaii continues to struggle with rising crime rates, and this bill does nothing to address the root causes of violence. If lawmakers were serious about public safety, they would focus on enforcing existing laws against violent offenders rather than attacking the constitutional rights of their constituents.

#### Conclusion: SB401 Must Be Rejected

SB401 is a deceptive and unconstitutional attempt to strip law-abiding citizens of their rights under the guise of public safety. It criminalizes responsible gun owners, lacks any evidence of necessity, directly violates the Second Amendment, and sets a dangerous precedent for further disarmament. Hawaii lawmakers must reject SB401 and focus on real crime prevention efforts that target criminals, not the constitutional rights of its people.

I stand against SB401. I stand for the Second Amendment. I stand for the right to self-defense.

Respectfully,

Kelly Lim

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:21:09 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB 401

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:25:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Patti Cook	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

[COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS](#)

Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair

Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

And Committee Members

SB401 SD2 – Hearing @ 2PM, Thurs., March 13, 2025

Aloha Committee Members:

May I please urge you to support this proposed bill because as previous legislative testimony states, while Hawai'i has stringent gun safety laws in place, an omission exists in the existing statute prohibiting the use of certain very dangerous weapons. Firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of fifty caliber or higher are not currently included in the list of prohibited firearms, which is contradictory to the State's position on gun safety.

According to the Department of Law Enforcement in its testimony provided at a public hearing held on this measure, fifty caliber firearms are capable of penetrating buildings, vehicles, and protective equipment, making them particularly dangerous when used in criminal activities or acts of violence and put both our public safety officers as well as the general public at great risk.

This bill addresses this gap in the law by prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of fifty caliber or higher, which is a grade of firearm lacking an essential public use justifying the continued permission of this type of weapon under state law. Appropriate exemptions have been included that exclude antique pistols and revolvers, and muzzleloaders, in the list of prohibited weapons.

Thank you for continuing to do all that's possible to protect public safety with stringent gun safety legislation in Hawai'i.

Patti Cook 808-937-2833

Waimea, Island of Hawai'i

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:26:16 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Thomas Delaney	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Military grade weapons have absolutely no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:26:22 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

SB401 will be an infringement on my second amendment rights.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:28:50 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Will Buttler	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chairperson, Vice Chair, and Committee Members,

I am submitting this testimony in fierce opposition to Senate Bill 401, a reckless and unconstitutional attack on law-abiding gun owners. This bill does absolutely nothing to stop violent crime, but it does criminalize honest citizens who have followed every law and regulation placed upon them. It is yet another misguided attempt to erode Second Amendment rights under the false pretense of public safety.

Unconstitutional and Arbitrary

The Supreme Court’s decision in *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008) made it crystal clear: the Second Amendment protects firearms “in common use” for lawful purposes like self-defense.

SB 401 ignores this precedent entirely, targeting guns not based on their use in crime but solely on caliber—a completely arbitrary and senseless restriction.

The bill would outlaw widely used firearms like 12-gauge shotguns, which are staples for home defense, hunting, and sport shooting.

Turning Law-Abiding Citizens Into Criminals

This bill offers zero guidance on what lawful gun owners are supposed to do with firearms that suddenly become illegal overnight.

Without a grandfathering clause or legal pathway for compliance, gun owners who have done nothing wrong will be instantly turned into felons simply for owning something they legally purchased.

It punishes responsible citizens instead of actual criminals—who, by the way, don’t care about your bans.

The Data Proves This Bill Is Useless

According to FBI crime statistics, between 2010 and 2020, there were zero homicides involving a .50 caliber rifle in the entire United States. Zero.

The 12-gauge shotgun, which exceeds the .50 caliber threshold, is one of the most commonly owned firearms in America, yet shotguns of all types were used in only 264 homicides in 2019, compared to 6,368 with handguns (FBI UCR 2019).

The idea that banning these firearms will reduce crime is not just wrong—it's a deliberate misrepresentation of reality.

### Hawaii Already Has Some of the Strictest Gun Laws in the Nation

Hawaii's gun laws are already among the most restrictive in the country. Every firearm is registered, every purchase requires a permit, and background checks are already mandatory.

Criminals do not follow these laws. More bans will only hurt the people who do.

Instead of wasting time on useless restrictions, lawmakers should focus on enforcing existing laws and targeting actual criminals.

### Conclusion

SB 401 is nothing but an attack on law-abiding citizens under the false pretense of public safety.

It completely disregards constitutional protections, ignores actual crime data, and turns good people into criminals overnight.

I strongly urge this committee to reject SB 401 and focus on real solutions—ones that actually target violent criminals instead of stripping rights from responsible citizens.

Enough is enough. Stop punishing the good guys.

William Buttler

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:32:16 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support SB401

Aloha,

I am providing written testimony in **opposition** to SB401.

SB401 will ban commonly owned shotguns (larger than .50 caliber) and do nothing but instantly criminalize law-abiding firearms owners. There is no grandfather clause and thus, anyone who owns shotguns, incredibly common firearms, will be turned into felons overnight. Despite constantly educating lawmakers on this major flaw there seems to be an insistence on forcing a ban through.

Moreover, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS), through the NYSRPA vs. Bruen decision (2022), recently established "text, history, and tradition" as the new standard for jurisprudence regarding the Second Amendment. SB401 provides no historical analogs to justify its consideration. Reaching further back, the SCOTUS decision in District of Columbia vs. Heller (2008) noted that arms in common use for lawful purposes cannot be banned. Shotguns are considered arms, by definition, and thus a ban on them is, by and large, an arms ban. SB401 demonstrates a blatant disregard of numerous SCOTUS decisions and should not be considered for approval.

Mahalo.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:37:00 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB 401, SD 2** - Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:41:35 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Jayden Curry, I'm a registered firearm owner and law abiding citizen who went through all the mandatory requirements to obtain and exercise my right to bear arms in Hawai'i and I oppose SB401 SD2. Enforcing these type of laws on our citizens only does that, restricts our citizens to protect themselves from anyone who seeks harm against them and their loved ones, we are not the same Hawai'i anymore, I see more crimes being committed with unregistered firearms than I do see with registered firearms. Gun control isn't working and it's time to stop sheltering the people from firearms, instead educate, educate the people how to be a responsible firearm owner because with great education today can lead to a great problem solver tomorrow. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:41:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:42:26 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:43:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lori Kizer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please protect our communities by prohibiting high capacity firearms, military weapons of war do not belong here. We have all seen the rise of gun violence in Hawaii this last year, this must stop, you must vote to help protect our peaceful way of living. Mahalo.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:45:51 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing to strongly oppose this unconstitutional bill. This bill is in direct violation of the Supreme Court of The United States decisions in the cases of D.C. v Heller and Caetano v Massachusetts. The cour ruled that commonly owned firearms in lawful use cannot be banned. This flawed bill needs to be killed. Lawfully owned firearms possessed by and used law abiding citizens cannot be banned.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:47:27 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it is unconstitutional and an infringement.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:49:39 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
anne zellinger	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We need to protect the majority of the community who do not have guns from those who are arming themselves to indiscriminately take lives. Indiscriminately harming is how I'm describing the use of such high capacity fire arms.

Thank you for your service to the community.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:50:23 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB401 as it infringes on my second amendment right.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:50:28 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401 SD2.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:55:09 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**Dear Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,**

**I am writing to express my concerns regarding Senate Bill 401 (SB401), which proposes to prohibit firearms capable of firing .50 caliber or higher ammunition. As a concerned citizen, I believe this legislation may infringe upon the constitutional rights of law-abiding Hawaii residents and U.S. citizens without sufficient justification.**

**The Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, as affirmed by the Supreme Court in District of Columbia v. Heller (2008), guarantees an individual right to keep and bear arms for lawful purposes. Furthermore, there is no evidence of crimes committed with .50 caliber firearms in Hawaii, making this proposed ban seem unwarranted.**

**Hawaii already has some of the strictest gun laws in the nation, including:**

- 1. Requiring permits to purchase firearms**
- 2. Mandatory registration of all firearms**
- 3. Strict background checks and safety training requirements**

**These existing laws provide robust protections against potential firearm misuse. Adding further restrictions on law-abiding citizens does not enhance public safety but instead infringes upon our constitutional rights.**

**I urge you to reconsider SB401 and its potential to violate the rights of law-abiding citizens. Please uphold the principles of individual liberty and equal protection under the law that our nation was founded upon.**

**Sincerely,  
Deborah Umiamaka**



**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:55:53 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cliff mello	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am submitting this testimony in **strong opposition** to SB401, an unconstitutional and unjustified ban on firearms chambered in .50 caliber or greater. This bill is nothing more than another **attempt to strip law-abiding citizens of their Second Amendment rights under the false guise of “gun safety.”**

SB401 is not rooted in crime prevention or public safety but in **government overreach and political theater**. It **unfairly targets responsible gun owners**, while doing nothing to address **criminal violence, mental health issues, or illegal gun activity**.

**SB401 is Unconstitutional and Will Be Overturned**

- 1. The Second Amendment Protects Firearms “In Common Use”**
  - The Supreme Court ruled in *District of Columbia v. Heller* (554 U.S. 570 (2008)) that firearms “in common use” for lawful purposes are protected.
  - Firearms chambered in .50 caliber are **widely owned and used for hunting, sport shooting, and long-range precision shooting**—making them **constitutionally protected**.
  - By banning these firearms, **Hawaii is enacting an unconstitutional restriction that will not survive legal challenge**.
- 2. Bruen Decision: No Historical Precedent for This Ban**
  - In *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (142 S. Ct. 2111 (2022)), the Court ruled that gun laws must align with the **nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation**.
  - There is **no historical precedent for banning .50 caliber firearms**, which have existed for centuries.
  - **Hawaii lawmakers are knowingly pushing a law that is already failing in federal courts across the country**.
- 3. Pending Supreme Court Cases Will Likely Strike This Down**
  - Cases challenging arbitrary firearm bans (*Duncan v. Bonta*, *ANJRPC v. Platkin*) are moving through the courts and are expected to **favor gun owners**.
  - **Passing SB401 will only waste taxpayer money defending an indefensible law**.

**SB401 Targets Law-Abiding Citizens, Not Criminals**

- **Violent criminals do not use .50 caliber firearms.** They are rarely used in crimes because they are expensive, heavy, and impractical for criminals.
- FBI crime statistics show that **handguns are used in the vast majority of firearm-related crimes**, not large-caliber rifles.
- Instead of banning **lawful weapons owned by responsible citizens**, Hawaii should focus on **enforcing penalties against violent offenders**.

## **Hawaii is Using Fear and Corrupt Terminology to Gaslight the Public**

- **The government is intentionally misleading the public** by suggesting that banning .50 caliber firearms will make Hawaii safer. **It will not.**
- **No evidence** exists that .50 caliber firearms are a public safety issue. This bill is based on **fearmongering, not facts.**
- The use of phrases like "**gun safety**" in SB401 is **dishonest and manipulative**—this bill has nothing to do with safety and everything to do with **restricting the rights of law-abiding citizens.**

## **What Hawaii Should Focus On Instead**

If the legislature **actually cared** about reducing gun violence, they would:

- Enforce strict penalties for **felons in possession of firearms.**
- Improve **mental health services** to prevent tragedies before they occur.
- Crack down on **illegal firearm trafficking and gang violence.**

Instead, lawmakers are attacking **law-abiding citizens** while ignoring the **real sources of crime.**

## **Conclusion: Stand With the People, Not Against Them**

- SB401 is a **direct attack on responsible gun owners** with **no legal, historical, or factual justification.**
- This bill **will be struck down in court**, wasting **taxpayer resources** and further eroding public trust in the government.
- I urge you to **OPPOSE SB401** and **stand for the people instead of against them.**

**Mahalo for your time.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:08:38 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB 401 . It is yet another blatant attack on our 2nd Amendment Rights.

Further restrictions upon our right to bear arms and their parts will result in nothing more than punishing the law abiding citizens thus restraining our ability to defend ourselves along with our ability to maintain a Free State all while the criminals will continue to obtain these "outlawed" items through illegal channels as they always have been.

What will banning 50 caliber or higher cartridges do besides turn every gun owner in Hawaii into a felon overnight? 12 gauge shotguns are larger than 50 caliber cartridges and have been a key factor in hunting across the world for over a century. And aside from SB 401 reiterating key idiotic parts of HRS 134 like "Teflon" ammunition, its clear those that wrote this knew nothing then and still know nothing now about firearms as Teflon has zero armor penetration ability as it is merely a lubricating material. They are afraid of a kitchen pan coating and grease. So more so, what authority do these people have on this topic?

It's apparent that State Officials that have no understanding of the matter think that the legal and law abiding owners of firearms are a greater threat to Hawaii than the illegal ways of obtaining firearms and criminals that weld them. Hawaii is obviously more concerned with lining their pockets and protecting criminals more than they are concerned with protecting their people and upholding their oath to their State, Country, and the Constitution. They take little to no consequences while it's the taxpayer's lives and dollars they spend, pocket and toy with.

Clearly this is nothing more than another last effort of the corrupt and unintelligent in office to disarm the American Citizens of Hawaii in the face of a new administration that is hellbent on uprooting those that have been stealing from and corrupting the American Citizens of Hawaii.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:16:12 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB401 as it is a violation of my second amendment rights.

We as people of Hawaii out in the middle of the Pacific ocean need the ability to be well armed and equipped to defend ourselves and our communities against threats of invasion, tyranny, and the ever growing criminal activity in these Islands.

Hawaii has a sad history of invasion events, and it has shown that we are the most vulnerable state of the US. and therefore need to be extra equipped to defend ourselves.

Please End this Bill.

Aloha

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:18:20 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:22:56 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strongly oppose.

**Dennis M. Dunn**

**Kailua, Hawaii 96734**

[dennismdunn47@gmail.com](mailto:dennismdunn47@gmail.com)

RE: SB 401, SD 2, Relating to Firearms

HEARING: Thursday, February 27, 2025, 2:00 p.m. Conference Room 325

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 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 SB 401, S.D. 2.**

Too often during my career in victim assistance I had to console victims of gun violence or their surviving family members. We hardly need to be reminded of the immense destructive power of assault weapons as we are constantly made aware of the death and suffering cause by them in the virtual daily litany of mass casualty incidents that are caused by these weapons. There is no legitimate purpose in a civilized society for devices whose only purpose is to rapidly administer death and serious bodily injury to human beings. I am uncertain as to why our current firearms statutes fail to outlaw to encompass the type of excessive firearms covered in this bill, but the time to change that is now. Given the increases in gun crimes, even in Hawai'i, this is a critical legislative need. Our statutory defense against assault weapons must be airtight with no loopholes. The stakes in the battle against gun violence are high and we must marshal every resource in preventing the use and ownership of assault weapons anywhere in Hawai'i.

Please support SB 401, S.D. 2. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mahalo!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:29:18 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shawn Neylon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**1. Second Amendment Protections**

The Second Amendment guarantees the right to bear arms, a principle central to American liberty. Banning .50 caliber rifles—a category of firearms rarely misused—sets a dangerous precedent for eroding lawful gun ownership. Broad prohibitions targeting specific firearms undermine the constitutional rights of responsible citizens who use these weapons for legal purposes, such as sport shooting or collection.

**2. Legitimate Uses Outweigh Rare Misuse**

.50 caliber rifles are niche firearms with specialized applications:

- **Long-Range Sport Shooting:** Enthusiasts use these high-precision rifles in competitive matches, often at distances exceeding 1,000 yards.
- **Collecting:** Many owners value them as historical artifacts (e.g., WWII-era anti-materiel rifles) or engineering marvels.
- **Rural and Hunting Use:** In some regions, they are employed for hunting large game or predator control.

Their size, cost (\$3,000+), and lack of concealability make them impractical for criminal use. FBI crime data consistently shows negligible involvement of .50 caliber rifles in violent crimes, highlighting the disconnect between their perceived threat and reality.

**3. Ineffective Policy**

A ban would fail to address root causes of violence while penalizing lawful owners. Criminals inclined to misuse firearms typically resort to handguns or illegally modified weapons, not cumbersome, highly regulated rifles. For example, in 2022, handguns accounted for over 80% of firearm homicides (CDC data), whereas .50 caliber rifles are statistically irrelevant in such cases. Targeting rarely misused tools distracts from evidence-based solutions like mental health support or targeted enforcement.

**4. Enforcement Challenges**

Confiscating or regulating existing .50 caliber rifles would strain law enforcement resources and risk overreach. Historically, firearm bans (e.g., 1994 Assault Weapons Ban) proved difficult to enforce and had little impact on crime rates. Meanwhile, such measures risk fostering black markets or incentivizing criminals to adapt, rather than deterring violence.

## **5. Slippery Slope**

Banning firearms based on caliber or aesthetics opens the door to incremental erosion of gun rights. If policymakers can prohibit .50 caliber rifles today, what stops future bans on other legally owned firearms? This approach prioritizes symbolic politics over practical safety, undermining trust in governance.

## **6. Existing Laws Are Sufficient**

Federal regulations already govern .50 caliber rifles:

- Buyers undergo rigorous background checks.
  - Anti-materiel variants are regulated under the National Firearms Act (NFA), requiring extensive paperwork and fees.
- Strengthening enforcement of current laws—rather than imposing new bans—would more effectively promote public safety without infringing on rights.

## **Conclusion**

A .50 caliber ban is a misplaced solution that infringes on constitutional freedoms, harms responsible owners, and ignores empirical evidence. Policymakers should focus on addressing socioeconomic drivers of violence and enforcing existing laws, rather than enacting ineffective prohibitions. Protecting lawful gun ownership while targeting criminal behavior ensures a balanced approach to public safety and civil liberties.

Thank you,

Shawn

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:39:32 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Good afternoon.

I oppose as this bill is detrimental to my right as an American citizen to rightfully own weapons for self-defense, to protect my rights, and to protect my property. This bill will not serve its purpose of stopping certain individuals from carrying firearms illegally. Do not vote in affirmative to this bill and other bills related to firearms.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Audie F Gerilla

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:41:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am deeply worried about the recent increase in firearm violence in our state. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

As a strong advocate for the Second Amendment, I firmly oppose Hawaii Senate Bill SB401. This bill represents a significant infringement on the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms. The Second Amendment is clear in its protection of the individual right to possess firearms, and this legislation directly contradicts that fundamental principle.

Prohibiting the possession of firearms based on arbitrary caliber restrictions does not address the root causes of gun violence. Instead, it penalizes responsible gun owners who use these firearms for legitimate purposes such as hunting, target shooting, and self-defense. The focus should be on enforcing existing laws and addressing the underlying issues that contribute to criminal behavior, rather than imposing further restrictions on law-abiding citizens.

Moreover, the exemption for firearms legally registered as of the effective date of the bill creates a confusing and unequal application of the law. It sets a dangerous precedent where the rights of citizens are determined by the timing of their firearm purchases rather than their adherence to the law.

I urge the Hawaii legislature to reject SB401 and instead consider measures that respect the Second Amendment and promote public safety without infringing on the rights of responsible gun owners. It is crucial to protect the constitutional freedoms that are the foundation of our nation while addressing the complex issues surrounding gun violence through effective and fair legislation.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:49:21 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Adam Coles, MD	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Although I deplore the rise of gun-related violence in Hawaii, and gun violence is an epidemic in our country, this legislation targets a category of firearms that have a relatively low association with murders or the crimes we've seen in the news. Far more dangerous and common firearms would be .223 cal high-velocity assault rifles or assault pistols (large magazine-equipped machine pistols) which have been used in numerous school and other mass shootings, sa well as drug-related violence. Where is the legislation prohibiting those?

Though .50 caliber arms are impractical for hunting, close quarters home defense or sporting, those same characteristics make them impractical for most crimes and murders of passion, even pre-meditated. They're expensive, the ammunition is expensive and they're large and heavy.

I am concerned about arms of this kind being *only* in police and military hands in this political climate.

There are a few anecdotes of an occasional crimed being committed with a .50 cal arm, but far, far fewer than handguns and assault rifles.

I feel this legislation is "taking aim" at a class of firearm that has little actual crime-association (multiple reports from various organizations back to 1999 mostly report they're *found* among the hoards of criminals who actually used smaller caliber arms in the commission of their crimes), for a relatively wasy "win", without actually addressing the guns that are used in crimes, or tracking those who shouldn't have guns at all, such as known felons.

Mahalo

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:50:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

The 2nd Amendment reads,

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

In *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008), the Supreme Court handed down decision that held the 2nd amendment protects an individual's right to keep a gun for self-defense.

In *Caetano v. Massachusetts* (2016), the Supreme Court reiterated its earlier rulings that "the Second Amendment extends, prima facie, to all instruments that constitute bearable arms, even those that were not in existence at the time of the founding" and that its protection is not limited to "only those weapons useful in warfare".

In addition, *NYSRPA v. Bruen* (2022) affirms the guaranteed right to carry firearms in public,

You, the collective legislative body of Hawaii, swore an oath to uphold both the U.S and Hawaii State Constitutions, which both guarantee the right to keep and bare arms. Arms includes ammunition. By introducing and voting in favor of this unconstitutional bill, you are knowingly opposing the highest law of the land, (supremecy clause in Article 6, section 2). It does not matter that you do not understand the founding documents. Ignorance of the law is no excuse.

Seriously, what part of this do you not understand?

It is very clear that any unconstitutional bill is null and void (*Marbury v. Madison* 1803) as if it was never passed, and it can be ignored with impunity. It is also my understanding that oath-breakers that contract with We The People, then turn around and try to limit our rights by passing unconstitutional statutes, commit treason by warring against the oath they took and the contract they entered into.

Think about that.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:52:53 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brenda DuFresne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:56:01 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sam Cavitt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Hawaii State Lawmakers,

I am writing in opposition of SB401 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.

Specific arguments against this legislation –

Constitutional and Legal Arguments

- Unnecessary and Unconstitutional: The bill proposes banning .50 caliber firearms, despite no recorded crimes involving these weapons in Hawai‘i. This legislation is seen as a violation of the Second Amendment and Hawai‘i’s state constitution.
- Fails Supreme Court Tests: Under the Bruen decision, a firearm ban must prove that the weapon is both "dangerous and unusual" and consistent with historical firearm regulations. The argument asserts that .50 caliber firearms are:
  - Not unusual, as they have been commonly owned and used throughout U.S. history.
  - Not uniquely dangerous, as all firearms pose potential risks, but .50 caliber weapons have not been used in crimes in Hawai‘i.
- Heller and Caetano Precedents:
  - Heller affirmed that the Second Amendment protects an individual’s right to possess firearms for self-defense, not just for hunting.
  - Caetano ruled that weapons in common use (such as stun guns) are protected under the Second Amendment, and .50 caliber firearms far outnumber the 200,000 stun guns cited in that case.

- Logical Inconsistency in the Bill: The bill exempts antique .50 caliber firearms, indirectly admitting that these weapons have been historically used and widely accepted, contradicting the argument that they are "unusual."

#### Personal and Specific Negative Effects of SB401

- Disruption of Work and Personal Safety: My son works on a ranch and actively hunts wild boar for safety reasons. .50 caliber firearms are essential tools in hunting and protecting ranchers and guests. Removing access to these firearms directly jeopardizes their ability to do their job and stay safe.
- Financial and Emotional Burden: Continuous gun restrictions in Hawai'i dishearten and discourage law-abiding citizens who must repeatedly fight against legislation that aims to chip away at their rights.
- Undermines Law-Abiding Gun Owners: The law targets responsible firearm owners, not criminals. The repeated push for such laws is frustrating and demoralizing, making citizens feel ignored and under attack.
- Wasted Taxpayer Money: The bill is likely to be challenged in court and overturned, wasting millions of taxpayer dollars in legal battles. These funds would be better spent on mental health services, firearm safety education, and crime prevention programs.

#### Practical and Logical Counterarguments

- Lack of Criminal Use:
  - There are no documented cases of .50 caliber firearms being used in crimes in Hawai'i.
  - Nationwide, only four cases since the early 1990s involved a .50 caliber firearm being used in a crime.
- No Public Safety Benefit: The ban does not address crime, suicides, or mass shootings, making it a symbolic restriction rather than a practical solution.
- Defensive and Sporting Use:
  - .50 caliber firearms are commonly used for hunting, sport shooting, and defense.
  - They serve legitimate and lawful purposes, including ranch security and protection against dangerous wildlife.
- Failure to Address the Root Causes of Violence:
  - Instead of banning firearm ownership, lawmakers should focus on enforcing existing laws against criminals.
  - The government should invest in education and safety programs instead of criminalizing law-abiding citizens.

#### Conclusion

- SB401 is unnecessary, ineffective, and unconstitutional.
- It targets responsible gun owners instead of actual criminals.
- It fails all legal and historical tests required to justify a firearm ban.
- It jeopardizes ranchers, hunters, and law-abiding citizens who rely on these firearms for protection and work.

- The state should redirect its resources to crime prevention, mental health programs, and firearm safety education, rather than pursuing an ineffective ban that will likely be overturned in court.

General arguments against all current proposed gun legislation in Hawaii are –

The bills are unnecessary, ineffective, and infringing on Second Amendment rights.

The legislation targets law-abiding gun owners rather than criminals.

The laws will create legal traps for gun owners through vague wording and overreach.

The bills are politically motivated rather than factually justified.

Crime prevention should focus on criminals, not restricting legal gun ownership.

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 constitution's guarantee. Vote no on SB401!

Thank You!

Aloha,

Sam Cavitt

Kihei, HI

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:57:36 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am Raymond Ishii and I strongly oppose SB401 as it is a violation of my rights as given to me by our creator and guaranteed by the 2nd Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

The United States Supreme Court in the New York State Rifle and Pistol Association Vs Bruen has affirmed that the 2nd Amendment is an individual right and The Supreme Court declared that any regulation affecting the right to bear arms must be rooted in the “historical tradition of firearm regulation” in the United States.

President Donald Trump's Executive Order date 02-07-25 states as follows:

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Purpose. The Second Amendment is an indispensable safeguard of security and liberty. It has preserved the right of the American people to protect ourselves, our families, and our freedoms since the founding of our great Nation. Because it is foundational to maintaining all other rights held by Americans, the right to keep and bear arms must not be infringed.

Sec. 2. Plan of Action. (a) Within 30 days of the date of this order, the Attorney General shall examine all orders, regulations, guidance, plans, international agreements, and other actions of executive departments and agencies (agencies) to assess any ongoing infringements of the Second Amendment rights of our citizens, and present a proposed plan of action to the President, through the Domestic Policy Advisor, to protect the Second Amendment rights of all Americans.

(b) In developing such proposed plan of action, the Attorney General shall review, at a minimum:

(i) All Presidential and agencies’ actions from January 2021 through January 2025 that purport to promote safety but may have impinged on the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens;

(ii) Rules promulgated by the Department of Justice, including by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, from January 2021 through January 2025 pertaining to firearms and/or Federal firearms licensees;

(iii) Agencies’ plans, orders, and actions regarding the so-called “enhanced regulatory enforcement policy” pertaining to firearms and/or Federal firearms licensees;

(iv) Reports and related documents issued by the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention;

(v) The positions taken by the United States in any and all ongoing and potential litigation that affects or could affect the ability of Americans to exercise their Second Amendment rights;

(vi) Agencies' classifications of firearms and ammunition; and

(vii) The processing of applications to make, manufacture, transfer, or export firearms.

Sec. 3. Implementation. Upon submission of the proposed plan of action described in section 2 of this order, the Attorney General shall work with the Domestic Policy Advisor to finalize the plan of action and establish a process for implementation.

Sec. 4. General Provisions. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(i) the authority granted by law to an executive department, agency, or the head thereof;

or

(ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

President Trump's Executive Order simply states that Firearms have been used since the founding of our great Republic for the protection of ourselves, our families and our freedom, and is the foundation for all the other rights we as Americans hold dear, the rights of the people must not be infringed.

In the historical context of the use of firearms in the Revolutionary War, many of the arms used by our patriotic forefathers including cannons and warships were privately owned, and it is our historical tradition that the right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

I strongly OPPOSE SB401 and ask you to vote no.

Thank You

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:59:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am strongly opposed to this bill. Why? Because the proponents of this bill have failed to provide any proof that enactment would make Hawaii safer. The proponents have failed to provide any evidence to show how many crimes have been committed by persons using the weapons this bill would ban.

Using DLE's reasoning that these weapons should be banned because they can shoot through buildings and vehicles is an exaggeration . I once owned a .50 Special revolver. It could not do neither. I have owned large caliber hunting rifles that in the right circumstances could shoot through vehicles and buildings. Having spent years in the Army I am well aware of what a .50 cal weapon can and cannot do.

.50 cal rifles such as the Barrett ar expensive (\$3-5K), heavy and generally unwieldy. Ammunition is also very expensive. They are not the choice of Hawaii's run of mill criminals. Maybe that's the reason our esteemed legislators have yet to disclose a list of crimes committed by persons using the firearms subject to this bill.

I urge you to vote NO on this seemingly "feel good" bill.

Thank you

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:04:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

SB401 should not be allowed. It is an attempt by the legislature to incrementally mitigate and encroach on Second Amendment rights. The constituencies of the legislators pushing this overregulation are taking notice and will ultimately respond at the voting booths. Any measures asking forfeiture of firearms rights, such as those proposed in SB401 to prohibit a type of particular ammunition which currently has been in use and allowable under legal precedent, which cause a law abiding citizen to modify and forfeit their 2nd Amendment rights are an encroachment on the Constitutional right to bear arms. History has shown that an armed populace creates a healthy balance of power amongst individuals and between a government and its subjects. Please stop perpetuating the infringement of 2nd Amendment rights as pretty soon you the supposedly wise legislature will have created an unstable situation where the government is set up to potentially oppress individuals who have been made vulnerable by the gradual incremental stripping and encroachment of their Constitutional right to bear firearms.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:06:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shana Laririt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:12:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cheryl Bellamy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure. Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. **SB 401 SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:13:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

this bill does not reduce crime

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:15:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am opposed to SB401,

This bill unfairly and punishes responsible firearms owners while doing little to improve public safety.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:15:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill SB401 goes against the 2nd amendment that does not state any restrictions to the type of firearms or ammo that citizens are restricted to have in their possession in defending their, life, family, property.

The bill is too vague and not specific to types of arms and ammo it suggests. We need type, model, that are not allowed by the 2nd amendment of the US Constitution.

Citizens need bills to secure and protect their rights not slowly erode them over the many years since they were established by our founding fathers that are some of the greatest men of history.

I believe this legislation should resolve the fireworks issues here in Hawaii first and foremost.

But as proven. It is an impossible task to achieve.

Thank you

Eddie Hanger

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:16:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I Thaze Gomes oppose bill SB402 SD2. It prohibits law abiding citizens from being able to protect themselves from those non-law abiding citizens or criminals that are still able to obtain items being banned from the general public.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:18:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am opposing this bill because this is unconstitutional.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:22:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rozalynn Marae Erickson	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

Self-defense is a fundamental right recognized by the Constitution, yet legislation such as Hawaii's SB 401 threatens to undermine that right by restricting access to firearms capable of firing fifty caliber or higher ammunition. While these firearms are often associated with specialized uses, some individuals rely on them for personal defense, particularly in rural areas where law enforcement response times can be prolonged and encounters with large predators are possible. By limiting access to these firearms, SB 401 not only hinders the ability of law-abiding citizens to protect themselves but also creates a dangerous disparity of force, as criminals—who do not abide by gun laws—remain unaffected by such restrictions.

One of the primary concerns with restricting access to high-caliber firearms is the varying availability of law enforcement in emergency situations. While urban areas may benefit from relatively quick police response times, those living in rural or remote locations often face significant delays in receiving assistance. In situations where seconds matter, individuals must be able to defend themselves effectively rather than waiting for help that may not arrive in time. Prohibiting access to powerful defensive tools leaves citizens vulnerable, forcing them to rely on less effective means of protection. For those facing threats from large predators, aggressive intruders, or multiple assailants, a firearm with sufficient stopping power can mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, criminals, by definition, do not abide by firearm laws. Those intent on causing harm will obtain weapons through illegal means, regardless of restrictions placed on law-abiding citizens. This reality creates a dangerous imbalance: law-abiding individuals are stripped of effective self-defense options, while criminals remain fully armed and emboldened by the knowledge that their victims are likely defenseless. This disparity of force puts innocent people at a severe disadvantage, making them easier targets for violent crime.

Self-defense is a fundamental right because law enforcement cannot always be present in acute or life-threatening situations. Police response times vary, and in many cases, officers arrive only after a crime has occurred. This is especially true in rural areas or during large-scale emergencies when law enforcement resources are stretched thin. Citizens are their own first line of defense, and limiting magazine capacity hampers their ability to effectively protect themselves and their families.

Ultimately, SB 401 and similar legislation fail to address the root causes of violence while simultaneously infringing upon the rights of responsible gun owners. Rather than enhancing public safety, such restrictions embolden criminals and leave citizens more vulnerable in critical

situations. The ability to effectively defend oneself is a cornerstone of personal freedom, and laws that erode that right only serve to endanger those who choose to follow them.

The gun laws that infringe upon constitutional rights are frequently contested in courts. The outcomes of such challenges can vary, with some laws being upheld and others struck down. Therefore, it is plausible that similar legislation, such as Hawaii's SB 401, could face legal challenges on constitutional grounds.

Also,

In situations where an imminent threat arises, especially one that unfolds rapidly, there may be no time to call 911, let alone wait for law enforcement to arrive. For many individuals—especially women—a firearm serves as the most effective equalizer in a life-threatening situation.

The unfortunate reality is that criminals often target those they perceive as vulnerable. Women are more likely to face violent encounters where physical strength disparities put them at a disadvantage. In such cases, relying solely on unarmed self-defense techniques or waiting for help can be a fatal mistake. A firearm allows someone facing a superior threat—whether it be a larger, stronger attacker or multiple assailants—to defend themselves effectively.

Anti-gun laws that restrict access to necessary defensive tools disproportionately harm those who are most vulnerable. While criminals will always find ways to obtain weapons illegally, law-abiding citizens—who follow the law and seek to protect themselves—are the ones left defenseless by these restrictions.

At the end of the day, your right to self-defense is fundamental. A firearm is often the only viable tool that allows you to stand a chance in an immediate, violent encounter. No one should have to rely solely on the hope that law enforcement arrives in time when seconds determine survival.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:23:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strongly oppose this bill,which goes against my second amendment rights.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:25:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jay Franzone	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

A .50 caliber bullet is nearly the size of a jumbo Sharpie, but instead of writing on a sign, it can pierce armored vehicles, aircraft, and concrete walls from over a mile away. No civilian needs this level of military-grade firepower for hunting or self-defense.

While banning all assault weapons in Hawai'i remains my priority, prohibiting firearms capable of firing .50 caliber or greater ammunition is an easy step toward public safety.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:25:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE SB401 SD2.

This bill seeks to make lawful firearms that use 50 caliber or larger illegal. These weapons are in common use in Hawaii and the other 49 states. As such they are protected by the US Constitution. Even with grandfathering and the exceptions for shotguns and muzzleloaders this bill denies lawful citizens their rights.

These rifles are NOT used in criminal activities here in Hawaii or anywhere else. Most of these rifles cost between \$7000-20000. This bill does not serve to make the community safer and should be seen as the Constitutional Infringement that it is.

Furthermore, these guns are used by thousands of lawful citizens (who you represent) for hunting and recreational purposes.

These arms are protected under the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution.

I urge you to VOTE NO on SB401 SD2.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:29:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

OPPOSE I Luke Reiss of Kahului 96732 oppose Sb401 for it is a direct attack on the 2nd amendment right. A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed! The law abiding citizen should have equal or greater firepower in regards to weapons with thier own government to prevent government from becomming tyrannical. Such governments can commit genocide and massacerse when civilians do not have weapons/firearms to protect themselves against evil tyrannical government. All gun control is an infringement!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:29:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I do NOT support this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:29:48 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Bans powerful .50 caliber firearms, stripping our rights!

This also prohibits assault pistols and silencers, crippling self-defense.

We need to stop this trannical overreach now!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:31:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

We the people oppose this infringement

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:31:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I OPPOSE THIS BILL as it goes against my 2nd amendment right

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:32:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Your insistence on stripping your citizens of their God given rights tells me you have negative intentions. Institutions that seek to strip their people of their right to bear arms are only seeking to commit atrocities.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:33:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB401 as it undermines and violates law abiding people's 2nd amendment rights and freedom.

Roy Gillis

Keaau, Hawaii 96749

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:41:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gail Morrison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:44:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:52:09 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Stop making it more difficult for law abiding citizens to protect themselves.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:52:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Opposed; interferes with Constitutional rights.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:52:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ian Albert Barnes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**IN OPPOSITION OF SB401**

Good afternoon Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members. My name is Ian Barnes, I've been a resident of Maui county for the past 15 years. I'm a first responder, father, and avid hunter. I am testifying against SB401.

First of all this bill is in clear violation of the second amendment of the united states constitution. It directly infringes on law abiding citizens' rights to own common firearms that are already legally owned by thousands of law abiding people here in the state. By passing this bill the Hawaii legislature is complicit with criminalizing most of those law-abiding citizens for exercising a God-given right. This bill also goes against the supreme court ruling *Caetano v. Massachusetts*, where the court reiterated that the second amendment applies to the state and extends to "bearable arms" that "were not in existence at the time of the founding".

The argument for the necessity of SB401 is unfounded when considering that Hawaii has a homicide rate of only 2.7 per 100,000. In fact, this low homicide rate is precisely thanks to the availability of firearms to law-abiding citizens. These restrictions on gun ownership and transfers are simply not warranted. More restrictive gun laws that target, largely, law abiding citizens are not going to keep criminals from obtaining weapons and is not going to keep them from committing crimes. Criminals don't follow the laws, law abiding citizens do. More gun restrictions such as these only leave the average law abiding citizen more defenseless when the criminals come around with their illegal weapons.

This bill also will directly affect law abiding hunters. Many weapons that hunters use today to harvest meat for their family or other families are going to no longer be legal. Whether it's because of the type of weapon or an attachment that they use on their weapon. This is not fair to the citizens that are following all the laws and simply just trying to provide for their families. Again these prohibitions are not necessary, they are just taking away from citizens that are following the laws and helping to manage the wild game on the islands.

SB401 relies on sensationalism instead of science. The use of the descriptions "assault rifle" and "high capacity" is disingenuous. Assault is an action. An object cannot assault on its own. "High Capacity" is an ambiguous term used for any magazine over 10 rounds in capacity. There are many firearms that were originally designed to hold more than 10 rounds. It criminalizes parts or accessories that appear "scary" cosmetically. Bills like these are pushed by politicians that have

no real knowledge of firearms and no real evidence to support it. They are playing off the fear of the public to benefit their approval rating and agendas.

Instead of more unwarranted or needed bills like SB401, we should be promoting more gun safety and gun education. Having the public more knowledgeable and educated about guns will prove way more beneficial than trumping on law abiding citizen's constitutional rights.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:54:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandon Allen Kainoa Leong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I strongly oppose SB401.** Banning something because at some point a criminal who has no business having any type of gun goes out and uses the object to commit a crime doesn't stop the action from occurring. Look at aerial fireworks, you legislators have banned their use by the public in Hawaii but every year millions of dollars are spent by the public to illegally buy them. They are breaking the law because they can and would risk being arrested because the consequence of their action is so minor. If you want to make Hawaii safer due to gun violence, instead of demonizing the gun and making life difficult for those of us that follow the laws, make the penalties harsher for criminals that use guns to commit their crimes. Make their minimum sentences so steep and make them serve the full sentence so that they will think twice about the crimes they commit. This is why we do not trust you. You prove every year that you do not trust gun owners in Hawaii to do the right thing. With this bill you will be blanket banning muzzleloaders, handguns, and rifles because they all have a 50-caliber model across 100s of manufacturers. Not all 50 caliber firearms have the same capabilities as the next. 50 Caliber muzzleloaders are used by hunters every year during muzzleloader hunting season. Are they dangerous? Yes, every firearm has the ability to be dangerous, but its capabilities are nowhere near as strong as a rifle that shoots a 50 BMG cartridge. Blanketing all 50 caliber firearms in a single category to be banned is lazy and will only hurt the people who already own these firearms legally in our state. Hawaii gun owners should not be required to remove from their possession legally acquired property because some day you, one of a handful of citizens out of over a million people living in this state are lucky enough to have been given this opportunity to hold one of the few Senate Seats by your district.

Brandon Leong

President

Lessons In Firearms Education

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 12:59:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401. As a long range competitor this would limit my ability to engage in this sport. You are trying to solve a problem that does not exist. Please consider enforcing the existing laws instead of creating new ones that will not work.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:04:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it does not address any problem that exists. No one is committing crimes with a 50 caliber. People purchase this caliber of firearm for recreational shooting. It does absolutely nothing to make our community safer just infringe on peoples rights. We should not be able to arbitrarily tell other people what they spend their money on just because we don't like it! Especially if it is not harming anyone. No one is committing crimes with a .50 caliber.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:05:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this measure. This is a ridiculous ban that vilifies 50 caliber firearms which are not inherently any more dangerous than other calibers and chamberings of firearms. 50 caliber firearms are only viewed as being so dangerous because they are commonly used by the military and they are big and loud, but there are many more deadly cartridges out there that are totally legal for any civilian in the USA to own. There are more powerful cartridges with higher muzzle energy. There are cartridges that fire with more velocity. There are cartridges with more penetration. There are cartridges that are more aerodynamic and can be used to shoot longer distances.

This bill is a slippery slope, and we should be hesitant to ban any second amendment protected firearms. Especially ones that until this ban was introduced were totally legal for lawful purposes such as hunting and sporting. .50 caliber is an arbitrary number but next session it could .30 caliber and so on until there are no legal calibers and firearms. Where do we draw the line.

Please Vote No.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:06:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB401 as it infringes my second amendment rights as a law abiding citizen.

Mahalo,

Jon Tanouye

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:07:17 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

In **STRONG OPPOSITION** to SB401. As with most gun control measures, this has nothing to do with safety....only control. Rather than affect change in criminal offenders, this measure aims to only persecute law abiding citizens from practicing their constitutional rights and freedoms.

Everyone in Hawai‘i, including introducers of this bill, like to say "this ain't the mainland" proudly. Yet will go out of their way to try and be like those failed cities such as Chicago, Los Angeles, and New York that have the most restrictive gun laws, yet the worst crime rates. It doesn't make sense. Don't let us become another failed city where criminals are free to victimize people who cannot practice their 2nd amendment rights.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:10:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I do not consent

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:11:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am opposed to this bill

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:21:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Todd Yukutake	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

I oppose SB401

This bill is unconstitutional as it bans 50 cal rifles which are considered small arms and protected under the 2A.

Todd Yukutake

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:24:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB401!

This arbitrary bill clearly violates a fundamental and constitutionally protected right, and unfairly targets lawful and responsible gun owners!

Miles Chong

Hilo, HI 96720

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:26:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I do not support this bill-

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:27:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly opposed this bill and its against my 2nd amendment rights..! Thank you and aloha..!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:33:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB 401, SD 2** - Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:34:48 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrea L W Fruggiero	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am extremely concerned at the access our Federal and some State Governments are giving to the ordinary citizenry of our country to carry military grade weapons on the streets of our once great country. We must use wisdom to maintain everyone's safety. The rash of gun violence that is raging in our country is a sign of a sick society. We need laws to protect our citizenry and not laws that will allow a few, intent on destroying our country, to rule by violence. This is NOT the America I grew up in. We need to prevent future sales of military grade guns and ammunition of 50 caliber or higher from being accessible! These are military grade weapons that have NO place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:36:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this law because it violates my second amendment rights and will ban firearms/calibers that have historically been legal to own and use within Hawaii and the United States.

Please vote No and oppose this measure.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:37:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This testimony is to serve as my OPPOSITION to SB401-SD2. Please understand that limiting a legal firearm's caliber is a clear violation of the Second Amendment of the Constitution. It currently does not hold up to legal scrutiny, and it also is baseless in its argument that it makes a community safer. It is akin to limiting the type of religion a citizen is allowed to believe in, or the words he uses when speaking and exercising his First Amendment rights.

This state and country are not in need of MORE laws to increase public safety. It required that the Federal, State, and County governments dedicate more time, effort, and budget to enforcing current, viable laws.

Respectfully,

Kent Kurihara

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:37:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB401, which seeks to ban firearms or ammunition of an arbitrary caliber. (.50 cal). While I respect the intention to enhance public safety, this proposal is deeply flawed, constitutionally questionable, and fails to address the root causes of violent crime.

The Second Amendment guarantees the right of citizens to keep and bear arms. Firearm calibers targeted by this ban are widely used by law-abiding Americans for lawful purposes, including self-defense, hunting, and sport shooting. For example, .50 caliber rifles are used in long-range competitive shooting and hunting large game, while .50 caliber handguns can be common in home defense. Arbitrarily banning certain calibers criminalizes lawful ownership and undermines the rights of responsible citizens.

Criminals do not adhere to laws regulating firearm specifications. A caliber ban would only penalize lawful gun owners while doing nothing to deter criminals, who overwhelmingly use illegally obtained firearms in common, lower-caliber sizes (e.g., 9mm or .38 Special). Even the FBI's crime data shows that crimes involving the specific calibers proposed for banning are statistically negligible. Restricting calibers ignores the reality that \*any\* firearm, regardless of caliber, can be lethal in the wrong hands. Effective crime prevention requires targeting criminal behavior, not inanimate objects.

This ban would set a dangerous precedent for overregulation. Caliber restrictions could easily expand to include other commonly owned ammunition, eroding rights incrementally. Additionally, such bans would devastate local businesses, from firearm manufacturers to sporting goods stores, and harm competitive shooting sports that contribute to tourism and community engagement.

Instead of targeting lawful gun owners, I urge you to prioritize policies that address the root causes of violence:

- Strengthening penalties for illegal firearm possession and use.
- Improving mental health resources and early intervention programs.
- Enhancing school safety initiatives and community policing.

Public safety requires practical, evidence-based strategies—not symbolic bans that punish responsible citizens. I respectfully ask you to oppose this legislation and work toward solutions that respect constitutional freedoms while addressing the true drivers of crime.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I welcome the opportunity to discuss this issue further.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:38:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Noela von Wiegandt	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose SB401 strongly. This is another assault on The Second Amendment. This is absolute government overreach. The Citizens of Hawaii are sick and tired of you people turning us all into sitting ducks. How are we supposed to protect our lives and property when threatened by a criminal. HPD is understaffed as it is. Majority of legal gun owners do not use their firearms unless they have to when defending themselves. Majority of legal gun owners will call HPD if threatened.

Thank you .

Noela von Wiegandt

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:45:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing in opposition to SB 401. The bill will turn law abiding citizens into criminals overnight. It also does nothing to reduce crime as criminals typically do not use large caliber firearms.

The threat to the public posed by firearms in general is extremely low, much less how over exaggerated .50 cal firearms and ammunition are. Concerns about aircraft safety imply that movie characters like Jason Bourne and John Wick are walking among the population with a 25 pound firearm at tow. More concern should be given to training qualified pilots, air traffic management, and preventing bird strikes.

The firearms collector and enthusiast who has done nothing wrong (otherwise his firearms would be confiscated through other unconstitutional extreme risk protection orders), is the main victim of the legislation. Many competition shooters use .50 cal firearms for long range events and sponsored individuals make it their livelihood. Hunters may also feel the effect, especially those who prefer large game.

SB 401 is a waste of time and resources. Evil people with laser pointers and box store knives have claimed more victims than law abiding citizens with firearms ever will. The .50 cal does not blow up tanks (Javelin Missiles do) so fear mongers and propagandists need to stop this yearly assault on the 2nd Amendment. This is another feel good measure that does not stop criminals.

Please vote no on SB 401.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:46:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strongly oppose

While I applaud that SB401 has been predictably amended to avoid banning shotguns, it still makes zero sense and is capriciously designed to do nothing more than be punitive to law-abiding firearms enthusiasts and salami slice away rights to self-defense.

Practically speaking, what is Hawaii's legal definition of "shotgun"? How are 729 caliber (12 gauge) or 615 caliber (20 gauge) rifled barrels going to be classified? It is common for these barrels to be installed in place of smoothbore shotgun barrels, and their use for hunting with slugs should be encouraged, due to their limited maximum ranges. What in Hawaii's law is going to separate a 615 caliber centerfire firearm shooting a single projectile from a 50 caliber centerfire firearm shooting a single projectile? **If these considerations are going to be dependent on Federal law anyways, why not simply continue deferring to Federal law on this issue?** As it stands, this bill's language would still require judicial clarification; simply inserting "not a shotgun" does not clear legislation make.

**50 caliber firearms are empirically among the safest guns there are.** 50 BMG firearms are the most-often targeted by legislation despite being simply too heavy, too expensive, and too powerful for common criminal use. SB401 would also ban other much less powerful 50 caliber cartridges like 50 Beowulf, 500 S&W, and 50 AE, which are uncommon and specialized cartridges (they have practical uses for hunting around bears) that are also less practical for crime than many other commonly available cartridges, and also do very little ballistically that other cartridges don't.

50 caliber cartridges are as common as they are due to nearly 100-year-old Federal law that places additional restrictions on calibers over half an inch. 50 has been the limit, and the firearms industry has innovated within that legal limit. Hawaii lowering our legal limit from "can't be over 50 caliber" to "must be under 50 caliber" *only affects firearms that are exactly 50 caliber*. This is a petty and punitive attack on the law-abiding. There is no technical reason somebody couldn't bore a new barrel to 49 caliber, and resize brass to 49 caliber, and turn bullets down to 49 caliber, and be left with a 49 caliber firearm that does exactly what a 50 caliber firearm does. So what is this bill seeking to accomplish? **In no plausible way can this bill positively impact crime statistics.**

I own a 50 caliber rifle. Shooting it is roughly the firearms equivalent of racing a purpose-built dragster. I invite any lawmaker to handle and shoot it, to gain firsthand experience on its impracticality for criminal enterprise. **Banning 50 caliber firearms to prevent crime is like banning Top Fuel dragsters in order to prevent street racing and slow down getaway drivers.**

-Cassidy Kohout, Kihei

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:51:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Hello,

I am writing my testimony in opposition of SB 401.

I oppose SB 401 because I believe that average citizens should be able to possess firearms capable of firing 50 caliber ammunition.

According to General Accounting Office Report number OSI-99-15R, only 18 crimes have ever been committed with an 50 caliber firearm. As of 2024, the United States population is around 340 million. The odds of a 50 caliber firearm being used for crime is very low.

I do not support 50 caliber firearms being banned. I believe a citizen has every right to own said firearms. And that right is protected by the second amendment.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:56:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Hello!

I am writing in oposition of this bill SB 401. This is a blatant infringement on consitutional rights. Since we are on this topic. What is the bill aimed at doing? Making the public safer? If this is the case. Then how much safer would this make HI? Any numbers or data or stats to back up this claim? This is just an arbitrary ban on certain firearms and a blatant step on our constitutional rights.. Please I encourage who reads this to vote NO on this bill.

The 2nd amendment clearly states, “the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED.”

Thank you for your time!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:58:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha JHA Comittee,

I strongly oppose this bill due to the infringement of my 2nd Amendment Rights.

Respectfully,

Normand A Cote

Law Abiding Citizen

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:59:28 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strongly oppose! How does this adress any criminal issue? It does not. It punishes law abiding firearm enthusiasts and goes against our consitutional rights.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 2:00:28 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 2:03:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Janie Bryan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hi, Thanks for this opportunity to express my support for SB401.

To be honest I can't even believe that this has to be discussed. Prohibitiing a military grade weapon that can fire .50 caliber or great ammunition is such a no brainer to me as a civililian and citizen of Hawaii and in this community.

Why allow access to ammunitions and weapons that have the ability to go right through an armored vehicle from a mile away? Please do not allow this in our state.

After the Parkland High School mass shooting in 2018, I remember a surgeon who was interviewed saying that with high velocity and big caliber weapons the doctors actually had no chance to save any of the victims in surgery since their internal organs were just shredded by the size and velocity of the bullets. The percussioin of the bullets destroyed them internally.

I support prohibiting this type of weapon and ammunition to be legal!

Mahalo---Janie Bryan

Resident of Hawaii since 1988 and Oahu since 2003

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 2:12:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strongly oppose this bill! This is infringing upon our 2A rights. None of these bills will hamper or hurt criminals and crime they will only hinder the law abiding citizen trying to protect his or her family and or incident people!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 2:21:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 2:31:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
G L Hutchinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please doneeverything you can to make Hawaii safe

**Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life."**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 2:37:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
ISAIH K REYNOLDS	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill as it is an infringement on my constitutiona rights as a US citezen and 2nd Amendment rights. By passing this bill you are not reducing any type of gun crimes, gun violence. Those who wish to cause harm and break the law will always find a way. This only give those who wish to cause harm and break the law more power and take power away from the law abiding citezen.

Isaih Reynolds

Hilo Hawaii

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 2:42:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 2:51:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

.50 cal. rifles are not used in crime. They are too big, too heavy and too expensive. the only people who use them are hobbyists whose work sometimes helps our military arms researchers to build better ammunition for military uses. Go after criminals, not scary sounding firearms.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 2:52:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB401

SB401's ban on .50 caliber firearms is a clear violation of the Second Amendment, which guarantees the right of citizens to keep and bear arms. By prohibiting a specific type of firearm based on its caliber, the bill infringes on the fundamental rights of law-abiding gun owners. The Second Amendment was intended to protect the individual's right to possess firearms for self-defense, hunting, and other lawful purposes. Banning .50 caliber firearms undermines this constitutional right and sets a dangerous precedent for further restrictions on gun ownership.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 2:56:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this initiative to restrict 2nd amendment rights.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 3:03:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teina Anthony	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I strongly oppose this measure here are my arguments against this bill:**

**1. Second Amendment Rights (U.S. Context)**

- In the U.S., many argue that restricting .50 caliber rounds infringes on the Second Amendment, which guarantees the right to bear arms. Some see it as a slippery slope toward banning other types of ammunition.

**2. Rarely Used in Crime**

- There is very little evidence that .50 caliber rounds are commonly used in criminal activity. Most criminals opt for smaller, more concealable weapons rather than large, expensive rifles that fire .50 BMG rounds.

**3. Long-Range Sporting and Hunting Use**

- Many civilians use .50 caliber rifles for long-range shooting competitions and extreme-distance target shooting. Some also use them for hunting large game. A ban could negatively impact these legal and responsible activities.

**4. High Cost and Limited Accessibility**

- .50 caliber weapons and their ammunition are expensive, making them impractical for most people. A typical .50 BMG round costs \$5–\$10, and rifles cost several thousand dollars. The high cost itself limits widespread ownership.

**5. Enforcement and Black Market Issues**

- Banning .50 caliber ammunition could create a black market, making it more difficult for law enforcement to track and regulate. As seen with other firearm bans, determined individuals may still acquire them illegally.



**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 3:07:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alika Valdez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 4:02:17 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Honorable Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee,

Please oppose SB401.

Mahalo for all you do for the people of Hawaii!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 4:20:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose sb401 as it is an infringement to people's 2nd amendment rights. There are pistols and revolvers that are .50 caliber in size such as 50AE and 500S&W magnum that are still used for lawful purposes such as defending the home.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 4:22:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Ellinwood	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 4:29:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

No to Bill SB401 this government overreach!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 4:35:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB401

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 4:43:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 5:02:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill because, what crime spree has happened with 50 cal wepons.

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
03-13-25

Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair  
ON  
S.B. 401 SD2, RELATING TO FIREARMS

by  
Scott W. Smart

Chairman Tarnas and members of the House Committee on JHA:

I am testifying OPPOSING S.B. 401 SD2

This bill seeks to make transfer or possession of firearms with a caliber of .50 or greater illegal in the future. It appears to be aimed at firearms intended to fire the .50 BMG cartridge. I am unaware of any crime occurring in Hawaii where a rifle chambered for this cartridge was involved. The harm is entirely speculative.

There are many avenues to reduce the incidence of crime in our state. Prohibiting rifles chambered for .50 or larger is not a priority.

I note that under federal law (National Firearms Act of 1934 recodified as Title II Gun Control Act of 1968) a “destructive device” is defined as (in part):  
“(2) any type of weapon by whatever name known which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, the barrel or barrels of which have a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter, except a shotgun or shotgun shell which the Secretary finds is generally recognized as particularly suitable for sporting purposes; and (3) any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into a destructive device as defined in subparagraphs (1) and (2) and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.” [26USC5845(f)]

Firearms that meet the definition of “destructive device” require registration, making, and transfer taxes and are unlikely to be used in crime.

Further, the Act defines “antique firearm”:

“(g) Antique firearm. The term 'antique firearm' means any firearm not designed or redesigned for using rim fire or conventional center fire ignition with fixed ammunition and manufactured in or before 1898 (including any matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition system or replica thereof, whether actually manufactured before or after the year 1898) and also any firearm using fixed ammunition manufactured in or before 1898, for which ammunition is no longer manufactured in the

United States and is not readily available in the ordinary channels of commercial trade.”  
[26USC5845(g)]

26USC5845(f) provides an exemption from destructive device determination  
“The term 'destructive device' shall not include ... any other device which the Secretary finds is not likely to be used as a weapon, or is an antique or is a rifle which the owner intends to use solely for sporting purposes.”

Federal law is sufficient for this case and Hawaii law should conform to the definitions of destructive device and antique firearm.

Please vote NO on SB401SD2

/s/

Scott W. Smart  
94-210 Kakaili Pl  
Mililani, HI 96789  
(808) 627-1220

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 5:08:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
ASHLEY DE SILVA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB 401, SD 2 - increasing gun violence in Hawaii is probably a consequence of of the Supreme Court relaxing the rules for firearms being carried in public.

SB401, SD2 is required for the increased protection of our citizens by the prohibition of firearms and rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50- caliber or higher. Such weapons must be banned for use by civilians.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 5:10:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 5:41:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sheryl Summers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 5:51:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Candace C Casper	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life. I would prefer even more restrictions, but this is what is in place at the moment.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 5:56:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

"Shall not be infringed" means shall not be infringed. Gun laws are unconstitutional. Stop trying to take away our rights. Definitely a good example of why Hawaii is the most corrupt "state"

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:04:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

2nd amendment rights

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:10:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James H. Casper	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting personal firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life. There is no threat on any of our islands that require a civilian to defend life or property with such a high powered rifle.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:17:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill is an overreach that punishes responsible gun owners while failing to address crime or public safety. This punishes hunters and sportsmen. Quit trying to trample on our 2nd amendment rights!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 6:23:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bevin Parker-Evans	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 12, 2025

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 401, SENATE DRAFT 2 RELATING TO FIREARMS  
Before the House Committee on JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS Thursday, March 13, 2025, 2:00 p.m.

Aloha Chairman Tarnas and Vice Chair Poepoe and all JHR members:

I am writing in strong support of SB401 and I strongly agree with the groups 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 which are also writing in support of SB 401. I am a resident of Kaua'i and I regularly fight to advance gun safety policies at every level of government, including within the state legislature. Many individuals work intensely with grassroots movements working towards common-sense public safety measures, especially as it relates to gun safety.

SB 401 would prohibit a specific type of military-grade weapon – firearms capable of firing .50 caliber or greater ammunition. Such rifles were designed for military sniper use, and they have the capability of piercing an armored vehicle from a distance of over a mile away. If you will stand with me and many others to support this bill, we will join 9 other states who prohibit the sale of all assault weapons. I think this is what Hawaii needs to insure our citizens would be safe from mass deaths in mass shootings. I also support all efforts to ensure the types of exceedingly dangerous weapons covered in SB 401 aren't available for civilian ownership.

Thank you for standing with Hawaii citizens who care about gun safety in our state. I strongly support SB401 and hope that the Judicial and Hawaiian Affairs committee will also stand with me to protect our islands with more gun safety laws.

Mahalo,

Bevin Parker-Evans, Kaua'i resident, 3721 Omao Road, Koloa, HI 96756

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:06:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I respectfully oppose this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:07:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing testimony in OPPOSITION for SB401. The 2nd Amendment states that the right to bear arms is a God given right that shall not be infringed. It does not say that the government has the right to limit what a law abiding citizen is allowed to obtain or possess. Yes, times change and so does technology and developments in firearms and that is why this amendment is written in this way. Our founding fathers knew that developments will occur and that the government shall never have the power to take away the exercising of that right.

And here is a little bit of information for our concerned politicians....there are people out there that collect firearms of all types. Some of them have 50 cal firearms and they use them in a lawful manner such as target shooting at Koko Head (when it is allowed). Some just collect firearms to just collect them. Has there been a crime committed by a weapon that was 50 cal (or higher) that I am unaware of? If not, what is the motivation for this specific detail in this bill? Why is it so important to single out this caliber of firearm?

No...it's not public safety that you are striving for. Its to slowly take away our rights a little at a time just to see how far you can go until all of our 2nd Amendment rights are taken away.

And because of this, I stand in OPPOSITION of SB401.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:14:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**Aloha Committee,**

**Please STRONGLY OPPOSE SB401. This bill severely restricts law-abiding gun owners and unfairly targets responsible firearm owners while doing little to improve public safety.**

**Please stop restricting responsible gun owners. This State fails in addressing the real issue - crime and public safety.**

**Remember your Oath - Protect our rights under the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution by OPPOSING SB401.**

**Mahalo for your time.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:48:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Protect law-abiding gun owners' rights by voting NO on SB401.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 7:52:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose this bill.

We have the RIGHT to BEAR ARMS.

nothing more, nothing less.

Stop trying to define arms.

Louella Vidinha

Hawaii resident

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:06:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB 401SD2. This is complete nonsense. This has got to stop. There is no following the United States constitution.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:32:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please support this measure.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:48:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing this testimony to oppose on this decision for it strips us complying citizens from our rights. This bill goes against all of our constitutional rights.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:50:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB401\_SD2, which seeks to include firearms capable of firing ammunition of fifty caliber or higher in the list of prohibited weapons. While I understand the intent to enhance public safety, I believe this bill is flawed and will have significant unintended consequences.

**Impact on Law-Abiding Citizens:** This bill unfairly penalizes responsible gun owners who use high-caliber firearms for lawful purposes such as hunting, sport shooting, and collecting. These firearms are rarely used in crimes, and banning them does not address the root causes of gun violence.

**Effectiveness in Reducing Crime:** Research has shown that bans on certain types of firearms, including high-capacity or high-caliber weapons, have inconclusive effects on reducing violent crime. For example, a study by RAND found that the evidence for the effects of such bans on firearm homicides is uncertain and inconsistent. (See <https://www.rand.org/research/gun-policy/analysis/ban-assault-weapons/violent-crime.html>) Criminals typically do not use such firearms due to their size, cost, and impracticality for illegal activities.

**Economic Consequences:** The proposed restrictions could negatively impact local businesses that sell firearms and related accessories. This could lead to job losses and economic downturns in communities that rely on this industry.

**Constitutional Concerns:** The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution guarantees the right to bear arms. SB401\_SD2 infringes upon this fundamental right by imposing arbitrary restrictions on certain types of firearms, setting a concerning precedent for further limitations.

Exemptions and Enforcement Challenges: The bill's exemptions for firearms obtained before a specific date create enforcement challenges and potential loopholes. This could lead to confusion among gun owners and law enforcement, undermining the bill's effectiveness.

In conclusion, while the goal of reducing gun violence is commendable, SB401\_SD2 is not the solution. I urge you to consider alternative measures that address the root causes of violence without infringing on the rights of law-abiding citizens. These could include enhanced background checks, mental health support, and community-based violence prevention programs.

Thank you for considering my testimony. I respectfully request that you vote against SB401\_SD2.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:50:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB401\_SD2, which seeks to include firearms capable of firing ammunition of fifty caliber or higher in the list of prohibited weapons. While I understand the intent to enhance public safety, I believe this bill is flawed and will have significant unintended consequences.

**Impact on Law-Abiding Citizens:** This bill unfairly penalizes responsible gun owners who use high-caliber firearms for lawful purposes such as hunting, sport shooting, and collecting. These firearms are rarely used in crimes, and banning them does not address the root causes of gun violence.

**Effectiveness in Reducing Crime:** Research has shown that bans on certain types of firearms, including high-capacity or high-caliber weapons, have inconclusive effects on reducing violent crime. For example, a study by RAND found that the evidence for the effects of such bans on firearm homicides is uncertain and inconsistent. (See <https://www.rand.org/research/gun-policy/analysis/ban-assault-weapons/violent-crime.html>) Criminals typically do not use such firearms due to their size, cost, and impracticality for illegal activities.

**Economic Consequences:** The proposed restrictions could negatively impact local businesses that sell firearms and related accessories. This could lead to job losses and economic downturns in communities that rely on this industry.

**Constitutional Concerns:** The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution guarantees the right to bear arms. SB401\_SD2 infringes upon this fundamental right by imposing arbitrary restrictions on certain types of firearms, setting a concerning precedent for further limitations.

Exemptions and Enforcement Challenges: The bill's exemptions for firearms obtained before a specific date create enforcement challenges and potential loopholes. This could lead to confusion among gun owners and law enforcement, undermining the bill's effectiveness.

In conclusion, while the goal of reducing gun violence is commendable, SB401\_SD2 is not the solution. I urge you to consider alternative measures that address the root causes of violence without infringing on the rights of law-abiding citizens. These could include enhanced background checks, mental health support, and community-based violence prevention programs.

Thank you for considering my testimony. I respectfully request that you vote against SB401\_SD2.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:52:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I believe in the second amendment

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:07:48 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This law is a piece of crap and is violating my rights !

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:09:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Banning a specific size of ammunition is clearly based on misconceptions about guns in general.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:19:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB 401.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:22:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

To the Members of the Committee,

Please ensure that this common-sense gun legislation proceeds forward to strengthen our gun laws in Hawaii. These weapons have no place on our islands.

With aloha,

Dave Ball, Waialae-Kahala

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:35:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

i am I opposed to bill sb401. Restricting what type of firearms that citizens are able to own, is in direct violation of the 2nd amendment period. This bill should not even be considered.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:42:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Phil Davidson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairman, honorable committee members, and fellow residents. My name is Phil Davidson, a law-abiding Hawaii resident, and I'm here to oppose Senate Bill 401. While I support genuine public safety efforts, this bill misses the mark by targeting responsible gun owners instead of addressing actual threats.

SB 401 bans firearms capable of firing .50 caliber or higher ammunition, with narrow exceptions. This sounds tough, but it's a solution in search of a problem. How often are .50 caliber firearms used in crimes here? Almost never—Hawaii's gun violence stems overwhelmingly from handguns, not these rare, specialized weapons. National data backs this: the FBI's 2022 crime stats show rifles of any kind, let alone .50 caliber, account for less than 3% of firearm homicides. In a state with our low crime rates and strict laws, this feels like theater, not safety.

For folks like me—hunters, collectors, or those who value self-defense—this bill strips away rights without evidence. These firearms aren't cheap or common; they're owned by people who've jumped through Hawaii's hoops: permits, checks, registration. Yet SB 401 punishes us, not criminals who bypass laws anyway. The registration exception? It's a half-measure—future owners are still locked out, shrinking a lawful community for no clear gain.

Enforcement is another issue. Our police are stretched thin yet we're asking them to chase down niche guns already tracked by our system. Meanwhile, illegal trafficking and mental health gaps, the real drivers of violence, get ignored. This bill wastes time and money we don't have.

I've talked to neighbors and shooters across the islands—we're frustrated. We follow the rules, yet we're the ones hit. Please, vote "no" on SB 401. Focus on what works: cracking down on illegal guns and supporting our communities, not symbolic bans that burden the law-abiding. Mahalo for your time.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:55:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**Aloha,**

**My name is Eric Hammond, and I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB401.**

**What's the obsession with .50 Caliber? Why are we banning something that is in common usage? Did we not learn our lessons with the repeated losses in court when these types of bills are passed. Then we waste taxpayer money settling or losing and having to change the laws. Heller and Cayetano have already dismantled similar laws.**

**End the waste of our tax money and of trying to censor our right to arms.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:31:49 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401. Please stop making useless laws for law abiding firearms owners. Concentrate on mental issues instead. A firearm is just a tool to protect my family and loved ones. Police/law enforcement cannot protect you at all times

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:37:32 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill is government overreach and a violation of the second amendment of the US Constitution. It is our right to keep and bear arms. This will not be infringed.

Thank you for opposing this bill and listening to the people of Hawaii.

Susan Wadas

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 11:49:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Actual language of the bill is still murky enough that shotguns could still be banned.

Even if they actually exclude shotguns, this is more than just banning Barrets and .50 BMG, it bans EVERYTHING that's .50 or more. This includes some handgun hunting rounds and a few other rifle rounds that aren't as powerful just because '50 cal's can blow up tanks.'

Again, this is a violation of Bruen, Heller, and Cayetano.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 1:52:45 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose.

This only further restricts law-abiding citizens means of defending themselves.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 5:57:15 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it is strongly against our second amendment and violates our rights as a US citizen!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 6:05:10 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill for this is a direct violation of the second amendment, which all of you sworn in to office are to "UPHOLD AND PROTECT !!!"

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 8:26:17 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I respectfully oppose this bill.

This bill seeks to ban firearms that fire .50 caliber or higher ammunition. Not all ammunition .50 or higher is the same. Pistols do not have the power sufficient to take large game animals. Thus .50cal pistols utilize the size of the bullet to take game cleanly.

There is only one .50 cal or higher firearm type that is utilized by the military and can be legally owned by private citizens. This firearm has been demonized by the media and movies. No crimes have been committed with .50 cal pistols or rifles.

This is a knee jerk reaction to a non existant problem. Please vote no to this uninformed bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Nathan Roldan

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 8:58:16 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Weissman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There has been an increase in gun-related violence in Hawai'i since the US Supreme Court eased restrictions on carrying firearms in public. SB401,SD2 is an important step in making Hawaiian citizens safer from large-capacity, military-grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

Mahalo,

Paul Weissman

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 9:14:26 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose sb401

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 9:20:51 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Karen Sullivan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**SB 401, SD 2** - Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 9:25:22 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Bill poorly written. No empirical data to justify this law change.

.50 caliber rifles are NOT in common use, or showing up at crime scenes. .50 caliber revolvers are used for handgun hunting, thus will now be banned....why?

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 10:57:41 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This is unconstitutional, will not hold up in court, and wastes time, money, and effort. Just stop it.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 11:18:31 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lily N	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 11:19:56 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christina Bowen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 11:51:08 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

as a registered voter, i oppose this bill!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 11:52:47 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 11:52:57 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 12:06:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 12:10:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Edouard Cantin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawai'i. SB 401 SD2 is an important step in the right direction to protect our community. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.**

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 1:13:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB401. Chanara Richmond HD42

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 1:16:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

We strongly oppose this bill on the premise that it is a direct violation of our Constitutional Rights! We need to save the unnecessary monies that this will cost taxpayers in defending law suits against this Unconstitutional Bill. Thank you!

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 1:36:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I think this bill is unnecessary. I do not see a need for this bill.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 2:04:55 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Laurel Nakanishi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Lawmakers,

Please support SB 401 SD2. Since the US Supreme Court has eased the way for more firearms to be carried in our public places, there has been an increase of gun-related violence in Hawaii. **SB 401, SD2** is an important step in the right direction to protect our citizens. Prohibiting firearms or rifles with the capacity to fire ammunition of 50-caliber or higher (with certain exclusions) is critical. These are military grade weapons that have no place in civilian life.

Mahalo

Laurel

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 2:56:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB401, which imposes further restrictions on law-abiding gun owners while failing to address the real issue—criminal misuse of firearms. This bill unfairly targets responsible citizens by placing unnecessary burdens on their Second Amendment rights, while doing little to deter those who ignore gun laws altogether.

As history and data have shown, restrictive gun laws do not reduce violent crime. Instead, they leave law-abiding individuals defenseless while criminals continue to operate outside the law. SB401 is yet another overreach that punishes responsible gun owners rather than focusing on enforcement against actual criminals.

I urge you to oppose SB401 and instead focus on policies that uphold constitutional rights while addressing the root causes of crime. Please stand with the law-abiding citizens of Hawaii and reject this ineffective and unconstitutional measure.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 3:36:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Lono	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**In strong opposition of bill SB401 SD2.** This bill aims to restrict the rights of law-abiding citizens who have spent a lot of money for required safety courses for a permit and also went thru back ground checks to own their firearms. If this bill is passed, who's to say they won't go after another caliber next time?

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 4:26:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

As a concerned and law biding citizen I please urge you to oppose this bill. It does nothing to stop criminals from doing what they do and only puts further pressure turning law biding citizens into criminals. This bill also goes against our constitutional rights.

**SB-401-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 5:04:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/13/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

OPPOSE!!! UNCONSTITUTIONAL!!!