



LATE

SB2954

Measure Title: RELATING TO FIREARMS.

Report Title: Firearms; Registration; Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center;
Database Management

Description: Authorizes the Hawaii criminal justice data center to access firearm
registration data.

Companion:

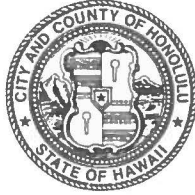
Package: None

Current Referral: PSM, JDL

Introducer(s): ESPERO, Baker, Inouye, Nishihara

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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



KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR

LOUIS M. KEALOHA
CHIEF

MARIE A. McCAULEY
CARY OKIMOTO
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE **RR-DNK**

February 11, 2016

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
and Members
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,
and Military Affairs
State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 2954, Relating to Firearms

I am Richard C. Robinson, Major of the Records and Identification Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD strongly supports Senate Bill No. 2954, Relating to Firearms.

The accurate and timely sharing of firearms registration information between the counties is critical to ensure the safety of the community. Each county currently maintains its own firearms registration information, and there is no active mechanism for data sharing. As part of the Hawaii Criminal Justice Information System, which is managed by the Department of the Attorney General's Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center (HCJDC), a firearms registration sharing module has been developed. However, under current law, the HCJDC is not allowed to view any of the data. This bill will allow the HCJDC to better assist the county police departments with the technology to accomplish the data sharing.

Currently, a thorough background check is conducted on all applicants who are bringing a firearm into Hawaii from another state. However, once the initial background check has been completed and the applicant has been issued the permit, no further checks are conducted on the firearm owner. As a result, the county police departments have no way of knowing if a current Hawaii firearm owner has been convicted of a crime in another state that would prohibit him or her from owning a firearm.

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
and Members
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,
and Military Affairs
February 11, 2016
Page 2

We suggest that the following amendment to Section 134-3 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) be made to allow those persons who are bringing a firearm into Hawaii from another state to be enrolled into the Rap Back program that is administered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

- (3) Written notification from a firing range or target shooting business indicating that the person will actually engage in target shooting.

The nonresident alien shall be limited to a nontransferable registration of not more than ten firearms for the purpose of the above activities.

Every person registering a firearm under this subsection shall be fingerprinted and photographed by the police department of the county of registration; provided that this requirement shall be waived where fingerprints and photographs are already on file with the police department. The police department shall perform an inquiry on the ~~[person by using the National Instant Criminal Background Check System]~~ applicant using the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) and the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS), including the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) query in NLETS, the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) and pursuant to Section 846-2.7 of the HRS before any determination to register a firearm is made.

The proposed changes would allow the county police departments to enroll new firearm applicants into the Rap Back program. This program will provide a mechanism to alert the county police departments when the owner of the firearm is arrested for a criminal offense anywhere in the country. This notification will also allow the county police departments to conduct an evaluation on whether or not the firearm owner may continue to legally possess and own firearms.

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
and Members
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,
and Military Affairs
February 11, 2016
Page 3

This change will in essence provide an ongoing background check on firearm owners to determine their eligibility to own and possess a firearm.

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 2954, Relating to Firearms, with the proposed amendments.

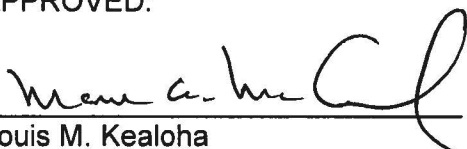
Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Richard C. Robinson, Major
Records and Identification Division

APPROVED:



Louis M. Kealoha
Chief of Police