



#### **ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:** S.B. NO. 69, S.D. 1, RELATING TO FIREARMS.

#### **BEFORE THE:**

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.

DATE:	Wednesday, February 20, 2013	<b>TIME:</b> 9:45 a.m.
LOCATION:	State Capitol, Room 211	
TESTIFIER(S):	David M. Louie, Attorney General, or Debbie L. Tanakaya, Deputy Attorney C	Jeneral

Chair Ige and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General supports this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to close a loophole in our current laws in which a person bringing into Hawaii a firearm purchased outside of this State need not go through the background check process that a person in this State is required to go through prior to purchasing a firearm. Furthermore, this bill allocates funds to the county police departments in order to establish programs for gun safety education and training, extensive background checks for mental health concerns for certain individuals wishing to register a gun, or gun buy-backs.

Before a person can acquire a firearm in this State, one must go through a permit to acquire process, during which an extensive background check is done. The background check is a necessary step to ensure that the individual is not prohibited from possessing a firearm in this State. However, there is a loophole in our current statute that allows an individual to possess a registered firearm in this State, without going through the permit to acquire process, thus avoiding the all important background check. If a person arriving in the State brings or causes to be brought into the State a firearm, the person is required to register the firearm, but, no permit process or background check is required when the person registers the firearm. Therefore, individuals who might have been prohibited from acquiring a firearm in this State, can acquire a firearm outside of this State, where a permit process or extensive background check is not required, and then register the firearm with the State's county police departments without a background check.

This bill will require background checks of persons registering firearms who acquired

Testimony of the Department of the Attorney General Twenty-Seventh Legislature, 2013 Page 2 of 2

their firearms without going through the state permit process. This will enable county police departments to determine if the person registering a firearm is prohibited from possessing a firearm in this State. This bill will also allow for the costs of the background check to be passed on to the registrant, similar to the passing on of costs to the individual going through the permit to acquire process.

The appropriation of funds to the county police departments will better enable the county police departments to keep up with the demands of firearm registrations and applications for permits to acquire firearms. The funding is especially important because of the new background checks that police will be required to conduct when a person registers a firearm purchased outside of this State. The Department does suggest, however, that the use of the funds to do extensive background checks not be limited to "mental health concerns for certain individuals wishing to register guns." The Department would like to see that appropriate funds be given to the county police to do extensive background checks for any individual wishing to register a firearm, especially since the individual is already in possession of a firearm.

The gun buy-back program will provide an incentive for those with unwanted firearms to turn in those firearms to the police. Most importantly, it takes firearms off the streets. Instead of holding on to an unwanted firearm that may be stolen, misused, or picked up by a child, the possessor of the firearm will be able to voluntarily turn in the firearm with some compensation.

Accordingly, the Department of the Attorney General respectfully requests the passage of this bill.



BERNARD P. CARVALHO, JR. Mayor

> GARY K. HEU Managing Director

# POLICE DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF KAUAI

3990 KAANA STREET, SUITE 200 LIHUE, HAWAII 96766-1268 TELEPHONE (808) 241-1600 FAX (808) 241-1604 www.kauaipd.org



DARRYL D. PERRY Chief of Police dperry@kauai.gov

MICHAEL M. CONTRADES Deputy Chief mcontrades@kauai.gov

February 19, 2013

Testimony for Senate Bill 69, S.D. 1 Senator Will Espero, Chair Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Hearing: Thursday, January 31, 2013, 3:00pm, Room 224

#### SUBJECT: SENATE BILL NO. 69, S.D. 1, RELATING TO FIREARMS

Dear Chair Espero and Committee Members:

The Kauai Police Department is in support of Senate Bill No. 69, S.D. 1, Relating to Firearms.

As stated, gun violence continues to be a challenge nation-wide and here in Hawaii.

The proposed registration requirement is consistent with current laws and closes a loophole that would

otherwise allow unqualified applicants to be in possession of a firearm. Further, firearms education and

the gun buy-back program will assist law enforcement in safety awareness while reducing the number of

unwanted guns within our communities through forfeiture incentives.

The Kauai Police Department strongly supports the passage of this bill as it is focuses on officer and

public safety while maintaining individual's Rights to "keep and bear Arms" as articulated in the 2<sup>nd</sup>

Amendment of United States Bill of Rights.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely Chief of Police

POLICE DEPARTMENT

## CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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



KIRK W. CALDWELL MAYOR



LOUIS M. KEALOHA CHIEF

DAVE M. KAJIHIRO MARIE A. MCCAULEY DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE TN-DNK

February 20, 2013

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair and Members Committee on Ways and Means State Senate Hawaii State Capitol 415 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Ige and Members:

Subject: Senate Bill No. 69. S.D. 1, Relating to Firearms

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

The HPD supports the amendments to Senate Bill No. 69, S.D. 1, Relating to Firearms. The amendments to Section 134-3 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes require that every person registering firearms be fingerprinted and photographed. In addition, it also allows for the assessment of a fee, which is charged by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the registration of a comprehensive background check.

The HPD has its reservations in regards to the allocation of funds to the counties for a gun buy-back program or gun safety education and training. For consistency and clarity of the program, we believe a state agency (e.g., Department of Public Safety) should oversee the program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

THOMAS NITTA, Major Records and Identification Division

APPROVED:

Chief of Police

Serving and Protecting With Aloha



Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Baker	Hawaii Defense Foundation	Oppose	Yes

Comments: We oppose this measure. Will be present at hearing to provide testimony.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.



Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Yarbrough	Abyssal Hawaii Marine Technical Services, LLC.	Oppose	Yes

Comments: As an individual and small business owner, I most strenuously object to this bill. The fact that SB69 continues to circulate after the almost unanimous negative testimony in the prior committee is just as objectionable. The police force is already overburdened with servicing the already onerous gun regulations in this state. More gun regulations will not reduce crime in our communities. I object to spending more of my tax money on useless gun control laws. There are already abundant resources for gun education, mostly through the NRA. The government need not get further involved. The committee members should already be aware that criminals do not, by definition adhere to the law. Stop trying to may violent behavior a gun issue an work to address the criminal issue. Leave legal gun owners and businesses alone. Start by enforcing existing laws, keep criminals in prison, fund additional police officers, create armed school guard positions and support "shall issue" concealed carry legislation so that citizens can partner with the police in protecting themselves and the community.

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Wednesday, February 20, 2013

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Dear Chairman Ige and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

#### Subject: Support for SB 69, SD1

The Injury Prevention Advisory Committee <u>supports SB69, SD1</u> that would require county police departments to perform background checks on individuals wishing to register a firearm that was acquired out-of-state. The bill also appropriates funds to county police departments for gun safety and gun buyback programs.

Established in 1990, the Injury Prevention Advisory Committee (IPAC) is an advocacy group committed to preventing and reducing injuries in Hawai'i. IPAC members include representatives from public and private agencies, physicians and professionals working together to address the eight leading areas of injury, including violence prevention.

We support this bill because it will help to ensure that individuals who acquire firearms from out-of-state are legally entitled to own them. Hawai`i has clearly defined requirements for registration while other states vary in their requirements for background checks and gun ownership, and may not meet Hawaii's stricter standards. It is, therefore, important that gun owners who come to Hawaii meet the same safety standards for gun ownership specified in this bill as Hawai`i residents.

While Hawaii has one of the lowest violent crime rates and gun firearm homicide rates in the nation, we still need to address gun deaths in Hawai'i. We urge you to pass SB69, SD1 help to ensure the safety of Hawai'i residents and visitors.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

## Sincerely, Error! Objects cannot be created from editing field codes.

Bruce McEwan Chair Injury Prevention Advisory Committee



From:Yamauchi, Kent K CIV (N3R1-4A)To:WAM TestimonySubject:TestimonyDate:Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:07:37 AM

Submitted ByOrganizationTestifierPositionPresent at HearingKent K. YamauchiIndividualOpposeNo

Comments: In WAM, Rm 211, 2/20/13 IN OPPOSITION Honorable Chair and Members, I am opposed to this bill for a number of reasons. First of all, is the waste of taxpayers money for the buy back program. These programs have proven to be dismal failures wherever initiated. They are an expensive 'feel good' program, paid with our tax dollars. These 'buy back' programs have been proven time an time again not to disarm criminals. Second, What is the criteria for and who determines "performing extensive checks for certain individuals"; in reference to mental health? Third, All those that limit our rights, do so with nothing more than their own personal bias as justification. I would love to see my tax dollars go toward gun safety training and facilities for NRA Instructor programs on all Islands that need more public ranges and proper classrooms.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Kent K. Yamauchi

Kent K. Yamauchi, Senior Vice Commander, Kauai Veteran's Council President, Kauai Hunting Association Commishioner, Kauai Aquatic Life & Wildlife Advisory Committee.





NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION 555 CAPITOL MALL, SUITE 625 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814 (916) 446-2455 voice • (916) 448-7469 fax www.nraila.org

STATE & LOCAL AFFAIRS DIVISION DANIEL REID, HAWAII STATE LIAISON

February 19, 2013

The Honorable David Ige Chair, Senate Ways and Means Committee Sent Via Email

Re: Senate Bill 69 – OPPOSE

Dear Senators:

On behalf of the Hawaii members of the National Rifle Association, we strongly oppose Senate Bill 69.

The NRA supports the use of the National Instant Check System (NICS) to perform background checks; however it does not support NICS checks on those people who have already legally acquired a firearm. Further, tax payer money should not be allocated to the police departments to perform fruitless gun buyback programs or to perform "extensive background checks" without defining terms or parameters for those procedures.

Current law requires people who bring firearms into Hawaii from another state –even on a temporary basis- to register their firearms within 72 hours. This bill now adds a fingerprinting and a background check (NICS) requirement on the owner in addition to the registration requirement on such legally possessed firearms. These are not persons who have yet to acquire a firearm and are waiting for background approval; these are persons who already possess a firearm and are attempting to comply with the registration requirement. This will not improve public safety; instead it will create additional hurdles for law abiding gun owners as well as put increase strain on the already overburdened police registrations.

This bill allocates tax payer dollars to county police and permits these funds to be used for gun buy-back programs. Gun buy-back programs across the nation are often pitched with high hopes but have historically proven to be not only significant failures, but a waste of tax payer dollars with no noticeable impact on crime. Those with criminal intentions are unlikely to surrender a firearm for something as nominal as a gift card. Further, monies allocated to the county police departments are also permitted to be used performing "Extensive background checks for mental health concerns for certain individuals wishing to register their guns". What constitutes an "extensive background check" or what constitutes a "mental health concern"? Without proper definitions, these requirements remain open for interpretation by the local authorities. Could an "extensive background check" turn a 5 day hunting or shooting trip to the islands into 10 days of psychoanalysis by the local police sergeant?

This bill presents no viable solutions that would make improvements to Hawaii, but instead attacks law abiding citizens who are choosing to exercise a right to own a firearm. Thank you for your attention and I ask that you oppose this bill.

Cordially,

Daniel S. Reid State Liaison

Cc: Members, Senate Ways and Means Committee



Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aaron Kondo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Although this measure may seem appropriate in the wake of the Sandy Hook tragedy it is a waste of tax dollars and merely a knee jerk reaction to the tragic event in Connecticut. Hawaii does not have a gun violence problem or a vast number of unregistered firearms. We already have requirements for universal background checks, registration and firearm safety and education. If you are going to fund a program please look into firearm safety and education such as the Hunter Safety course put on by the DLNR. This investment would go a lot further than any gun buyback program and would help to protect future generations by providing guidance on firearms that promotes public safety. Thank you for your concern in this matter.

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Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alvin Miyatake	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposed to the SB69-SD1 bill for the following reasons: 1. The county police departments have no training available to teach the public firearms safety. In Hawaii, only the NRA has programs which teach basic firearms handling and safety. 2. Buyback programs are only political feel good attempts with no substance. If people want to turn in weapons, they should do so without being paid for it. 3. The police are not able to protect the public and do not do so in emergencies. I cannot rely on them for help if someone breaks in my house, or threatens me in some way while I am at home. I therefore have to rely on my own methods of self defense. The idea that I must go through the fingerprinting and registering each time I purchase a firearm in another state to bring it back to hawaii is nonsense and time consuming, costing more money in the long run. Once fingerprinted, the fingerprints on a person do not change. Doing it each time a firearm purchase is done is counter productive. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify. Alvin Miyatake

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Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bart a Canada	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Ma'am/Sirs; I respectfully oppose the proposed SB69, for the following reasons: 1rst, laws already exist that require mental health background checks before issuing permits to acquire firearms. Simply writing another law only goes to compound and confuse the complexities faced by law enforcement personel in trying to interpret the barrage of laws, ordinances, rules etc., that already exist. Greater emphasis on enforcing the present/existing laws will better serve the concerns of law enforcement with repsect to prohibiting persons of unfit mental capacity in obtaining permits to acquire firearms. 2nd, by requiring law enforcement personnel to provide firearms safety and training courses, you are effectively adding to their already overtaxed responsibilities and financial capabilities, and removing the objectivity of having independent parties such as NRA and Privately Trained and Certified Instructors provide such training. 3rd, by offering Gun Buyback Programs, you are suddenly putting law enforcement personnel in the uncomfortable position of having to play Retail Store/Sales Clerk in evaluating the value and pricing of purchasing back guns and subject officers to allegations of theft and/or price fixings. You currently don't send your children to Public School because you feel Private School offers a better education, and you shouldn't have Police Officers be required to provide training when Private Educators already offer a more comprehensive and complete training package not compromised by cuts in government budgets. Penalizing the masses for the sins of a few is neither good government or good for society as a whole. Take away a right of an individual to protect oneself will only leave the masses vulnerable the excesses of those that already prey on the helpless and less fortunate. Our forefathers learned this lesson the hardway and therefore put laws and Constitutional Protections into place to spare Americans from ever again having to suffer from an oppressive, restrictive, unresponsive government. Respectfully, Bart A. Canada Honolulu Police Detective - Retired

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webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov



Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brandon Leong	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill is a waste of tax payer's money. In a time where the state has budget deficits, why are we spending money on this?

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Isaacson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: SB69 is beginning to morph into a monster. Gun buy-backs are wishful thinking measures that won't get guns out of the hands of criminals and may break a vital evidence chain. There is no demonstrated problem with the current law in terms of the registration process. Additional language leaves open the possibility of a witch hunt for "certain individuals" without any stated limitations. Why are we trying to make the process more complicated when there isn't any apparent problem with registration other than the fact that it is already difficult due to understaffing, poor parking availability, and the requirement that all firearms be registered in one facility on Oahu for that county's residents. Vague language in law equals bad law, especially when "fixing" a non-existent problem.

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Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Teeter	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I have read the proposed bill and oppose all but one of the measures included. Please do not pass this law as specified, amend it or throw it out entirely. Requiring background checks on guns brought into the state and registered is not necessary. I oppose this pointless requirement. Not only that, but the legislation is incomplete. What happens if someone does not pass a NCIS check? Are you proposing to take from them a firearm they legally possess and intend to register? NCIS checks are not meant for that purpose. Anyone who would fail a NCIS check would never come to register a firearm anyway. They would keep it illegally. So this new requirement is not only incomplete, unnecessary, but it will do nothing to curb crime. The only section of this bill I support is the allocation of funds to police departments, for the sole purpose of gun safety programs. I believe this to be a worthwhile expenditure that would serve our communities well. I do not believe we should use any funds on buy backs. I do not believe we should allocate funds to "special background checks" as vaguely specified in the bill. We should focus on enforcing our existing laws and funding police so they can help promote gun safety. Please do not pass this law as specified, amend it or throw it out entirely. Thank you, Brian Teeter

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bronson K Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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## **RE: STRONGLY APPOSE SB 69**

### Aloha,

I saw you are having a hearing on this bill on the 20th. As a volunteer Firearms Instructor and hunter on Maui, I wanted to give you some inputs on this bad bill.

1. All **firearms safety training** in Hawaii (including hunter safety classes, & boy scouts) are taught by NRA Certified Instructors and Range Masters on a volunteer basis. These same volunteers maintain the few broken down ranges and training facilities that are sorely in need of repairs and maintenance and we pay out of pocket all our license fees, certification fees, and training required to keep our certifications.

On Maui we have one legal range that is open to the public for 4 hours twice per month, the wait lines are very long and if you do not arrive at the range at 5 a.m. to park at the gate you more than likely will not get a spot on the range to shoot. This is not good from a firearms safety standpoint, as their seems to be 200% more demand for range time that the volunteers can donate time. This leads to folks trying to find their own shooting range somewhere on the island which is never a good idea, authorized ranges are specially engineered for safety of the shooters and surrounding areas. If you want to cut down on illegal shooting, grant some funds to the legitimate gun clubs that provide ranges to the public to meet the demand. Remember these are law-abiding voters who are just looking for a place to practice their sport.

2. **Gun buy back programs** for Police Departments are just feel good programs for elected officials and an outrageous abuse of tax payer funds, you get all the broken firearms that cannot be repaired and a rip off a few Widows who turn in their husbands rare antique pistol or rifle that she could have gotten \$2,000 - \$3000 at a gun shop (gee think that might pay for her medical cost for a few months?) And of course these programs have been plagued with individual officers who just have to pocket one of the good guns that come's across the desk. However, you do get a few nice photo ops that do absolutely nothing for firearms violence or getting guns out of the hands of criminals and prohibited persons.

3. Fingerprinting is also a waste of valuable police agency time and your voters time, for instance when I moved to Hawaii many years ago, my fingerprints were on file with the FBI and NCIC as 1. a former police officer, 2. a former Marine, former Government intelligence officer, 3. A Top Secret cleared defense contractor, and 4. oh, six concealed weapons permits in other states - do you think that any of the mattered to the MPD? Why no, we want to make money, not screen your prints that are on file already. The standing in line with the recently

arrested felons was also a real treat since they only have one fingerprinting area. Ask each of the Chiefs of Police how many folks they have stopped in the past year from fingerprinting of new visitors to Hawaii – ZERO, as felons are not going to walk into police Headquarters and ask to be fingerprinted so they can register a gun – only law abiding citizens do this.

If you are serious about gun safety in Hawaii then take these funds and give grants to the existing volunteer firearms clubs that conduct all the training in Hawaii. The Chief of Police on each Island knows who each club is as we have to submit "a notarized" certificate of training for each student that graduates from the NRA certified courses.

If you are serious about felons with firearms, then use these funds to start a felon firearm task force with the US Marshalls, ATF and the FBI to target and get guns and criminals off the street and into jail! Do not tax and impact that law abiding citizens that put in you office and pay taxes to the state (other than when they have to take leave without pay to stand in line for 3-4 hours to register their guns).

Thank you for your time and consideration, please kill this bill as it waste valuable taxpayer funds and valuable police resources, not to mention the huge waste of time to your law-abiding voters.

Jeff Brown Captain USA MI, Ret



Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Among Jr	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christine Hanlin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Honorable Chair and Members, I am opposed to this bill. I feel this program wastes taxpayer money as Hawaii is already a safe place to live. Gun buyback programs do not impact crime rates (2004 study from the National Research Council of the National Academies report: Firearms and Violence: A critical review). Throwing money at an ineffective program is a waste of my money. I believe having the police start a firearms education program would be ineffective since they promised to create one in 1994 and failed to do so. The NRA already has the best rated education program from which I participated. Why would we start another program from scratch? Police officers train recruits on how to quickly stop a criminal with their firearm rather than safe handling for citizens. Rather than throwing money at a nonexistent program, that money would be better spent supporting facilities for the NRA to educate the public. I support checks for out of state registrations, but have a few concerns. As fingerprints do not change, the person should not be reprinted if they are on file. Money allotted for this bill should be used to increase staff and firearm registration locations at other police stations. This will alleviate the grossly long and time consuming lines that would be further jammed with these increased background checks. Having extensive checks for mental health concerns for certain individuals is redundant and should be removed from the bill. There are already statutes regarding improving mental health background checks (SB932, SD1), and the police should operate within the current statutes. Thank you for the opportunity to testify, Christine Hanlin

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Baker	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: This bill is a complete waste of time, money, and effort. The police department can hardly keep up with registration as is. It's also likely to infringe on individuals liberties. What will you do if someone fails the NICS check? It does not provide enough information for the PD to act upon it, and you can't reasonably delay the individuals from having their firearms. Even a minimal delay of preventing them from possessing guns they already own will be a violation of their civil liberties.

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Goo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill, it is not specific on what is considered a mental illness, will you firearms be taken away just on a notion or something more concrete. Need to be better clarified. Also it puts a overly burden on those who come to Hawaii who want to go hunting, shoot competition. There already is a law that those who come to Hawaii with a firearm must register the gun.

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Wela	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is a waste of taxpayers money. The police in Hawaii have a poor record of educating the public regarding firearms use and safety. Money should be used to support NRA/citizen education programs and to build more ranges for the public to use. Police have no business conducting extensive investigations of people's mental health backgrounds. Stand behind your oath to defend and protect the constitution of the state of Hawaii and the United States of America.

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darin Haitsuka	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly OPPOSE this bill. Citizens are already free to turn in unwanted firearms to their respective county police departments. This is currently done at NO COST to the taxpayer. I can think of many better ways to spend \$200,000. With the poor condition of our roads, schools and sewer systems, I'm sure that our lawmakers can find a better way to spend \$200,000. Please do the sensible thing and kill this piece of legislation before any more time can be wasted on it.

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Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Soon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is a waste of MY tax money. It also imposes unreasonable red tape and frustration on law abiding citizens.

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Debbie Okamura	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: OPPOSE. Buy back programs only get guns that are worthless thus defeating the original purpose. If a person moving here has documents to prove any firearm being brought in to hawaii was previously legally registered a transfer of that info should be all that is required. No waiting period, mental health cks etc. Only law abiding are going to follow laws.

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Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Douglas Ternora	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Senators: I strongly oppose SB 69. Hawaii already has in place a reasonable gun registration and back ground check law. There is no need to further complicate the process nor to, in essence, harass citizens wishing to exercise their 2nd Amendment rights by owning firearms. It should be pointed out that the strictest gun laws in the nation are already enacted in Chicago and that city remains the highest gun violent jurisdiction in the country. To reduce gun violence, you need to take the guns away from the criminals. Quite simply, I suggest you consider increasing the penalties for illegal conduct and crimes involving firearms rather than forcing law abiding citizens to jump through more hoops to exercise their rights to firearm ownership and use. If you take guns away from the citizens, or seriously restrict their access to firearms, only the bad guys will have guns. Respectfully submitted, Douglas Ternora

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	jwmorrow@att.net
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 5:14:13 PM
Attachments:	SB69SD1-T.docx

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. J. W. Morrow	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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I oppose S.B. 69, S.D. 1. The primary problem with this proposed legislation is that places additional regulatory burdens on honest, law-abiding citizens and will not reduce gun violence by criminals and mentally disturbed individuals. Furthermore, the proposed funds for firearms buy-back could be put to much better use, e.g., education, infrastructure maintenance, etc.. Such programs in other jurisdictions have never been proven to prevent violent crime. The proposed fingerprinting and photographing of individuals wishing to register firearms is not only a burden but an absolute insult to law-abiding citizens. I can only surmise that the tourists I've seen arriving on Lanai with their shotguns for skeet shooting will abandon Hawaii in favor of other locales with more Aloha. I respectfully request that you shelve this bill permanently.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	ed.abbot@ses.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2013 5:56:16 AM

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Abbot	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The amendments to this bill, appropriating the funds originally allocated to a gun buyback program to the police to provide gun safety and education concerns me. The police have barely the manpower to handle firearms registration as witnessed by the long lines and hours of wasted time by local citizens. In addition, firearms safety education programs are already in place by nationally certified civilian instructors. There is no need to spend funds to replicate what is already a viable training system.

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Tuesday, February 19, 2013

Testimony on SB69 SD-1

In WAM, Rm 211, 2/20/13

IN OPPOSITION

Honorable Chair and Members,

I am opposed to this bill because it will waste taxpayers money. Gun Buy-Back programs are a public relations campaign for the Legislature and the police departments, with no public safety value.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Eric R. Brienzo



Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Su	bmitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
E	ric Lindgren	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	fredval123@yahoo.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM*
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 7:56:58 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
frederick	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	LisehoraG001@Hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:39:02 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
George Lisehora	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: SB69 in its current form is a waste of taxpayer dollars. The HPD can not keep up with the demand for weapons registration now. I missed 8 hours of work to register rifles recently. It took 3 visits and the first visit in January required I wait in line for over 3 hours. This bill proposes the wrong changes. Restricting legal guns does not make the community safer. It has been shown in multiple areas that when guns are restricted that violent crime goes up. Washington DC banned guns 30 years ago and became the murder capital of the country. Two years ago the DC law was overturned by the US Supreme Court and guns are again allowed in Washington DC and violent crime statistics are improving. Chicago is now the leader in banning legal guns and is the current murder capital of the country with over 500 murders in 2012. I predict New York's recent legislation will result in increases in violent crime. Disarming the good guys emboldens criminals and bullies. The one type of legislation that has reduced violent crime has been the enactment of conceal and carry legislation. It has been well documented by county and state crime statistics since the mid 1970's that violent crime plummets following enactment of conceal and carry legislation. In 1987 Florida enacted non-discretionary conceal and carry legislation. When their violent crime rate fell, other states took notice. One by one they have followed suit. Between 1987 and 1997 eight states converted to issuing conceal and carry permits. States that enacted non-discretionary conceal and carry laws experienced a greater decrease in violent crime than those that enacted discretionary laws. On the average, these 8 states over that 10 year period experienced a 60% reduction in mass public shootings and a 78% decrease in mass public shooting deaths. Since then many states have enacted CCW laws. Currently only 4 states do not issue CCW permits: Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey and Hawaii. Illinois' gun law was just found to be unconstitutional by the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals in December 2012. Illinois has been given 180 days to craft new legislation that does not violate the 2nd Amendment. Forty-six states issue and four do not. How many of those fortysix states have had second thoughts and reversed their gun laws? None. In fact, they have been so pleased with the improved statistics that some states have loosened the gun laws further. Arizona, Wyoming and Alaska have recently converted to "constitutional carry" legislation. Buyers still have to go through a background check but no permit is required to carry concealed or to openly carry weapons. Other states
have constitutional carry legislation pending including Utah, New Hampshire, Montana and Georgia. The majority of the CCW states provide reciprocity to the other CCW states. Like a diver's licence you must first be instructed, then demonstrate the required knowledge base in a written examination and finally demonstrate marksmanship and safety protocols at the range. If you meet the designated performance standards then the permit is issued. The criminals no longer know who else may be armed and suddenly, confrontational crimes become less attractive. When the criminal does elect to proceed with attempting crime then an armed potential victim has a much greater chance of deterring the crime just by showing that he is armed. If the criminal elects to proceed and attempts to perpetrate the crime then at least the victim has a chance to defend himself against an armed criminal. Broad adoption of CCW training, testing and certification is the only new training program that I would support though I would not be in favor of funding it with taxpayer monies but rather by application fees from those that wish to procure certification to conceal and carry a firearm. The other measure that saves lives is to repeal Gun Free Zones. I was pleased to see armed Sheriffs at Punahou during the pick up and drop off periods of students. They are not there during the remainder of the day however. A copycat criminal could walk onto Punahou's campus or any school campus in Hawaii and shoot a lot of kids with no one to resist them. I am in favor of repealing the Gun Free Zone rules and allowing those teachers, administrators, bus drivers, parents and any other adult that has been CCW certified to carry a concealed firearm onto school grounds. School districts in Texas and Pennsylvania are making these changes and Utah has been doing it for many years. Utah has never had an incident from a CCW permit holder or his weapon. It makes schools safer. Gun Free Zones make them less safe. Sandy Hook Elementary, Virginia Tech, Columbine and even the Aurora Movie Theater were all posted Gun Free Zones. Good guys obey the law and go unarmed and the criminals meet no resistance. Armed guards or the Sheriffs at Punahou are better than no defense but they also are in uniform and the shooter knows to shoot them first. There was a uniformed policeman with Gabby Giffords but the assailant shot the policemen first. Representative Giffords should be pushing for broadening of CCW legislation. If a few more people were armed that day, she likely would not have been shot. You don't have to guess what effect these changes would make. It has been repeatedly demonstrated in almost every state in the union over the last 30 years. Please consider the evidence before enacting legislation that will waste money and do no good.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	glanders@mac.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2013 6:45:19 AM

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Greg Landers	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: To: Committee on Ways and Means Testimony of SB69, relating to Firearms February 20th, 2013 Room 211 Good morning Chair Ige and members of the committee. I am Greg Landers, a Hawaii Big Island Resident and registered firearm owner. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong opposition to SB69. The State of Hawaii has a rigorous set of firearms regulations at this time for law abiding citizens. Imposing additional requirements with the HOPE of decreasing gun violence is not the solution. Individuals whom are intent on committing violent acts will not be deterred by these additional steps. We are simply putting additional burden on our, already stretched, excellent police force and law abiding citizens. Curbing gun violence is clearly top of mind for many, but I respectfully disagree that SB69 will provide any impact to this. Thank you again for this opportunity to express my strong opposition to SB69, SD1

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	heatherwalker8@yahoo.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM*
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 9:59:35 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Heather Walker	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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PO Box 29925 Honolulu, HI. 96820

February 19, 2013

Hiro Caballes PO Box 29925 Honolulu, HI 96820

Dear Sirs,

My name is Hiro Caballes and I am submitting my testimony in opposition to SB69 SD1. The gun laws that we already have in Hawaii are some of the toughest laws in the Nation, and I believe that they are the reasons that gun related crime is low in our state. We should continue to actively enforce these laws rather than creating new ones that I feel oppress the law abiding citizen. I strongly believe that more gun laws are not the answer to violence, but education and awareness is. I also firmly believe in the 2nd Amendment of our Constitution which states, "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."

Aloha for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Hiro Caballes

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	<u>hkamjr@gmail.com</u>
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 1:02:17 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Howard Kam	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this amended Bill, which has evolved from a "\$100,000 gun buyback program" to a disguised "\$200,000 gun buyback/safety and education program" for the following reasons: (1) county police departments should not be overburdened with yet another service or function which are already provided by qualified NRA and DLNR instructors; (2) SB932, SD1, addresses the mental health background check issue; (3) NICS checks are already being used by the county police departments; (4) the \$200,000 price tag can be better spent on existing State programs; and (5) fingerprinting and NICS checks on out-of-state registrants, which is a good idea, should not be bootstrapped to this Bill but introduced as a separate bill amending existing statutes.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	<u>iankai@hawaii.edu</u>
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 2:00:09 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lan Kai	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Appropriating \$100,000 to start a gun buyback program is an irresponsible waste of taxpayer money. The gun buyback program will be unsuccessful and not accomplish what it sets out to do. Tell me one criminal that will willingly give up a firearm to a government agency? The only thing that this mess of a program will do is take guns out of the hands of law-abiding citizens. This program will not do anything to curb gun violence nor will it accomplish its intended purpose -- to remove firearms from criminals. If you're looking to flush away \$100,000 of taxpayer money, I have a toilet in my house you can use.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	james.zieglerIV@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 9:36:02 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James H. Ziegler IV	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly object to Senate Bill 69, to be heard in front of the Ways and Means Committee tomorrow morning. Since the TSA does not report imported guns to the local police department, individuals importing firearms from out-of-state can only be identified by their willingness to observe the state-mandated registration within 72 hours of arrival. While failure to observe this requirement may lead to appropriately harsh penalties, those individuals who break the law are unlikely to have their transgression discovered. Additional registration and background check requirements will both inconvenience law abiding citizens and encourage less upstanding individuals to shirk their legal obligation. Our state already enforces some of the strictest gun-control laws in the nation. Please try to find solutions for some of our more pressing problems such as the high homeless rate and poor educational system before establishing new restrictions on law-abiding citizens.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	janet@crosier.us
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 5:02:57 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Crosier	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose SB 69. Please vote NO on SB 69. Those funds should be used to educate our children about gun safety and identify and help individuals with mental illnesses. Taking away our right to bear arms is not the answer to the problem. Take other countries, like Kenya, for example. The only gun owners are the criminals! My brother lives in that country and has had to hide in his attack while thieves stole everything of value in his house. They were helpless to protect themselves because citizens are not permitted to own guns. Please, please vote NO to SB 69. Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Hanlin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Kill this bill. This program is a waste of my hard earned money. Hawaii is a very safe place to live. If someone wants to be educated they can go to programs designed for it. There is no need to create new ones with tax dollars. Thank you for the opportunity to testify, Jennifer Hanlin

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	Onetirefire68@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2013 7:13:16 AM

Submitted on: 2/20/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeremy Dowling	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I do not support this bill. It has transformed into a complete abomination of a bill with all the add on items for gun safety and education. There are areas in the bill that need to be clear defined and not be so open to interpretation. Further more we already have a very lengthly registration process that has been touted as being very effective with our low gun crime rate. So is there really a need to make more laws that are designed to strip more of our 2nd amendment right. I kindly ask that you vote against this bill. Thank you, Jeremy Dowling

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	joe@konalaw.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 6:47:16 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joe Fagundes	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Senators: I strongly oppose SB 69. Hawaii already has in place a reasonable gun registration and back ground check law. There is no need to further complicate the process nor to, in essence, harass citizens wishing to exercise their 2nd Amendment rights by owning firearms. It should be pointed out that the strictest gun laws in the nation are already enacted in Chicago and that city remains the highest gun violent jurisdiction in the country. To reduce gun violence, you need to take the guns away from the criminals. Quite simply, I suggest you consider increasing the penalties for illegal conduct and crimes involving firearms rather than forcing law abiding citizens to jump through more hoops to exercise their rights to firearm ownership and use. If you take guns away from the citizens, or seriously restrict their access to firearms, only the bad guys will have guns. Respectfully submitted, Joseph Fagundes, III

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	joel@prymis.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 4:01:10 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joel dela Cruz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please kill this bill it further infringes on our second amendment constitutional right. It's a flawed billed that could be abused to further infringe on our 2nd amendment right. It does has proven over and over again that it will do nothing to remove illegal guns off the street and puts the general public more at risk by disarming them. It is also a waste of my tax payer money in time where the state cannot even meet it's obligations to various public unions. Kill this irresponsible and illogical bill. Thank you.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	jonwebsterabbott@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2013 6:35:56 AM

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jon Abbott	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please oppose this bill. Gun buy backs are well known to have no impact on crime or the availability of illegal guns. Strike this measure down in its entirety. Mahalo.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	joe@marcotte.us
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 5:20:33 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Marcotte	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill is a waste of scarce taxpayer money, as it will not get the type of guns off the street that are used in crimes, or be supported (and it shouldn't be) by the police departments that will presumably be saddled with "training" our citizens on firearms safety. It will cost more than you are allocating to the entire bill to train, staff, and equip the programs in the four counties. If citizens want to turn over their guns to law enforcement, all they need to do is take them to the police department, or even call to have them picked up.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	judyg@djspec.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2013 8:46:08 AM

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judy Goo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: It is a waste of tax payers money, it will not do anything to stop gun violence. We already have laws when people arrive into the state with firearms, it is a duplicate law. The police departments will not want to provide classes for firearms education. It is already done by private companies and State of Hawaii Hunter Education Classes.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

PO Box 29925 Honolulu, HI. 96820

February 19, 2013

Justin Caballes PO Box 29925 Honolulu, HI 96820

Dear Sirs,

My name is Justin Caballes and I am submitting my testimony in opposition to SB69 SD1. The gun laws that we already have in Hawaii are some of the toughest laws in the Nation, and I believe that they are the reasons that gun related crime is low in our state. We should continue to actively enforce these laws rather than creating new ones that I feel oppress the law abiding citizen. I strongly believe that more gun laws are not the answer to violence, but education and awareness is. I also firmly believe in the 2nd Amendment of our Constitution which states, "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."

Aloha for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Justin Caballes February 19, 2013 Testimony on SB69 SD-1 In WAM, Rm 211, 2/20/13 IN OPPOSITION Honorable Chair and Members,

I am opposed to this bill for several reasons.

First, this would be a tremendous waste of money. Because all firearms are required to be registered with the police department, it means most if not all people in Hawaii have paid fair market value for them. Being that you have only \$200,000 for the whole program, what you would offer would certainly be far below what they are worth.

Second. As far as finger printing, Hawaii has some of the strictest laws in the country. Finger printing and background checks are already required in order to obtain a permit to purchase firearms. Again this would be a waste of time and resources to force the police department to do what they already do.

Lastly. If you really want to spend money where it would make a difference, I would suggest you utilize the NRA instructors already on each island by providing them with classrooms and more public ranges to train more people in safety and firearm handling.

I understand that in the wake of recent events, you would like to think that you must "Do Something!!!" I would suggest that you focus more on the mental health issues and crime. Passing more ridiculous laws makes absolutely no difference to the criminal as they do not follow the laws anyway. You are only hurting law abiding citizens and spitting in the face of the second amendment. Tyranny happens one right at a time. This is exactly what is happening. Whether you realize this or not, each bill that you try to pass regarding gun control, you are putting your name amongst those tyrants against the United States of America.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Keith Demain.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	Kkim@hmfamilylaw.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 9:44:32 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Oppose. Waste of money!

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#### SB 69 Opposed WAM Committee Room 211 Feb 20 2013 9:45 A.M.

#### 2.18.13

I am opposed to SB 69, Gun Safety and Education; Appropriation.

This bill changed from a simple gun buyback program (a bad idea but at least wellfocused) to a miscellaneous bill including background checks for people who attempt to register a gun brought from out of state, a vague establishment of gun safety programs, increased background checks for mental health, AND some money for gun buybacks.

I oppose all aspects of the bill, and I think these issues should be separated so the validity of each can be considered independently.

I am a strong supporter of the 2nd amendment which protects us from infringement of our right to keep and bear arms. I am opposed to any legislation which increases the difficulty of access by law-abiding free Americans to firearms.

Law-abiding citizens should be TRUSTED with firearms. People who violate just laws by taking away another person's life, liberty, or property (and who probably won't comply with gun control laws anyway) should be pursued, caught, prosecuted, and punished. Simply owning or acquiring a firearm by a free American is NOT a crime and should not be treated as such.

SB 69 now includes the phrase "extensive background checks for mental health." SB932 already attempts to deal with mental health issues. This issue should not be included again, especially in vague terms with no details about how the government is going to accomplish this goal.

Gun buybacks are a complete WASTE of taxpayer money. Anyone who wants to commit a crime with their firearm is probably not going to go down to a police station and trade it in for a small amount of money (especially without amnesty if the firearm was already used in a crime). Simply decreasing the number of firearms is not going to appreciably decrease violence.

I am opposed to SB 69.

Thank-you for hearing my testimony.

Kory Ohly

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	Mack127osu@yahoo.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM*
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 9:59:03 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristin Mack	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	Kckono@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 11:13:06 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristopher Kono	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Why are you guys always trying to slip one buy. Call it a buy-back program, then change the bill at the last minute with only 24 hours notice. That is sly and unworthy of a legislator. Shame on you all that vote for this bill. Simply put, registration is already required, no exceptions and you need a permit to register anyway. There is no need for this law because it is already covered under 134-3.5.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	lanceblaisdell@yahoo.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM*
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:15:07 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lance Blaisdell	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.



Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Williams	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	<u>mahanlin@hawaii.rr.com</u>
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 9:09:51 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Hanlin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Honorable Chair and Members, I am opposed to this bill because I feel this program wastes taxpayer money and will not effectively educate the public. The police departments have no firearm education training programs for beginners, and they failed to develop this program in 1994 when they promised to do so. The NRA Instructor programs have effectively trained thousands of people in safe gun handling practices and Hawaii firearm laws. Adding more ranges for their classes would educate the public successfully. I support background checks for out of state registration, but they should not be fingerprinted if their prints are already on file as fingerprints do not change. Running more checks will further jam the firearms line at HPD; therefore, funds should be appropriated for more personnel and firearm registration locations at other police stations on all islands. This will expedite the background check, registration and permit processes. Gun buyback programs do not keep the public safer and only benefits public officials. The only reason I can see removing firearms from the street is to make the city safer. Does this program make us safer? The National Research Council of the National Academies report Firearms and Violence: A critical review (2004) discussed the effect of crime rates from buyback programs. The finding was the effect is negligible at best. The guns turned in were mainly old, inherited from others, or needed repair the report found. Additionally, I find spending our money on a program with a negligible effect on crime rates immoral by wasting our hard earned money. Utilizing 2010 FBI data, Forbes found that Honolulu is rated as the third safety city in the U.S. Hawaii is already safe place to live. Thereby, the only positive effect for this program is to allow the appearance that city officials are doing something worthwhile for public safety. The extensive checks for mental health concerns for certain individuals should be stricken from the bill. First of all, what defines which certain individuals will receive this treatment? There are already statutes regarding improving mental health background checks (SB932, SD1) and they are sufficiently strong to await the outcome. Therefore, the police should operate within the current statutes. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Megan Hanlin

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Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael W Sawamoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Testimony in Opposition to SB69 RELATING TO FIREARMS: This bill does nothing to increase public safety. Those most affected will be members of the Armed Forces transferred to Hawaii who must now register all personal firearms within 72 hours of arrival. Also affected will be people moving to Hawaii and legitimate collectors and hunters arriving in Hawaii with personal firearms. Thank you. MIchael W. Sawamoto

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	go hoefers@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 4:37:34 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Myron Hoefer	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Members of the Ways & Means Committee I respectfully ask that you vote against SB69. The bill's sponsors do not provide convincing evidence that shows a linkage between gun buy-back programs and reduced violence. The proposed benefits are admirable but speculative. Criminals who have stolen firearms or purchased then on the black market cannot be expected to turn their weapons in for a token amount without immunity. Law abiding citizens who wish to dispose of an unwanted gun may already to so by giving it to the police. Please use the \$200,000 instead to support a social program aimed at reducing domestic violence that has a track record of yielding tangible results. I realize this would not generate the media attention of a buy-back program, but it would be a better use of our tax dollars. Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	pastordennisjr@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 5:47:16 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pastor Dennis Martin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please DO NOT pass SB69.It already adds to an already burdensome requirement for firearm owners. We as law abiding citizens ALREADY go through a background check. It doesnt say what constitutes an "extensive background check", or "mental health concern". It DOES NOT improve safety for anyone. I t removes all due process for law abiding gun owners. AND it turns law abiding citizens into criminals!!!. It does not prevent criminals from breaking the law as the bill was initially thought to do.The senate has gone Way overboard on this one. Please DO NOT PASS THIS. Pastor Dennis Martin New Hope Waimea 808-887-0541/ 960-2791

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SB69

Aloha

I do not in support of this bill.

This bill is nothing more than plain harassment and infringement on our Second Amendment. If you really wanted change with gun violence then you would address the people who illegally possess and use firearms in crimes not law abiding citizens who already comply with the law.

This bill presents no viable solutions that would make improvements to Hawaii, but instead attacks lawabiding citizens who are choosing to exercise the right to own a firearm.

Mahalo

Paul Bueltmann

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	rcblake@mac.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 7:01:52 PM
Attachments:	This is a bad idea.docx

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randall Blake	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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This is a bad idea, just plain and simple. This will be thrown out at the Federal level. This cost of defending a bad bill will exceed the 200,000 budgeted. The state has the lowest gun crime in the nation. We need gun ranges on all the islands to properly teach gun safety.



Date sent 19 February, 2013 Testimony on SB69 SD-1 In WAM, Rm 211, 2/20/13 IN OPPOSITION Honorable Chair and Members,

I am writing to comment on SB69, Senate draft 1. I am opposed to the bill as amended for several reasons. First, I vehemently oppose the practice of radical amendments that serve to gut the bill from its original intent and impose other requirements that have not been open to public inspection. It undermines the concept of free and open government and smacks of shady, back room deals.

In direct response to the amendments, I do support NICS checks for out-of-state firearms registration, and fingerprinting for those who do not already have prints on file. However, since this will further lengthen the lines at HPD's firearms section, I would ask that there be budgeted funds for additional personnel as well as allowing firearms registration at all police locations on all Islands. It is intolerable that one must travel to one location and wait for hours on separate occasions simply to exercise their 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment rights.

I would also ask that individual county police departments institute training programs to teach the public firearms training and safety. I believe that they were supposed to do so bacvk in 1994 when classes were required in order to register a handgun.

I speak from experience as a former instructor for L.I.F.E. when I say that as one of Hawaii's NRA Basic Firearm Safety Instructors, we have trained thousands of people in safe gun handling practices and state laws governing firearms at no expense to the government and with a perfect safety record. If the Legislature wants to spend money where it counts, either mandate that police departments provide the training or fund L.I.F.E. and NRA Instructors and create more public ranges and proper classroom facilities.

The buy-back program wastes taxpayer money that could be used for other more beneficial projects. They are nothing more than a a public relations campaign for the Legislature and the police departments to create the appearance of doing something.

The Hawaii Senate Committees on Health and Public Safety have assigned the complicated issue of improving mental health background checks to a working group of professionals (SB932, SD1). Our existing mental health background checks are sufficiently strong to await the outcome. County police departments should operate within the current statutes, not "perform extensive checks for certain individuals."

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Richard F. Bratt Kailua, Hawaii 808-864-5634 rickbratt@gmail.com

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Frey	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill has too much duplication of existing requirements.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	maddemon21@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:56:25 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Date sent: 2-19-13 Testimony on SB69 SD-1 In WAM, Rm 211, 2/20/13 IN OPPOSITION Honorable Chair and Members, I am opposed to this bill because there is no need for this. There is no need for the county police departments to develop various gun safety programs, including gun safety education and training. There are already a lot of firearms training programs out there. The county police departments are not equipped to do this and there is no way \$200,000 will cover it's cost. I suggest you go down to the HPD main station and visit the firearms department. You will see lines of people waiting for service, sometimes the line is out the door. If you don't get there by a certain time, they won't let you in the door, even if its an hour or more before they close. I feel like the \$200,000 should be used to streamline their old antiquated systems that take so long to process paperwork for people waiting to register their firearms. They still use a typewriter for the actual registration forms. Your part about the out-of-state registrations will not work either. You cannot make guesses about how a firearm was aguired out-of-state. Gun stores on the mainland already use the NIC background check system. Why would you subject someone to the same background check again? The people who go their guns illegally wont be at the police station, registering their firearms. You'll only be torturing law-abiding citizens who got their weapons legally. What you should do is use the \$200,000 to either streamline HPD's registration office or open up a few more public shooting ranges. I would be worried by your stats the say there are at least a million privately owned firearms in Hawaii. Especially since we have only one public range with ridiculous operating hours. Imagine if you had a million cars and only one road for all of them to drive on or a million golfers and only one golf course that was barely open. Its time to scrap this bill that only makes law abiding citizens miserable and help those of us to actually follow all the existing laws in place. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Robert Farm

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webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	jingkieandrobin@yahoo.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM*
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 5:32:06 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	shellblaisdell@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM*
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 6:12:04 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rochelle Blaisdell	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Dear Sir(s),

I am opposed to SB69. I do not wish my taxes to be used in a weapon buy-back program. This is a waste of my tax dollars.

Sincerely,

Rocky Riddell

Wednesday, February 20, 2013

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
То:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	scott@crosier.us
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 4:58:47 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Crosier	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose SB 69. Please vote NO on SB 69.

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Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sharon Williams	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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To Whom It May Concern:

As a U.S. citizen and resident of the State of Hawaii, I strongly oppose SB69. This is going to do nothing to improve Hawaii but only make it difficult for law abiding gun owners. Please stop attacking law abiding gun owners, hunters and sportsmen and focus on the real problem, criminals. Why must you continue to strive to erode the rights of law abiding people? It is wrong and against your oath of office. Please, focus on the criminals and not those of us who obey the law.

Thank you.

Steven Von Hargett

PO Box 29925 Honolulu, HI. 96820

February 19, 2013

Takako Caballes PO Box 29925 Honolulu, HI 96820

Dear Sirs,

My name is Takako Caballes and I am submitting my testimony in opposition to SB69 SD1. The gun laws that we already have in Hawaii are some of the toughest laws in the Nation, and I believe that they are the reasons that gun related crime is low in our state. We should continue to actively enforce these laws rather than creating new ones that I feel oppress the law abiding citizen. I strongly believe that more gun laws are not the answer to violence, but education and awareness is. I also firmly believe in the 2nd Amendment of our Constitution which states, "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."

Aloha for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Takako Caballes

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
То:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	tanalee05@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 6:14:45 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tana-Lee Rebhan-Kang	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: First and foremost, may I remind you that on the same day that a mentally ill man shot 20 elementary school children with a gun in Connecticut, another mentally ill man half a world away slashed/stabbed 22 primary school children with a knife in Henan Province, China. The Daily Mail in the UK printed a story on the knife attacks in China, further stating: "There were six similar attacks [in China] in just seven months in 2010 that killed nearly 20 people and wounded more than 50. "The most recent such attack took place in August, when a knife-wielding man broke into a middle school in the southern city of Nanchang and stabbed two students before fleeing. "In one of the worst incidents, a man described as an unemployed, middle-aged doctor killed eight children with a knife in March 2010 to vent his anger over a thwarted romantic relationship. "Tight controls mean that gun crimes are rare in China and make knives and sometimes explosives the weapons used in mass attacks in China. "No motive has been given for the recent school attack." Read more: http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2248054/China-stabbing-22-children-elderly-woman-stabbed-outside-primary-school-Chineseknifeman.html#ixzz2LPNoZpHz Our fight should not be against weapons. It should be against the circumstances that lead people to commit these heinous crimes. I find it disturbing that this bill was even deferred by PSM with 6 testimonies in support and 198 in opposition. Be that as it may, SB69 SD1 is barely the same bill first read in PSM, at which time it was a \$100,000 gun buy-back program. Now it is a \$200,000 splattered across optional gun buy-back program AND/OR firearms education programs AND/OR funding for enhanced background checks AND/OR yet another firearms registration requirement. Not only is the bill not even coherent in intent, it is deplorably wasteful of extremely limited money. Please do not waste \$200,000 fighting inanimate objects. If you absolutely MUST spend it, spend it on our most valuable resource: PEOPLE. Spend it on mental health, anger management, domestic violence, and alcohol/drug addiction programs to try to get a handle on the causes of volence, not the means of it.

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# **SB69 Gun Safety and Education**

When will our government get the message? Leave our gun rights alone! Passing gun control laws in any guise will not make the public safer. Criminals will not bring their firearms in for a background check. Why does this state insist on wasting time and money monitoring law-abiding citizens when they should be and can be doing a better job keeping criminals off the streets?

If you truly want to make the state a safer place...and restore our Second Amendment rights:

- 1. Eliminate the need to register firearms. Criminals do not register their firearms and in the 70+ years that Hawaii has required registration, not one crime has been solved using this data collected from law-abiding citizens.
- 2. Allow the gun stores to perform background checks ala Arizona. Eliminating registration and transferring background checks to the private sector will save enough money to put more police on the streets. We can stop monitoring the activities of law-abiding citizens and focus on the criminals; criminals, out-of- state or otherwise, will not bring their firearms in for registration.
- 3. Eliminate the need to obtain a concealed carry permit. If you can legally buy a firearm, you can carry it. In practice, HPD does not grant carry permits to anyone other than LE personnel. The real law-breaker is the government that denies citizens their constitutionally-recognized right to bear arms.

Terry M. Allard Ewa Beach <u>vanrana@hotmail.com</u> 808-685-3430

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	mooret014@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB69 on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM
Date:	Tuesday, February 19, 2013 4:19:32 PM

Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Terry D Moore	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Honorable Chair and Members, I am opposed to this bill because Gun Buy Back programs historically have never worked. They are a waste of taxpayer money, and offer no "value added" in regard to public safety. County police departments have no training programs to teach public firearms training and safety. NRA Basic Firearms Safety Instructors have taught thousands of people in safe gun handling practices, and state laws governing firearms at no expense to the state, and with a perfect safety record. NRA Instructor programs on all Islands need more public ranges and proper classrooms. This would be money wisely spent with much value added. In addition, money could be spent on more personnel and additional police station locations to register firearms. Gun owners must now wait in intolerably long lines to register legally purchased/owned firearms. Who is to determine if "Certain Individuals" have "Mental Health Concerns" and how is that defined? County police departments should operate within the current statutes, not "perform extensive checks for certain individuals." Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Terry D. Moore

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Submitted on: 2/19/2013 Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2013 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Markson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: What is the point of this bill? If someone has already brought a gun into Hawaii and wouldn't pass the background checks, they just won't register it!. They already have the gun! Making the process even more onerous for law abiding citizens does not make anyone safer. Please do not pass this bill

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