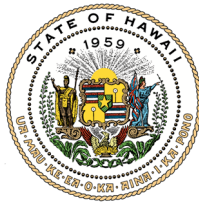


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



MIKE LAMBERT
DIRECTOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT GOVERNOR
KE KE'ENA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai
715 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

JARED K. REDULLA
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 308, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO FIREARMS
Before the Senate Committee on
JUDICIARY

Thursday, February 27, 2025, 10:01 AM
State Capitol Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) strongly supports Senate Bill 308, Senate Draft 1. This bill expands the current prohibition on pistols with detachable magazines having a capacity of more than ten rounds to include all firearms with detachable magazines exceeding ten-round capacity, effective January 1, 2026.

The DLE supports this measure as it represents a significant step forward in enhancing public safety and reducing the potential for mass casualty incidents. High-capacity magazines enable shooters to fire more rounds without reloading, which can increase casualties in shooting incidents. By extending the existing restriction from pistols to all firearms, this legislation closes an important loophole in current firearm regulations.

The implementation date of January 1, 2026, provides adequate time for firearm owners to modify existing magazines to comply with the ten-round limit or to dispose of non-compliant magazines. This timeline also allows the DLE sufficient opportunity to develop appropriate enforcement protocols and conduct necessary public outreach regarding the new requirements.

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



Committee on Judiciary
Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard

February 27, 2025 10:01 am Room 016
SB308 SD1– RELATING TO FIREARMS

TESTIMONY

Beppie Shapiro, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members: **The League of Women Voters of Hawaii strongly supports SB308 SD1, Relating to firearms, which would extend the prohibition on pistols with a detachable magazine with over a ten-round capacity to any firearm with a detachable magazine with over a ten-round capacity.**

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the proliferation of semi-automatic/automatic weapons in the United States is a major health and safety threat to its citizens. The League supports strong federal measures to limit the accessibility and regulate the ownership of these weapons by private citizens. The League supports regulating firearms for consumer safety.

The lack of prohibition on large capacity magazines for rifles, assault rifles, etc. is a glaring hole in measures to prevent mass shootings in Hawaii.

We echo the many excellent testimonies supporting SB 308 provided by organizations and individuals. Please pass SB308 SD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



RE: SB 308 (Rhoads): Relating to Firearms - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Honorable Members of the Committee:

Everytown for Gun Safety, and the Hawai'i Chapters of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America are writing in support of SB 308.

Hawaii *already* acknowledges that giving shooters the ability to unload dozens of rounds in seconds is an abhorrent danger. This state currently has a 10 round magazine limit on magazines that are capable of being used with a pistol, but the law does not explicitly apply to magazines that can be used with a rifle or shotgun. This bill brings helpful clarity and uniformity to the magazine rules Hawaii has embraced.

Shootings involving high-capacity magazines have more fatalities and wounds than those that do not. In mass shootings with four or more people killed between 2015 and 2022, [high-capacity magazines](#) led to more than twice as many people killed, and nearly 10 times as many people wounded per incident on average. A 2021 study found that the federal prohibition on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines was associated with a significant decrease in public mass shootings and related casualties, preventing at least 11 public mass shootings during the 10 years it was in effect. The researchers also estimated that had the law remained in effect from 2005 through 2019, it would have prevented 30 mass shootings that resulted in the death of 339 people and wounded 1,139 more.¹

A majority of voters in Hawai'i – including a majority of gun owners – support a ban on high-capacity magazines. In a 2024 Ward Research survey of registered voters across O'ahu and the neighbor islands, **80%** said high-capacity magazines that exceed 10 rounds should be banned, including **65%** of gun owners.

For these reasons listed above, Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action, and Students Demand Action strongly support SB 308.

¹ Lori Post et al., "Impact of Firearm Surveillance on Gun Control Policy: Regression Discontinuity Analysis," JMIR Public Health and Surveillance 7, no. 4 (2021): e26042, <https://doi.org/10.2196/26042>. Study defined mass shooting as four or more victims killed with a firearm at a public location. Familicides and felony killings were excluded.

Sincerely,

Sarah Sumadi

Director, State Government Affairs, West

Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action & Students Demand Action

450 Lexington Ave.

New York, NY 10163

ssumadi@everytown.org

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 6:27:17 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kevin J. Cole	Testifying for NRA Hawaii	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments: I oppose SB308. So-called” high-capacity “magazines are in fact standard issue. Firearms going back 75+ years have used them. Such cosmetic changes do not deter felons. This law is purposeless.

To: Members of the Hawaii Senate Committee on Judiciary
From: Agustin Cabrera, Giffords State Legislative Manager
Subject: Support for SB308
Date: February 27, 2025

Submitted via email

My name is Agustin Cabrera and I am a State Legislative Manager with Giffords, the gun violence prevention organization founded by former Congresswoman Gabby Giffords. I write to you today in support of SB308 which would expand Hawaii's existing ban on pistols with a detachable magazine with over a ten-round capacity to any firearm with a detachable magazine with over a ten-round capacity.

Fourteen states and the District of Columbia have enacted laws that generally ban the sale, manufacture, and other commerce or conduct with large-capacity ammunition magazines. Those states are: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington. Four of these states (DE, RI, OR, and WA) enacted these laws in 2022 and Illinois did so in January 2023.

Large-capacity ammunition magazines are a common thread in many high-profile mass shootings in the United States. Because shooters with such magazines can fire at large numbers of people without taking the time to reload, those in the line of fire do not have a chance to escape, law enforcement does not have the chance to intervene, and the number of lives shattered by acts of gun violence increases dramatically. Banning such destructive magazines is an important and life-saving step towards a stronger gun violence prevention framework for Hawaii.

High capacity magazines are destructive and lead to a higher number of injuries and death

Large-capacity magazines (LCMs or LCAMs) have been used to perpetrate devastation on a massive scale in many high-profile mass shootings. Large-capacity magazines significantly increase a shooter's ability to injure and kill large numbers of people quickly because they enable the individual to fire repeatedly without needing to reload. The shooter in the 2017 Las Vegas massacre was able to fire 100 rounds in just 10 seconds—without having to pause and reload—because he used a large-capacity magazine, bump stock, and an assault rifle in his attack which killed 50 and injured hundreds.¹

A growing body of research shows that banning high-capacity magazines can help to prevent gun violence

Studies have found that the, now expired, federal ban on large-capacity magazines helped to prevent violence and the use of high-capacity magazines in crime during the 10 years in which it was in effect. During the 10-year period the federal assault weapons and large-capacity magazine ban was in effect, mass shooting fatalities were 70% less likely to occur compared to the periods before and after the ban.²

¹ Martha Bellisle, "High-Capacity Magazines Get New Scrutiny as Congress Returns," ABC News, September 2, 2019, <https://abcn.ws/2IHd7uE>.

² Charles DiMaggio et al., "Changes in US Mass Shooting Deaths Associated with the 1994–2004 Federal Assault Weapons Ban: Analysis of Open-source Data," *Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery* 86, no. 1 (2019): 11–19.

At the state level, research has also shown that states with large-capacity magazine bans experience 48% fewer mass shootings—and 61% fewer domestic violence-related mass shootings—compared to states without such laws.³

Alarming, data suggests that the use of firearms with large-capacity magazines in crime has substantially increased since the expiration of the federal assault weapons and large-capacity magazine ban in 2004. Estimates also suggest that nearly 40% of crime guns used in serious violent crimes, including murders of law enforcement officers, are equipped with high-capacity magazines.⁴ Similarly, since the end of the federal ban, the Los Angeles Police Department has recovered significantly greater numbers of large-capacity ammunition magazines, from 38 in 2003 to anywhere from 151 to 940 each year between 2004 and 2010.⁵

The evidence is clear: banning large capacity magazines can and will save lives in Hawaii. The devastation they are capable of, and their prevalence in mass shootings across the country demonstrate the urgency in which we must act. We urge the committee to support SB308.

Respectfully Submitted,



Agustin Cabrera

State Legislative Manager | He/Him

c: (806) 335-5819

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

GIFFORDS

ABOUT GIFFORDS

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

³ Daniel Webster, et al., “Evidence concerning the regulation of firearms design, sale, and carrying on fatal mass shootings in the United States,” *Criminology & Public Policy* 19, no. 1 (2020): 171-212.

⁴ Christopher S. Koper et al., “Criminal Use of Assault Weapons and High-capacity Semiautomatic Firearms: an Updated Examination of Local and National Sources,” *Journal of Urban Health* 95, no. 3 (2018): 313–321.

⁵ Press Release, Citizens Crime Commission of New York City, NYC & LA City Councils Introduce Rezo for Federal Ban on Large Capacity Ammunition Magazines 2 (Mar. 2, 2011), at <http://www.nycrimecommission.org/pdfs/CrimeCmsnNYCLACouncils.pdf>

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



Testimony of Kelly Sampson, Senior Policy Counsel, Brady Campaign
to Prevent Gun Violence
Support for SB 308 Before the House Committee on Judiciary and
Hawaiian Affairs
February 27th, 2025

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard and Distinguished Members of
the Senate Committee on the Judiciary

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

Hawaii leaders have persisted in prioritizing the safety and well-being of the people of Hawaii by enacting and implementing proactive, research-informed policy solutions that prevent gun violence, save lives, and spare entire communities from loss, trauma and cycles of violence.

Why Restrictions on Assault Weapons and Large Capacity Magazines are Necessary

Assault weapons are weapons of war; in fact the only functional difference between an AR-15 and a military-issue M4 rifle is that the latter can shoot more than one bullet with a pull of the trigger.¹ By simply adding features like detachable magazines, barrel shrouds, pistol grips, forward grips, and bump stocks, shooters can easily conceal their semi-automatic weapons or turn them into weapons of war that fire a high volume of ammunition in a short period of time with deadly accuracy.²

A typical AR-15 bullet leaves the barrel of the gun three times faster than a typical 9mm handgun bullet.³ When it enters a human body, the .223 caliber bullet is designed to fragment and tumble. The high velocity of the bullet damages and destroys tissue as it travels, causing organs to become liquefied and catastrophic internal bleeding.⁴ With an assault-style weapon, even a firearms novice can perpetrate a mass casualty incident - in fact, many of the deadliest mass shooters were not particularly experienced with guns, and yet they almost exclusively chose these weapons.

Mass Shootings in Hawaii and Across the Nation

¹ Collins, M. (2022, March 22). *[What's the difference?]: AR-15 vs M4*. Pew Pew Tactical.

<https://www.pewpewtactical.com/ar15-vs-m4-difference/>

² *Id.*

³ Heather Sher, "What I Saw Treating the Victims From Parkland Should Change the Debate on Guns," *The Atlantic*, Feb. 22, 2018, available at <https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2018/02/what-i-saw-treating-the-victims-from-parkland-should-change-the-debate-on-guns/553937/>.

⁴ *Id.*

Mass shootings involving assault weapons can be extremely lethal and the death and injury counts of each mass shooting has risen in recent years. An analysis of mass shootings between 2009 to 2018 shows that in shootings where assault weapons were used, [six times as many people were shot](#) compared to those without them.⁵ Research shows banning assault weapons leads to a drop in gun massacres. In the 10 years the federal assault weapons ban was in place, [gun massacres dropped 37%](#) and after the ban expired in 2004, gun massacres skyrocketed 183%.⁶

Mass shootings are an American epidemic that no other industrialized country experiences at remotely the same level. The Gun Violence Archive reports that in 2019, 2020, 2021, and in 2022 there were more mass shootings than days in the year.⁷ While mass shootings account for a [small proportion](#)⁸ of [shootings](#) in the U.S. every year,⁹ the profound psychological harm and loss of life, coupled with the debilitating and long-lasting effects of these events, make it abundantly clear that mass shootings not only have a [devastating effect](#) on survivors, their families and friends, and their communities,¹⁰ but have inherently changed the psyche of [the country as a whole](#).¹¹

When civilians have access to these weapons of war, citizens of Hawaii know far too well what happens. As a national leader in gun violence prevention, it is imperative the Legislature acts to close dangerous gaps

⁵ Brady. (n.d.). *What are assault weapons and high-capacity magazines?* Brady. Retrieved November 15, 2022, from <https://www.bradyunited.org/fact-sheets/what-are-assault-weapons-and-high-capacity-magazines>

⁶ United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary. (2019, September 24). *Studies: Gun massacre deaths dropped during assault weapons ban, increased after expiration*. United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary. Retrieved November 16, 2022, from <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/press/dem/releases/studies-gun-massacre-deaths-dropped-during-assault-weapons-ban-increased-after-expiration>

⁷ Gun Violence Archive. (2022, November 15). Gun violence archive. <https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/past-tolls>

⁸ UC Davis. (n.d.). *A few myths and facts about firearm violence - UC Davis*. Retrieved November 15, 2022, from https://health.ucdavis.edu/vprp/pdf-other/FirearmMortality_MythsFacts2019.pdf

⁹ Berkowitz, B., & Alcantara, C. (2021, May 12). *More than 50 years of U.S. mass shootings: The victims, sites, Killers and weapons*. The Washington Post. Retrieved November 15, 2022, from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2018/national/mass-shootings-in-america/>

¹⁰ Best, T. (2019, June 5). ABC News. Retrieved November 15, 2022, from <https://abcnews.go.com/Health/trauma-anxiety-ptsd-mass-shootings-affect-mental-health/story?id=63491970>

¹¹ Brady. (n.d.). *The mental health impact of mass shootings*. Brady. Retrieved November 15, 2022, from <https://www.bradyunited.org/reports/the-mental-health-impact-of-mass-shootings>

in Hawaii's existing assault weapons ban, which will save the lives of Hawaiians.

Conclusion

The Hawaii Legislature has the power to stop accepting these uniquely American tragedies as commonplace by passing a ban on assault weapons and large capacity magazines. These weapons of war have no place in the hands of civilians and gun owners and non gun owners alike overwhelmingly support this ban.

Brady is proud to support SB 308. For the reasons described above, Brady urges the House Senate on the Judiciary to support the passage of SB 308.

Sincerely,

Kelly Sampson
Senior Policy Counsel
The Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:08:46 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gena Whitten	Testifying for MOMS DEMAMD ACTION	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly urge the Hawaii legislature to pass SB308 to extend the ban on all types of automatic weapons. To allow automatic weapons particularly military rifles in the State of Hawaii is a time bomb inviting a mainland type mass shooting to occur in our beautiful state. I have lived in both Texas and Colorado and seen the devastation and known people who are affected by these terrible events. Hawaii is No. 2 amongst states for gun safety, let's keep Hawaii safe. Please pass this important law to protect Hawaii and to keep all citizens safe.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:42:00 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

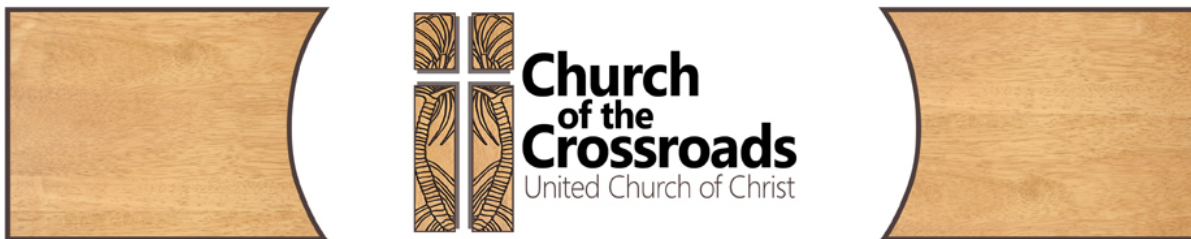
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kim Cordery	Testifying for Aloha Freedom Coalition	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I appose SB308!

This bill is another attempt to take away the rights of "We the people!"

The 2nd amendment insures that "We the People" have the RIGHT to bear arms!! STOP finding sneaky ways to take away our guns!



A Just Peace and Open and Affirming Congregation

Testimony of the Church of the Crossroads IN SUPPORT OF SB 308

The Church of the Crossroads was founded in 1922 as Hawaii's first intentionally multiracial church. We are a Just Peace Church of approximately 180 members. We have voted unanimously to support a ban on all assault weapons and large capacity magazines, and ask for your support in accomplishing this ban.

Hawai'i is the only state in the nation with an assault weapons ban that **fails** to ban assault rifles, assault shotguns and large magazines for those weapons. Our current law only applies to assault pistols/revolvers, and large detachable ammunition magazines (more than 10 rounds) for pistols. We need to restrict ALL weapons to only 10 rounds (maximum) to help avoid the risk of mass shootings with LCMs.

U.S. assault weapons bans by jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Status	By make or model	Semiauto rifles	Semiauto pistols	Shotguns	Features test	Magazine capacity
California ^[34]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10
Connecticut ^[35]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10
Delaware ^[36]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	17
District of Columbia ^[37]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10
Hawaii ^[38]	In force			✗		✗	10 (pistols)
Illinois ^[39]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10 (15 for handguns)
Maryland ^[40]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10
Massachusetts ^[41]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10
New Jersey ^[42]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10
New York ^[43]	In force		✗	✗	✗	✗	10
Washington ^[44]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10

Source: [Assault weapons legislation in the United States - Wikipedia](#)

These gaping holes in our assault weapons ban make no sense and endanger us all. Every year that we fail to pass a comprehensive assault weapons ban, we allow more and more assault rifles and large capacity magazines to be bought, amassed and used in this state. This bill would finally ban large capacity magazines for all weapons.

Hawai'i is not immune to mass shootings, as we know from our tragic history in that regard. Our schools drill our students each year on how to try to survive an active shooter situation. Yet our laws have gaping loopholes that facilitate gun violence.

Thoughts and prayers are not enough to combat gun violence. Action is needed. The legislature must do its part by enacting safer gun laws that can reduce future risks of gun violence.

The 1994 federal Assault Weapons Ban prohibited a wide range of assault weapons and high-capacity magazines. It resulted in fewer mass shootings. Sadly, it was allowed to expire in 2004 and Congress has failed to re-enact it. Hawai'i can and should expand our own assault weapons law to fill this void.

Banning assault weapons and large capacity magazines is important because these weapons are uniquely designed to be capable of mass violence. Their potential for mass murder far outweighs any plausible use for hunting, recreation or self-defense. The rate of public mass shootings has tripled since 2011. The US now has more mass shootings each year than there are days in the year. We should do our best to prevent another mass shooting here. The sooner this ban is created, the sooner we can start reducing the needless spread of assault rifles and large capacity magazines in Hawai'i.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Godbey Carson, for the Church of the Crossroads

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:16:10 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kainoa Kaku	Testifying for Hawaii Rifle Association	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Members of the Committee,

I write to you today as the President of the Hawaii Rifle Association to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 308 (SB 308). This bill, which seeks to prohibit the possession of magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds, is yet another misguided attempt to restrict the rights of law-abiding citizens while doing nothing to address violent crime.

SB 308 aims to expand existing magazine capacity restrictions beyond those “designed for or capable of use with a pistol,” targeting standard-capacity magazines that are commonly used in self-defense, competitive shooting, and recreational marksmanship. These magazines are not “high capacity” as proponents claim; they are standard equipment for millions of legally owned firearms.

Legislation like SB 308 has been tried before, and the results are clear—it does not work. The 1994-2004 Federal Assault Weapons Ban, which included a magazine restriction, failed to show any measurable reduction in crime. In fact, crime rates were higher while the ban was in effect. Studies have consistently shown that criminals do not adhere to magazine capacity laws, and such restrictions only place law-abiding citizens at a disadvantage in self-defense situations.

Furthermore, SB 308 is a direct violation of the Second Amendment rights of Hawaii’s citizens. The Supreme Court’s ruling in *District of Columbia v. Heller* affirms that arms “in common use” are protected under the Constitution. Standard-capacity magazines fall squarely within this definition. Law-abiding individuals have the right to equip themselves with effective self-defense tools, and arbitrarily limiting magazine capacity only makes innocent people more vulnerable.

The Hawaii Rifle Association urges this committee to reject SB 308. Instead of imposing ineffective restrictions that punish responsible citizens, the legislature should focus on measures that truly enhance public safety—such as addressing violent offenders, improving mental health resources, and enforcing existing laws against criminal misuse of firearms.

I appreciate your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Kainoa Kaku

President, Hawaii Rifle Association

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:36:55 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mery Ann Luna	Testifying for SDM Training Group/Bows N Bullets	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Mery Ann Luna, I am the President and Founder for SDM Training Group and Bows N Bullets. I strongly oppose bill SB308.

I'd like to quote a statement in our Hawaii Firearms Law. "Hawaii Statute defines the militia as "every resident able-bodied citizen of the United States who is seventeen years old or older and under forty-six years of age and all other able-bodied residents of that age who have declared their intention to become citizens of the United States," and further defines an "unorganized militia" consisting of "those members of the militia who are not members of national guard, the naval militia, or the state defense force." Women are not excluded. Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Section 121-1."

From what I understand and what I have taught many citizens, should there be a need for assistance due to lack of military personnel, they would be called upon to help protect their state and/or country. Should this bill be passed, you, as our legislature, are setting up law-abiding Hawaii residence to fail should any of them be called to assist. To defend our nation, people need to have the right tools to do as we need them to do.

I strongly oppose bill SB308. I do not want my kids, nieces or nephews, brothers and sisters, and family and friends to not have the tools they need to protect themselves, their ohana, and the state and country we love.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:21:33 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eric Akiyama	Testifying for Hawaii Rifle Association	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly oppose SB308. Criminals do not follow laws. Please do not handicap me against criminals. Law enforcement will be exempt from this magazine ban. Why can't responsible gun owners be offered the same tools to protect ourselves?

DATE: February 25, 2025

TO: Members of the Hawaii Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Christopher D. Thomas, Attorney at Law

RE: Comment and Testimony Regarding SUPPORT of SB308

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

I am writing to again express my strong support for SB308 and the common-sense effect of the law in advancing the safety of the citizens of Hawaii. As you know, Hawai'i is currently the only State in the Union with a magazine capacity-limiting law that is confined to handgun calibers, but does not extend to rifle calibers. It is counter-intuitive to gun safety and responsible gun laws to limit smaller calibers (less lethal), but to currently allow larger rifle calibers (which are much more lethal). Your proposed legislation would merely extend magazine capacity limits beyond those already enacted into Law.

As you likely know, large-capacity ammunition magazines are historically prevalent in many high-profile mass shootings in the United States. Because shooters with such magazines can fire at large numbers of people without taking the time to reload, those in the line of fire do not have a chance to escape, law enforcement does not have the chance to intervene, and the number of humans shot in a short interval of time increases dramatically. Hawaii's current law, if applied to these past incidences, would not have prevented the impact of **rifle-related** mass shootings involving large capacity magazines. SB308 can fix this. There is statistical proof of the effect of common-sense gun safety legislation: during the 10-year period the federal assault weapons and large-capacity magazine safety law was in effect, mass shooting fatalities were **70% less likely to occur** compared to the periods before and after the ban. (Source: Charles DiMaggio et al., "Changes in US Mass Shooting Deaths Associated with the 1994–2004 Federal Assault Weapons Ban: Analysis of Open-source Data," *Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery* 86, no. 1 (2019): 11–19).

As a sport-shooter and hunter, I have engaged in both activities with both high-capacity magazines and magazines limited to a few rounds. A high-capacity magazine is not necessary to enjoy responsible gun ownership and use; high-capacity magazines are best designed to kill as many humans as possible in a short period of time. Ban them now, before they are used for their designed purpose, in Hawaii.

Gun safety in our communities is reliant upon commonsense regulations that are proven to reverse the current nation-wide epidemic of violence using firearms. SB308 is an overdue extension of already available and accepted protocols of safe gun ownership and use. I urge you to vote in favor.

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

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:45:42 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Testifying for AFC	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:55:04 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dale Hayama	Testifying for Young Guns	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We strongly oppose SB308. The laws proposed in this bill has already been deemed UNCONSTITUTIONAL in court. I have already been told by individuals that they WILL BE suing the State if this bill is passed and it will cost the taxpayer thousands of dollars to defend in court. Please stop going after law-abiding citizens and their rights and go after the criminals instead! Thank you!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:27:32 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Martha Kiyabu	Testifying for YOUNG GUNS	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am **strongly opposed** to SB308 we already have a ban on pistol magazines that accept more than ten rounds. Most firearms are designed to accept more than ten rounds in the magazine. We should be allowed to own a firearm and with no restrictions as to how much the magazine capacity is. Also there is no provisions for law enforcement officers currently employed or retired. You will make law abiding citizens criminals when you passed this.

Sincerely,

Martha Kiyabu

Young Guns

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:33:20 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chris Marvin	Testifying for The Vet Voice Foundation	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair and committee members,

I am testifying on behalf of the Vet Voice Foundation -- a leading national advocacy organization providing voice for veterans. We are in support of SB308

Any veteran who has been to combat -- myself included -- knows there is no need to have a magazine with more than 10 rounds. As a concealed-carry permit holder and a gun violence prevention advocate, I can provide evidence that more rounds will cause more death and injury. This law already exists for certain firearms, it's crucial that we extend it to all firearms.

We are now in a place where we are having at least one mass shooting each year in Hawai'i. Banning all high-capacity magazines will make it less likely that this trend continues to grow. Along with all forms of gas-operated semi-automatic firearms, these need to be banned in Hawai'i.

with Aloha,
Capt. Chris Marvin
US Army, retired



LATE

Feb. 27, 2025

Aloha, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members:

My name is Erica Yamauchi, and I live in the Kaimukī area. As a gun violence survivor, business owner, mother of two children in our public schools, and adjunct faculty member at the University of Hawai'i, **I'm writing today in strong support of Senate Bill 308.**

Hawai'i has a 10-round magazine limit on magazines capable of being used in a pistol. We appreciate that this bill expands the current law to apply to high-capacity magazines (more than 10 rounds) that work with any kind of firearm, including long guns.

This is important because we know that, when shooters use a high-capacity magazine:

- Nearly 5x as many people are shot,
- Nearly 2x as many people are killed, and
- Nearly 10x as many people are injured.

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

On behalf of our three local groups on Hawai'i Island, Kaua'i and O'ahu, and our 2,000+ supporters across the islands, I urge you to pass this bill.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Erica Yamauchi, Volunteer State Co-Lead

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 1:57:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Isaacson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Magazine size has no bearing on criminal behavior and common over 10 round magazines have be recognized by the Supreme Court as being neither unusual or excessively dangerous. Quit trying to make objects into criminals and go after the real problem - criminals and criminal activity. Leave ordinary citizens alone.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 2:48:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cindy R Ajimine	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE SB308.**Please create bills & policies that focus on actual criminal activity rather than criminalizing law-abiding citizens. If this bill proceeds, it must at minimum:**

- **Include a grandfather clause for current owners**
- **Allow for permanent modifications to comply with the law**
- **Clarify penalties to prevent multiple felony charges for possession of multiple magazines.**

This bill, as written, turns responsible gun owners into criminals overnight and will have no measurable effect on reducing crime. As written is subject to challenges at the federal level?

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 2:53:33 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gavin Lohmeier	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

strongly oppose this bill. not only does this infringe on the 2nd ammendment, but will have no effect on decreasing crimes with firearms. this is a total waste of time

sincerely,

Gavin Lohmeier

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 2:56:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael I Rice	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in **STRONG OPPOSITION** to this bill. On its face it is a violation of the Second Amendment. Similar magazine bans have already been struck down in courts around the country, and current Hawaii law covering just pistol magazines is being challenged in court. There is also a case pending before SCOTUS dealing with the issue as well (**Ocean State Tactical LLC v. Rhode Island**), which given past rulings will likely be found unconstitutional.

This ban would (and currently is) a violation of the **Caetano decision** which helped to legalize tasers, stating that Arms that are in common use for lawful purposes are covered under the Second Amendment. At the time of the Caetano Decision it was stated that there were an estimated 200,000 tasers in use throughout the United States. I can guarantee you there are at least that many 10+ magazines in the State of Hawaii alone, and would be on the government to prove otherwise. The current ban on 10 round pistol magazines is already facing a lawsuit, and could easily be amended to cover all magazines should this bill go through.

Those calling for this bill say it will save lives or prevent criminals from acquiring them, this is at best a falsehood and at worse a fantasy. One of the deadliest school shootings in the United States (**Virginia Tech**) was done with the shooter using 10 round magazines, and one of the more notorious (**Parkland**) was done with the shooter using 10 round magazines, despite having legal access to higher capacity magazines.

Honolulu Police Department has even admitted in past testimony that such laws would only be used to punish offenders after the fact, and failed to provide information on how many were charged with violating the current pistol magazine laws or even how many unlawful magazines had been recovered. Such charges are usually one of the first ones tossed out by State Prosecutors as part of a plea deal to offenders, assuming they are even charged in the first place.

This bill would not stop anyone who wants to get a 10+ round magazine from getting one, just as the current law doesn't stop these magazines from coming in. I myself have received 'high capacity pistol magazines' in the mail after purchasing a pistol online, this was after specifically requesting they not ship the magazines. I surrendered those magazines to the gun store since they could not be modified to be 10 round magazines through means available to me. I have also legally purchased rifle magazines online from a reseller who I found out after the fact openly flaunts against magazine capacity restrictions and says he will ship anywhere without regard to laws and even taunts law enforcement to come after him. There are many such persons out there, while perhaps less brazen, who similarly view defiance of such laws as a moral obligation.

All such laws do is hinder the law abiding citizen, and make formerly law abiding citizens into criminals overnight, and put them at risk. With a recent killing spree involving a bulldozer, a man defending his family and home retrieved his own pistol and shot at the attacker. He had to retreat back into his home to fetch another magazine, giving the attacker more time to kill and hurt more innocent people. When the need to use a gun for self defense arises, many do not have the time to 'arm up' like some cheesy action movie from the 80s where one can put on a bandolier of magazines to meet the threat.

I ask why are the police and other law enforcement exempt from this bill? Given the perception of how 'trigger happy' they are when they do have to use their firearms. I've lost count of the number of incidents where people have shouted 'why'd they have to shoot him soo many times?!' Because sometimes one bullet isn't enough, sometimes 10 isn't enough. The difference between the police and the average citizen is that they don't have a button on my hip to call 10 of my friends and coworkers to come running with their guns to help me. If I have to respond to a 'bump in the night', and I may not have time to call the police, which will likely respond in 30 minuets once they're called, all I have are the 10 rounds in my pistol or 30 rounds in my rifle (if I can get to it) and the hope that someone else is calling the police for me.

Grandfathering will not work. Serialization will not work. The ban WILL NOT WORK. Kill this bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 3:04:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wayne Asam	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB308, a bill that unjustly expands the current ban on handgun magazines to all firearms, making law-abiding gun owners instant felons overnight. This bill is deeply flawed, as it offers no grandfathering provision and places an undue financial burden on responsible citizens by forcing them to either purchase expensive new magazines or modify their existing ones at significant cost.

SB308 criminalizes the mere possession of magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds, regardless of whether they were legally acquired before the law's implementation. This retroactive ban unfairly penalizes lawful gun owners who have committed no crime. Furthermore, it does nothing to deter actual criminal activity, as criminals do not follow magazine capacity restrictions.

Beyond being ineffective, this legislation violates the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, as affirmed by recent U.S. Supreme Court rulings protecting an individual's right to keep and bear arms. The outright prohibition of standard-capacity magazines, commonly used for self-defense and sporting purposes, is an overreach that will disproportionately affect responsible citizens rather than criminals.

Additionally, SB308 forces gun owners to either purchase compliant magazines or modify existing ones using magazine blocks, both of which create financial and logistical burdens. This law will turn otherwise law-abiding citizens into felons overnight simply for possessing legally acquired property.

I urge you to reject SB308 and stand against legislation that unfairly targets responsible gun owners, ignores constitutional rights, and imposes unnecessary burdens without improving public safety. Instead, lawmakers should focus on enforcing existing laws that target violent offenders rather than infringing on the rights of law-abiding citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I strongly encourage you to vote against SB308 and uphold the rights of responsible firearm owners.

Sincerely,
Wayne Asam

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 3:32:18 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bryson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom this may concern I oppose this bill as it is unconstitutional and infringes on our 2nd amendment rights. Hawaii already has some of the strictest gun laws in the country and also had one of the lowest gun crime rates in the country. This bill only affects law abiding citizens. Criminals do not care about laws and will break them regardless. I urge all of you to oppose this bill and uphold our constitution like you should.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 3:36:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wilfred Lum	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full opposition to SB308 and extending the limitations of only having ten rounds in a magazine extend now to all firearms. No government should have the power to dictate how I am to defend my life, my family or my property should I need to. Home invasions are carried out by more than one suspect and in such an event, I want as many rounds as are needed to stop them. And contrary to tv and movies, a person may not stop their attack after getting hit by one bullet. This law only places us law abiding citizens more at a disadvantage because we will be the only ones with magazines limited to ten rounds. Do you think for one instance a criminal is now going to obey the law and get magazines with only ten rounds?

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:09:59 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frank Barber Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution states that the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. It also states that a well-regulated militia is necessary for the security of a free state.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:14:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing today in strong opposition to SB308. This bill is an direct infringement of all firearm owners 2nd amendment rights. A magazine has been determined by courts to be an integral piece of equipment necessary for the functioning of a firearm and is a protected piece of "arms." This would make it necessary for the item to be protected under the 2nd amendment of the United States of Americas Constitution and the Hawai'i State Constitution. The ability for the free people to keep and bear arms is an inalienable right. This is not a privilege and cannot be taken away by a government for the law abiding citizens of this nation.

Court cases that can be used to analyze alongside this would be Bruen, Heller and Caetano decisions. Bruen requires to show historical intentions and find bases for scrutiny under the foundation of this nations laws as well as if something is dangerous and unusual. Standard capacity magazines are commonly used and capacities for firearms to carry more than 10 rounds is not something limited by historical precedent. This is not usually dangerous and is in fact ordinary and numbers range likely in the millions of magazines owned by legal firearm owning American citizens. The Heller decision makes claims that the 2nd amendment is in fact an individual right and protected for citizens outside of their home. The ability to defend one's self is an inalienable right and placing magazine capacity limits actually makes law abiding citizens less safe. A criminal can simply obtain one of these non federally regulated parts (larger capacity magazines) and use it against a law abiding citizen. The Caetano case allowed for the possession of a stun gun; referencing that it was something in common use and is a protected arm due to 200,000 being in possession of American citizens. The magazines looking to be banned are in much larger numbers within just this state alone, not considering the massive amount owned throughout the country. All in all this law would make current law abiding citizens burdened to get magazine reduction kits for all magazines and then make them unable to be removed. This is costly, time consuming and not something many could afford to do or know how to do properly. Leaving them up for criminal charges for simply owning what they legally own today. This will not prevent people from obtaining them. Will the police come door to door to collect them? If not then the best this bill would do is cause for more charges after the fact of crime being committed. So it wouldn't prevent a crime and that person committing the crime who gets caught could simply be charged for whatever they did illegally with a firearm. It is unnecessary and redundant and only really harms law abiding citizens.

I will also encourage you to educate yourselves of the harm you will be placing law abiding firearms owners in by passing such a bill. First of all a firearm is not something purchased to simply hunt. They can be used for hunting and that's a great purpose for one but the founding of this nation proves that they are useful to protect and prevent harm to those looking to do good. Just like the men in my family who fought in the revolutionary war to defend their homes and their families. This is the same reason our police officers carry firearms, as does our military forces. Citizens have the same rights to protection of their lives and firearms have been used millions of times to prevent deadly force against law abiding citizens, including in Hawai'i this past few years. Just recently a young man in the mainland brought a firearm to a small airport and attempted to hijack a small plane but was met by a civilian pilot who had a firearm and was able to disarm him and hold him until police intervened. No shots were fired and a good guy with a gun prevented something worse from taking place. No magazine capacity limit would have prevented that criminal from obtaining or owning a magazine that has capacity for more than 10 rounds. But the law abiding citizen, who is a pilot, very likely would choose adhere to the laws. A law like this would have given the upper hand to the criminal and not the good civilian pilot by limiting the law abiding citizens capacity for ammunition. A woman alone in her home with just her children being attacked by multiple home invaders is better off with a higher capacity of ammunition if, God forbid, she were fighting for her life and safety. One would hope she had a phone in the room and was able to contact law enforcement but that simply may not be the case. These parts are designed for use in a firearm. A firearm in it of itself is an inanimate object that has No ability to cause harm to anyone on its own. The firearm does not decide to be violent or assault someone. The person holding the tool is solely responsible for any action taken with it. The magazine is an easily obtained, non federally regulated party that can easily be mailed or flown into the state without anyone noticing. It's currently illegal to have pistol magazines with a higher capacity. I would bet that law enforcement in the state has seen multitudes of incidents with criminals using higher capacity magazines in crimes with handguns. The reason being is because they are easy to get and hide and laws are not followed by criminals. These laws ONLY put law abiding citizens in danger and only limit capacity for law abiding individuals.

I personally own many magazines that are standard capacity. The financial burden this state will put on my family to make us all less safe is unwarranted and not fair and makes me truly worried and causes duress and infringes on my daily pursuit of happiness. Every year my wife and I consider moving when these bills are submitted because they make us feel less safe, at risk for legal action if we make a mistake following the confusing bills. Bills like this literally take money from our pockets in order to jump through the legal hoops we as law abiding citizens are forced to adhere to in order to appease those in power. The possession of a standard capacity magazine is my right to own as an American citizen and is protected by the 2nd Amendment of the United States Constitution. I have never caused harm or committed a crime with a firearm and should not be treated as a criminal. This bill will only make the ownership of my legally possessed standard capacity magazines a crime and will not make anyone safer.

I teach firearm safety, am a competition shooter, a hunter and a rancher. I use firearms for work, recreationally, to feed and to protect my family. I am an educated gun owner and feel like I am under attack by a politically driven arm of the government. Anti gun activist groups spend millions of dollars and speak with Hawai'i politicians and those from other states, donate money

and help create bills like this. The author of this bill has proven a grave lack of knowledge of firearms in the past and is working alongside some of these organizations and is actively looking to infringe on the 2nd amendment. This is conspiracy, this is wrong and investigations into political donations should be done to all Hawai'i politicians working with organizations to infringe upon the constitutional rights of American Citizens.

This bill is not seeking to ban certain firearms but the unintended effect would be the case. Firearms are purchased usually with a working magazine when purchased online and sent to a FFL in Hawaii. In cases where the standard capacity magazine is included in the box, sellers in states that allow these magazines would not ship the firearm as it is containing a banned part in fear of repercussions. This infringement is not only simply going to affect buying magazines but will in fact ban the shipment of many legal firearms to this state. This point should be considered.

I would like to encourage you to take a deeper look at this and think critically for a moment. A 10 round magazine is smaller than a 30, 45, or 100rd AR15 magazine. They can be more easily concealed on someone's person. A back pant pocket can carry at least one on each side. If wearing cargo pants/ shorts they can have 4-6 on each lower leg pocket. Traditional upper side pant or shorts pockets could hold another 2-3 or more each depending on how deep the pocket is. They can fit within all jacket pockets and lead to a person concealing more ammunition. Standard capacity 30rd AR15 magazines would protrude out and be seen if carried the same way. Another factor to consider is that I and anyone who practices can change a magazine out in less than one second. Think about that for a minute. One second to have another 10 rounds. So it takes me longer to fire 10 rounds than it does to change to another magazine. What does this prevent? This bill is for feelings and based on fear but isn't logic based. Is there any proof in any single study showing that limiting magazine capacity causes less injury by firearms? Will limiting capacity reduce suicide? Will limiting capacity stop an active shooter from attempting an evil act of violence? I'd argue that an evil criminal would simply just keep their standard capacity magazines and choose to use them because they obviously do not care about laws. Another point to consider beyond concealment of the magazines is the fact that a larger standard capacity magazine sticks out further down on the AR15 making a shooter's profile smaller when laying down. The gunman who shot at President Trump would have had a lower profile when shooting and be more concealed against law enforcement with a 10 round magazine than the 30round or larger magazines. This makes the shooter safer, literally making it harder to stop them. If a target is smaller, would it then be logical to say it would be harder to aim and hit that target? Let me help you with the answer. As an experienced trained shooter, the answer is yes; it would be harder to stop someone with a smaller profile than someone who would be forced to stick out more when shooting from a position laying down.

The idea of this bill is that it makes firearms less dangerous for the community. I would argue that facts and reason proves that is factually incorrect and as shown above, in some cases would do the exact opposite. I would encourage the senate to look to data. Has any state with magazine capacity limits prevented harm by enacting such bills into law? The answer is No. There are arguably millions of standard capacity magazines in Hawai'i currently as most firearms owners choose to have many for just a single registered firearm. Most, nearly all are used safely and have not caused a public health crisis. The cost burden placed upon those who would change the

magazines to only accept 10 rounds would be immense and is ridiculous to think this won't negatively affect all those forced to do so. This state is extremely safe and law abiding firearm owners only add to that and are not the problem. Our government should convict and punish criminals who cause harm or attempt to cause harm. If they use a firearm in a crime then use the law to punish The Criminals and not punish law abiding citizens for others actions.

These parts are not the problem. The problem is within society and not those who function as good people amongst our communities. This is a waste of resources and will not make anyone safer. This will make criminals out of law abiding citizens and I believe that is the true intention of this bill and the many firearms bills being heard in Hawai'i year after year. There are several cases pending across the nation and will reach the desk of the Supreme Court. In order to not waste millions of Hawai'i tax dollars, this state should wait to find the results of those hearings before enacting bills like this into law. This is unconstitutional and will not stand. I will participate in lawsuits against this state in regards to the passing of this bill to prevent it from harming our people and my family. This is my right and it shall not be infringed.

I encourage you to not criminalize me for owning something that I have never done anything wrong with and will continue to safely posses without intervention of the Hawai'i government. Please consider your oath of office and closely read the Constitution. Please vote NO on SB308.

Mahalo,

Chase Cavitt

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:17:06 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing today in strong opposition to SB308. This bill is an direct infringement of all firearm owners 2nd amendment rights. A magazine has been determined by courts to be an integral piece of equipment necessary for the functioning of a firearm and is a protected piece of "arms." This would make it necessary for the item to be protected under the 2nd amendment of the United States of Americas Constitution and the Hawai'i State Constitution. The ability for the free people to keep and bear arms is an inalienable right. This is not a privilege and cannot be taken away by a government for the law abiding citizens of this nation.

I would be less safe in my home with limits of 10 rounds to protect myself. I am a mother of 2 and deserve to maintain the right to protect myself and family in my home or wherever I am able to have a firearm. A criminal would likely ignore any magazine capacity laws and I would be placed in a disadvantage to protect my children and myself. I see many reasons for why a standard 30 round magazine could be life saving for me in a worst case scenario. This bill would make me less safe.

A person with 10 round magazines can carry just as much ammunition as a person with 30 round magazines. I am not a highly trained shooting enthusiast like my husband but I do go to the range with him on occasion. I can change a magazine out in less than 2 seconds and he can do it in less than one second. We've timed it for fun as he does shooting competitions. This fact means that an average person would still be just as "dangerous" as this bill attempts to make them not able to be. I would not feel safer with this bill passing and argue my family and I would actually be far less safe if it does. This is disheartening and bills like this make my husband and I consider leaving Hawai'i for good if they pass. This is heartbreaking but we also don't want to give up our rights for those who think they have the right to take them away.

We will pursue legal action before leaving our home and will certainly win based off of legal cases in the past that prove that magazines are an integral, common and necessary part of a firearm that is protected under the 2nd amendment. In fact we would then be allowed standard capacity magazines for handguns in Hawai'i too. So this bill very much has the chance of allowing firearms owners to get the results they want if it were to pass as it would bring enough turmoil to legal firearms owners that we would band together to take legal action against the state and any unconstitutional laws inhibiting our right to keep and bear arms. Please stop harassing gun owners and encourage prosecutors and judges to do a better job at actually convicting

criminals. Maybe do more to educate about firearm safety and stop making law abiding citizens into criminals. Please vote no on SB308.

Mahalo,

Tenessa Cavitt

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:18:34 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Josh Stueber	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE SB308

SB308 is an unnecessary and unjust restriction on law-abiding gun owners. Banning firearm magazines over 10 rounds will not effectively address gun violence or make our communities safer. Over 90% of crimes committed with firearms involve prior felons and restricted individuals. Criminals who are intent on harming others will simply find ways to obtain high-capacity magazines through illegal means. This ban unfairly punishes responsible gun owners who use higher capacity magazines for self-defense or competitive shooting sports. Limiting magazine capacity also undermines the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens to protect themselves and their families. Instead of focusing on ineffective and arbitrary bans, we should be addressing the root causes of violence and working towards solutions that will truly make a difference in our communities. I respectfully urge you to vote NO on SB308 and uphold your commitment to our state's and country's constitution. Thank you for your time

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:20:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vincent	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a finger amputee so passing SB 308 would only make criminals who do not follow laws more lethal. Because I lack fingers this would make it much more difficult for me to reload if I'm attacked by someone that means to do me great physical harm or cause death. I am a law, abiding citizen and I should be allowed to have as many rounds in my magazine as I want to have to protect my self and my family.

Passing this bill with violate the second amendment of the United States Constitution. I drastically oppose this bill It will only do harm to law abiding citizens, and we do nothing to people that do not follow the law.

Vincent Tibbles

hawaii county, waikoloa Village

96738

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:21:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maxx Kohlmeister	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill will only affect law abiding citizens and legal gun owners. It will have zero affect on criminals and is a 2nd amendment violation

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:28:27 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charles Kenui-Lee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly disagree with this bill, as a native Hawaiian, this bill will only handicap our communities to defend ourselves against crime. If this bill is to be passed; with HPD understaffed, and prolonged response times, in the event of a critical emergency, communities will be left no choice but to accept a deadly fate (god forbid anyone to ever be in this situation).

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:33:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lyle HIromoto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose. The Supreme Court is finding these types of laws are unconstitutional. Why waste taxpayer dollars defending unconstitutional laws.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:36:36 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marcus Tanaka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE

Notice how HPD,MPD, KPD, and HPD (Big Island) all are silent on this in the last hearing. Same with the AG's office.

Listen to what the prosecutors office said in the last committee.

Wait till the lawsuits play out.

Abbot vs. Lopez is the current HI handgun magazine lawsuit pending.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:37:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Arakawa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The legislature is clearly overstepping with this measure. Thousands of people have these standard capacity magazines. The bill also does not provide relief for forfeited magazines.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:39:56 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Tanaka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE this.

Being female, I don't have big pockets like guys do. I would have a more difficult time carrying more magazines.

There are lawsuits about this that affect HI already. Not only in HI, but at the 9th circuit. This will cost tax payers more money for the AG's office to defend and Katay charging like \$3,400/hr for his fees. \$2,800/hr for himself and \$600/hr for his support staff.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:42:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elijah Kim	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB308 does not make the people of Hawaii safer, it only strips away our rights! It clearly violates our Constitutional rights. Furthermore, it criminalizes responsible gun owners, expands government overreach into legal firearm ownership, fails to address violent crime, and makes criminals out of law-abiding citizens. Stop wasting time and energy on unconstitutional bills, and focus on better education and training of the people.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:51:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brendan Ajolo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. There are multiple lawsuits on this issue. Stop wasting taxpayer money and using lawfare against law abiding citizens

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:55:02 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eliot Gomes Jr.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it infringes our second amendment rights. Banning this from law abiding citizens is unconstitutional.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:56:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
GENER MACARAEG	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308. This bill violates 2nd Amendment rights of citizens under the U.S. Constitution.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:58:29 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Miguel cancino	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:59:47 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bronson Teixeira	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator,

My name is Bronson Teixeira, I'm 37 years old and I'm born and raised on the island of Maui, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to voice my opinion and stand strongly opposing sb308 and sb401. In my written testimony I shall cover my opinions on why I oppose this bill, common available facts, the consequences of this bill does if it goes into effect, and some solutions.

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

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

Now if we were to look and agree on the data and facts that are given above its safe to say we can clearly see that guns are not the issue, societal changes, economic landscape, suicide,

crime/gang violence with a soft slap on the wrist type of judicial system, and as well as Misinterpretation of terms and facts over the years by anti 2a groups have lead us to what we see today trying to be used in a more so common legislation gun control based on the thought of what is in the best interest of the people but neglecting the fact that criminals can and will still be able to obtain illegally firearms are some of the problems we face today. Banning firearms is not the answer, if just so happen firearms were to be banned you will see no difference in crimes because criminals don't follow the law. Please try to understand that firearms can be made at home, you can order replica kits and modify them to be fully operational but it is a fact that self made arms are protected by the constitution under the history and traditions, they can be brought in from stateside or imported from out of country and sold on the black market just like the so called illegal fireworks we see every year. As we have seen in multiple shootings in Hawaii nearly all case involved are criminals or convicted felons that get ahold of and decided to do the unimaginable.

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

These bills in its current form will decimate our constitutional right and neglects our entire 2nd amendment. This bill is a full overreach. SB308 and sb401 is very poorly written and deceptive. Keep in mind a thousands of law abiding citizens already own a lot of these magazines and firearms.

Within the 50 caliber center fire rifle ban bill there are a lot of different types of modern firearms that are lever action or bolt action as well as shotguns with traditional hunting style butt stocks. There are also a lot of different 50 caliber cartridge sizes that are great hunting options as the projectile travels at a slower velocity but still provide great energy upon impact. 50 caliber rifles can and do get used for hunting and do offer a much more fun and great challenge to hike and hunt with being they require more precise marksmanship and physical stamina to carry due to the weight.

If this law were to go in effect you would instantly put thousands of law abiding citizens that would be labeled as a felon and could be arrested and put into jail, what you guys have to understand is these magazines are currently legal to own and completely legal to own under the

constitution. There are currently thousands if not tens of thousands of these magazines and quite a bit of people in Hawaii own .50 cal modern muzzle loaders or even similarly cartridge or similarly 12gauge or 10gauge shotguns in the homes of law abiding citizens.

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

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

Mahalo for hearing me,

Bronson Teixeira

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:59:52 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Klayton Kubo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 5:11:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jon Tanouye	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308 as it infringes my Second Amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 5:17:59 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeffrey Duquez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose this bill, it gives criminals who don't follow laws and unparalleled advantage in every defense situation. Being capped to a limited amount of ammunition while a criminal isn't doesn't help the tax paying law abiding citizen at all. Please stop pushing this bill.

I strongly oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 5:18:56 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Edward Inn	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill goes against my 2nd amendment rights to bare Arms

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 5:24:17 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erik Walter	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308 as it infringes on our 2nd Amendment rights.

Erik Walter, Waikoloa, HI 96738

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 5:24:35 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Bergin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly Oppose SB308!

SB308's ban on firearm magazines over 10 rounds is unconstitutional and directly infringes on our Second Amendment rights. The right to bear arms is a fundamental individual right that should not be arbitrarily limited by the government. Restricting magazine capacity hinders law-abiding citizens from effectively defending themselves and their families, which goes against the core principles of the Second Amendment. This bill unfairly targets responsible gun owners and undermines their ability to exercise their constitutional rights. It is essential to uphold and protect the Second Amendment as a cornerstone of our democracy, and SB308 clearly violates this fundamental right.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 5:48:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephanie Kalawaianui	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it infringes on my second amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 5:52:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Pitman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB 308 SD1, which seeks to expand the existing ban on detachable magazines with a capacity exceeding ten rounds to include all firearms, not just pistols. This legislation is an unnecessary restriction on law-abiding firearm owners and does little to enhance public safety.

1. Unjustified Restrictions on Law-Abiding Gun Owners

The majority of firearm owners use standard-capacity magazines for lawful purposes such as self-defense, competitive shooting, and hunting. Banning these magazines places an undue burden on responsible citizens while having little impact on criminal behavior.

2. Lack of Evidence Supporting Crime Reduction

Studies have not conclusively shown that limiting magazine capacity reduces crime or mass shootings. Criminals who intend to cause harm are unlikely to comply with magazine restrictions, and such measures do not address the underlying causes of gun violence.

3. Second Amendment Considerations

The Supreme Court has affirmed the individual right to keep and bear arms, and restrictions on commonly owned firearm accessories could be challenged as unconstitutional. Many firearms are designed to use standard-capacity magazines, and arbitrarily reducing their capacity may constitute an undue infringement on constitutional rights.

4. Complications for Competitive Shooters and Enthusiasts

Many shooting sports and training exercises require magazines exceeding ten rounds. This bill would place Hawaii residents at a disadvantage compared to participants from other states and discourage responsible firearm training and ownership.

5. Ineffective in Preventing Criminal Use

Criminals who commit violent acts often obtain firearms illegally, rendering magazine restrictions ineffective in preventing crime. Instead of focusing on banning hardware, lawmakers should prioritize enforcement against illegal gun trafficking and stronger penalties for violent offenders.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to vote **against** SB 308 SD1. The bill unjustly penalizes responsible firearm owners while failing to meaningfully improve public safety. I encourage the legislature to consider evidence-based policies that address violent crime without infringing on constitutional rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 5:53:33 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Hawaii Legislators,

I am writing to you in order to convey my **STRONG OPPOSITION** to SB308. For many years now, I have seen this body do nothing but go out of its way to persecute the legal gun owners of this state by infringing on our constitutional freedoms...and very little to actually go after criminals who break the laws already in place. It is said that we are supposed to learn from history, however it seems that no matter how ineffective putting restrictions on gun owners has proven, as evidenced by the major cities in the mainland, where it is seen are the worst when it comes to gun violence, you want to repeat this failure.

I'm sure you have said "this ain't the mainland" before...so do not let it become that....a failed city that only hurts it's law abiding citizens.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 5:55:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richy Chang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I encourage Hawaii state representatives to OPPOSE SB308 as it is a infringement of the 2nd amendment given citizens as written in the US Constitution. There is no reasonable grounds to place this ban on all or any firearm in the state of Hawaii and will bring negative impacts on law abiding citizen such as the possession of such magazines that are widespread in civilian and law enforcement possession thus turning everyone into felons, and the deprivation of the ability and right to self defense.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 6:02:16 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kealakai Hammond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Committee,

I strongly support SB308 which expands Hawaii's restriction on high-capacity ammunition magazines to cover all firearms, closing a dangerous loophole. High-capacity magazines increase the lethality of shootings and pose a significant public safety risk. By extending the ban beyond pistols, this bill strengthens protections for our communities while maintaining reasonable exemptions for modified magazines. It also respects legal rights by not imposing retroactive penalties.

Hawaii has been a leader in responsible firearm regulation, and this measure furthers our commitment to reducing gun violence. I urge you to pass this bill for the safety and well-being of all residents.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Kealakai Hammond

Honolulu, HI

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 6:07:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joshua Dodo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Whom It May Concern,

I oppose SB308 as it violates my constitutional rights for the 2nd Amendment: the right to keep and bear arms. As an Army Veteran, I swore to defend and protect the constitution of the United States and the American way of life. I rely on the 2nd Amendment to not only protect myself but my loved ones and property. Something that our forefathers have fought bravely and sacrificed themselves to protect these rights.

Mahalo for taking the time to hear my testimony.

Aloha,

Josh

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 6:12:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gregory Fogarty	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 6:16:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charles Reddoor	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly Oppose SB308

SB308's ban on firearm magazines over 10 rounds is unconstitutional and directly infringes on our Second Amendment rights. The right to bear arms is a fundamental individual right that should not be arbitrarily limited by the government. Restricting magazine capacity hinders law-abiding citizens from effectively defending themselves and their families, which goes against the core principles of the Second Amendment. This bill unfairly targets responsible gun owners and undermines their ability to exercise their constitutional rights. It is essential to uphold and protect the Second Amendment as a cornerstone of our democracy, and SB308 clearly violates this fundamental right.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 6:40:07 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kalani Geiger	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it infringes on our second amendment. Thank you

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 6:44:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please support this important bill. Mahalo.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 6:50:38 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joshua Drye	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello and thank you for your time I and an overwhelming amount of people in this country oppose of this bill. It does nothing at all except take away our rights as American citizens. Our rights for self-defense and the protection of our families. Please stop. Thank you for your time aloha

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 6:56:20 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rey vento	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

2nd amendment!!!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:06:29 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathan Soriano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

You have no right to tell me how many rounds I should have! Please stop trying to tell me what I can or cannot do. This is America! If you do not like the 2nd amendment then please leave.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:07:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Arnold	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

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

Aloha

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

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:07:44 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julie Kron	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308 as it is a direct violation of our second amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:09:50 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Kron	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308 as it is a direct violation of our second amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:09:54 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lekeli Watanabe	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB 308. The limit of 10 round magazines is ineffective in preventing gun violence, infringe on the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens, disproportionately impact responsible gun owners, and may not significantly deter criminals who would likely disregard such laws while potentially leaving ordinary citizens at a disadvantage for self-defense.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:16:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Lau	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB308, which seeks to ban the manufacture, possession, sale, trade, gift, transfer, or acquisition of any firearm with a detachable magazine exceeding ten rounds. This proposed restriction is an unnecessary infringement on the rights of law-abiding gun owners and does not meaningfully contribute to public safety.

Concerns with SB308

1. Law-Abiding Citizens Should Not Be Punished

Many common firearms used for self-defense, sport shooting, and home protection come standard with magazines exceeding ten rounds. Limiting capacity does not deter criminals, who do not follow gun laws, but it does hinder responsible citizens' ability to protect themselves.

2. No Proven Impact on Crime Reduction

Studies on magazine capacity restrictions have not conclusively linked such bans to a reduction in violent crime. Criminals can easily switch magazines, carry multiple firearms, or obtain banned items illegally. This law only affects responsible gun owners, not those who seek to do harm.

3. Sets a Dangerous Precedent

If SB308 passes, it paves the way for further restrictions on firearms, potentially leading to more bans that chip away at Second Amendment rights. Instead of restricting firearm owners, we should focus on enforcing existing laws and targeting illegal firearm possession.

Conclusion

SB308 unfairly burdens responsible gun owners while doing little to address crime.

Instead of limiting magazine capacities, we should focus on mental health resources, Law enforcement support, and stricter penalties for illegal firearm use.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:24:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jamie Okuda	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

this does not stop criminals from having these. you are only hurting law abiding citizens...

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:35:19 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Kilkenny	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308 and my rights shall not be infringed

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:37:15 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support all bills which will keep our community safe. Firearms are not toys. There is no need to have the guns described in this bill. Please move it forward.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:37:24 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charles jury	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:47:17 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sean Pepper Shiramizu	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello!

I am writing testimony in opposition for this bill SB308. This bill is a blatant infringement on law abiding citizens ability to exercise their 2nd amendment rights if they so choose to. What is this bill trying to accomplish? Criminals aren't going to listen to this. Look at the most recent person on Crime Stoppers. A person wanted for \$1,000,000 bench warrant. 18 years old and charged with Place to keep Pistol or revolver, and use of firearm in the commission of a separate felony. He is 18 years old. You can't acquire a handgun until you're 21 years old and have take the Basic safety class. How did he get the gun? Wasn't he supposed to follow the law?....

I encourage everyone to please vote NO on this bill.

The 2nd amendment clearly states, "the right to keep and bear arms, SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED."

Thank you for your time!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:58:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chester Barayuga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is ridiculous. Stop infringing on our 2A rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:03:40 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brendon Heal	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill, I encourage you to oppose this as well.

I have noticed that this legislature has consistently ignored testimony from constituents.

I hope that this will stop.

oppose this unconstitutional infringement on our second amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:04:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emiliano Corona Marquez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments: I'm Emiliano Corona Marquez I'm not for this bill , I oppose this bill Because the fact that There are too many illegal guns that that state can't do anything about it.in the streets there the criminals that have illegal guns won't care how much bullets they have in their gun and you guys are taking our bullets away when we do this the right way to protect our family's. They should be able to have at least 10 in or handguns and full 30 in ar,s

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:05:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glenn	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill on the grounds that it only restricts and limits the rights of law abiding gun owners. You are giving the upper had to criminals who don't care about these laws and will acquire and use guns with larger capacity magazines.

One of the major tests when determining whether something falls under the per view of 2nd Amendment protection is the common use test. If a type of firearm such as the AR 15 or AR pistol is considered 'in common use' in other words owned and operated by a large number of people in our state and our country, they are protected under the second amendment. This includes any part which is needed for the normal functioning of the firearm. Stand capacity magazines are 30 rounds or more. There are larger capacity ones than that. Regardless all of these are protected by the 2nd Amendment.

If you look at statistics, most of what would be labeled as 'mass shootings' are not committed by people using an AR 15 or this type of semiautomatic rifle they are committing by pistols or more commonly known as hand guns cause the are easier to conceal to bring into public places. If the goal is to defend the public against mass shootings then let armed citizens carry in all the places that mass shootings are likely to occur.

In his study George Town University professor William English states that "He found that some 24 million have owned a total of 44 million AR-style rifles and 39 million own extended magazines that hold 10 rounds or more, potentially influential in the political debate over Biden's call for an AR ban. His survey estimated that there are 542 million extended magazines in the United States, ending any debate that the AR and other semi-automatic firearms are rare and just used by mass killers."

Please vote no on this bill cause it only aims to restrict good people not the ones who are gonna commit these crimes no matter what the law says. A yes vote is also in violation of the oldest and highest law of our country the 2nd Amendment "...the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed"

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:08:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Braun	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to oppose this bill (sb308). This bill, if passed would turn many law abiding citizens into criminals. Prohibiting magazines that hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition, will not help reduce crime in anyway, and further restricts firearms and shooting enthusiasts. Many rifle magazines that hold more than 10 rounds are already in common use. This bill does nothing more than further restricting people's 2nd amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:23:43 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Mejia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308. Hawaii's firearms laws are already some of the most strict in the nation. Further bans and restrictions will only criminalize thousands of law abiding citizens, and will further fuel the black market here in Hawaii. And if you don't believe that the black market will thrive, just take a cold hard look at what it has done with fireworks.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:28:06 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Endrix	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Endrix corona, oppose on this bill for the fact that you're taking our second amendment right to protect our self from the illegal guns that are on the streets that have as much bullets as they wanna put, You're taking away the people of Hawaii rights. For us that are getting license and getting their guns to protect their families this bill will be taking away our protection from the people that don't care about the law and have illegal guns and will use whatever magazines, attachments, and bullets to harm us , and now we have minimum bullets to protect ourselves that's outrageous. The police already take 20 to 30 minutes to get on the scene. We need to be able to protect ourselves in this bill was taking that away from us.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:37:26 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Martin Dixon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE this bill. It violates the second amendment.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:40:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Britton cole	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it's infringes in our second amendment rights

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:41:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kyle Morgan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill makes hundreds of thousands of law abiding citizens felons overnight. This is an impingement on 2Nd amendment rights and needs to be stopped completely.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:43:07 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Roberto Viernes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senators,

This bill would infringe on the 2nd Amendment and our right as citizens to own firearms including those that carry the capacity of over 10 rounds in any magazine. Most pistols and rifles have the capacity for over 10 rounds. This bill would effectively ban all of those firearms which in turn would overstep the bounds of our constitutional right to bear arms. I strongly urge you to vote 'no' against this bill. Thank you for your protection for law abiding citizens.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:45:35 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lizjean Perry	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I lizjean perry opposes on this bill because that fact that your taking about our RIGHTS. and this is not stoping the criminals or illegal guns on the streets that will use at much bullets in there amo magazine and your taking us the people RIGHTS to protect from these people with know 10 bullets.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:47:10 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rob Mihada	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB308!!!

Limiting magazines to 10 rounds can negatively impact law-abiding gun owners and self-defense situations. In real-life scenarios, such as home defense or active shooter situations, having a higher capacity magazine provides a better chance of effectively defending oneself without the need to frequently reload under pressure. Limiting magazine capacity may disproportionately impact responsible gun owners, who are often required to face escalating threats that may necessitate more rounds. Furthermore, such restrictions may not deter criminals, who are likely to obtain firearms illegally, leaving law-abiding citizens at a disadvantage. Ultimately, these restrictions often fail to address the root causes of gun violence, such as criminal behavior and inadequate enforcement of existing laws.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:54:41 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew M Church	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it infringes on my second amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 9:02:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephen Yuen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it really does not address public safety. If passed it will make instant criminals out of law abiding citizens.

Do you really believe career criminals will actually abide by there laws? It only puts us law abiding citizens at a disadvantage. Having standard capacity magazines will allow is to properly defend ourselves from those who attempt to harm us and our families.

Please do not pass this bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 9:07:24 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
paul leopoldino	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose on this bill cause it infringes on my 2 ammendment

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 9:21:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello, please stop this bill. It infringe on our rights as law abiding citizen. You are hurting the citizens and making criminals more armed than the rest of us.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 9:31:33 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kyle	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 9:53:07 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this. You will make ordinary people criminals. I will not just give my property away. Stop taking away tools from the people. Let us carry the best tools to defend ourselves, and abolish this kind of proposals. The criminals can do what ever, we who want to protect our loved ones must abide by all kinds of foolish restrictions. I strongly oppose this idea.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:00:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leslie Perry	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:04:12 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard Domingo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308

Please reconsider this bill as it will criminalize every law abiding citizen as something like a pistol comes from manufacture with a 10round capacity. The same pistol that requires a background check. The same pistol that requires a permit applications, EACH. The same pistol that requires a 2 week wait period. And the same pistol that needs to be registered with the state. This bill needs to be tossed. God forbid im put in a situation where I'd have to protect my families lives with a limited amount when the criminals don't care about rules.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:17:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I submit this testimony as a staunch defender of individual liberty, constitutional rights, and common-sense governance, urging you to **VOTE NO** on S.B. No. 308. This bill, which expands Hawaii’s ban on detachable ammunition magazines exceeding ten rounds from pistols to all firearms effective January 1, 2026, is an unjustified assault on the freedoms of law-abiding citizens. As a Republican aligned with the Make America Great Again movement, I see this as a dangerous overstep, but I also call on Democrats—who value fairness, community safety, and effective policy—to reject this flawed legislation for its impracticality and inequity.

1. An Attack on Second Amendment Rights

This bill tramples the constitutional right to bear arms by arbitrarily banning magazines over ten rounds for all firearms, not just pistols (Section 1). Republicans hold the Second Amendment as sacred, protecting our ability to defend ourselves and our families. Democrats, you’ve fought for personal autonomy—why strip law-abiding citizens of tools they need for self-defense? This isn’t about criminals; it’s about punishing patriots who follow the law.

2. Punishing the Law-Abiding, Not the Lawbreakers

Criminals, by definition, ignore laws—yet this bill targets responsible gun owners who use standard-capacity magazines for lawful purposes like home defense or sport shooting. The exemption for modified magazines (Section 1) is a hollow gesture, burdening owners with costly retrofits or confiscation risks. Democrats, you’ve championed justice for the innocent—why back a law that penalizes the compliant while letting felons skate free with illegal arsenals?

3. No Evidence of Public Safety Gains

Proponents claim this ban enhances safety, but where’s the proof? Hawaii already has strict gun laws, and this expansion lacks data showing ten-round limits stop crime—nationally or locally. Republicans demand policies that work, not feel-good measures. Democrats, you’ve pushed for evidence-based solutions—why support a bill with no clear impact on violence, leaving families vulnerable to real threats?

4. Economic Burden on Working Families

This legislation forces gun owners to replace or modify magazines, costing hundreds per household, with no compensation (Section 1). In a state with high living costs, this hits working-class folks hardest—hunters, sport shooters, and rural residents who rely on firearms. Democrats, you’ve fought for economic fairness—why impose this hidden tax on struggling Hawaiians while ignoring the root causes of gun violence?

5. Undermining Self-Defense in a Dangerous World

Limiting magazines to ten rounds weakens citizens’ ability to protect themselves in emergencies, where multiple rounds might be needed against multiple attackers. Republicans see this as government disarming the people; Democrats should see it as abandoning vulnerable communities—rural or urban—who deserve equal protection. Why tilt the scales toward criminals who won’t comply, leaving honest folks outgunned?

Conclusion: Vote No for Liberty and Logic

S.B. No. 308 isn’t a safety fix—it’s a liberty grab that burdens law-abiding citizens, wastes resources, and fails to address crime. Republicans reject it as unconstitutional overreach; Democrats should reject it as unfair, unproven, and impractical. I urge you to stand for freedom, fairness, and effective governance—**VOTE NO** on this bill. Protect Hawaii’s people, not its bureaucracy.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:29:18 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bryston Tanigawa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha please vote no on this bill. Magazine bans are clearly unconstitutional as our nations does not have historical analogues that support this ban. Why are 10 round mags safer than 30 round mags? There are no studies that show lower capacity magazines equal fewer mass shooting deaths. Only law abiding citizens will be affected by this bill because we are the only ones who would follow it! The state of Hawaii cannot even keep guns out of the hands of young people who aren't even old enough to own firearms. The kid who was shooting his pistol outside the graduation had an illegal firearm and illegal magazines. how did this bill make sense?

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:30:34 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Will Buttler	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members,

I strongly oppose SB 308, which seeks to expand the ban on pistols with detachable magazines over ten rounds to include all firearms. This bill unfairly restricts law-abiding citizens while failing to address the root causes of violent crime.

Magazine Capacity Limits Do Not Reduce Crime

Magazine bans have been implemented in several states, yet there is no substantial evidence that they reduce violent crime. A 2004 study by the National Institute of Justice reviewed the federal assault weapons ban, which included magazine restrictions, and found that it had little impact on gun violence. Criminals do not follow magazine laws, and limiting law-abiding citizens' ability to defend themselves is not a solution.

Self-Defense and the Reality of Defensive Gun Use

In defensive situations, magazine capacity can be critical. According to the 2021 National Firearms Survey, approximately 1.67 million Americans use firearms for self-defense each year. Many of these incidents involve multiple attackers or require more than ten rounds to stop a threat. Restricting magazine capacity puts law-abiding citizens at a disadvantage against criminals who ignore such laws.

Magazine Restrictions Disadvantage Law-Abiding Citizens

A Department of Justice survey found that 77% of criminals obtain their firearms through illegal means, meaning they will still access higher-capacity magazines.

Reloading under stress is difficult, and in high-adrenaline situations, such as home invasions, forcing defenders to change magazines after ten rounds could cost lives.

Law enforcement and military personnel use standard-capacity magazines (often more than ten rounds) because they are effective for self-defense. Law-abiding citizens should not be denied the same right to effective protection.

Constitutional Concerns

SB 308 directly infringes upon the Second Amendment rights of Hawaii's citizens. In *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022), the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed that firearm regulations must be consistent with the nation's historical tradition of gun ownership. Blanket bans on commonly owned firearm accessories, such as standard-capacity magazines, fail this test and could face legal challenges. Courts have already struck down similar bans in other states, recognizing that they disproportionately burden responsible gun owners while doing little to stop criminals.

Hawaii Already Has Some of the Strictest Gun Laws in the Nation

Hawaii's existing gun laws are among the most restrictive in the U.S. Expanding magazine bans does not target crime—it only punishes responsible gun owners. Rather than restricting the rights of law-abiding citizens, lawmakers should focus on enforcing existing laws against criminals who misuse firearms.

Better Alternatives to SB 308

Rather than imposing ineffective restrictions on law-abiding citizens, I urge lawmakers to consider measures that directly target criminal misuse of firearms:

1. **Strengthening Penalties for Gun Crimes** – Increase penalties for violent offenses committed with a firearm rather than restricting ownership for responsible citizens.
2. **Improving Mental Health Resources** – Address the root causes of violence by investing in mental health programs and crisis intervention initiatives.
3. **Enhancing Law Enforcement Efforts** – Focus on prosecuting illegal gun traffickers and ensuring that repeat offenders face serious consequences.
4. **Expanding Self-Defense Education** – Support responsible firearm ownership by promoting safety courses and defensive training programs.

For these reasons, I urge you to oppose SB 308. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,
William Buttler

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:34:33 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the honorable members of the Senate, My name is Michael Tanabe and I am writing in opposition of Senate Bill SB308. I have been a law abiding, citizen of Hawaii, and a firearm enthusiast for over 20 years. Senate Bill SB308 would not benefit in improving crime rates in Hawaii. Statistically speaking, Hawaii has some of the lowest crime rates in the country, mostly due to its demographics and unique "island culture". Passing SB308 only hurts law abiding citizens that enjoy, and take advantage of their second amendment rights, whether it be for sporting, hunting, collecting, or even self defense. Due to Hawaii's already stringent gun laws, the vast majority of firearm owners in Hawaii are responsible and practice firearm safety like a religion. Passing SB308 essentially turns all of Hawaii's firearm enthusiasts into criminals overnight. I would respectfully urge everyone to please vote in opposition of Senate Bill SB308. Thank you for your time and allowing me to express my concern for Senate Bill SB308. Sincerely, Michael Tanabe.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:36:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
CHARLES Samuel	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:41:43 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Kitaoka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a registered voter, and LEGAL owner of Firearms, I strongly oppose this bill. Thank you for your time! Aloha!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:47:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hoa Le Chang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308. Hawaii needs to consider the future threats that may arise from hostile countries such as Russia and China. With this island being so remote, we become susceptible to a takeover should our defense tools and weapons be thoughtlessly banned or limited. At this very moment, Chinese warships are conducting war exercises close to Australia whose fearful citizens are powerless being mostly unarmed. Help protect Hawaii by voting NO on SB308.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:53:36 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Santos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill would accomplish nothing but turn law abiding citizens into criminals overnight. There is no data proving that this bill will abolish crime or even alleviate it as criminals will not abide by any current or new laws! 2nd ammendment shall not be infringed! Uphold the Constitution!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 11:06:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Matt Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our state has bigger issues than the size of magazines and the criminals don't care about your laws.

We the taxpayers oppose this waste of time and expect that you will work on real issues such as homelessness and the economy.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 11:08:43 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
RICHARD HOLIBAUGH	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello, and thank you for reading my testimony. I urge you to oppose SB308SD1. This bill, if enacted into law, will do nothing for the prevention of crime. In fact if enacted this bill will make current owners of standard capacity magazines subject to arrest, prosecution, and possible penalties or a term of confinement. Criminals do not obey laws. Period. I can make this statement as I currently have 18 years of experience supervising offenders at the Federal Detention Center, Honolulu. My daily interaction with those accused and convicted of crimes gives me a unique perspective. An individual who commits a crime with a firearm can be considered violent. Violent individuals can be impulsive. Violent criminals do not obey the laws of our county, state, or nation. This bill will not impact violent criminals, it will only impact law abiding citizens. Thank you for reading my testimony.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 11:25:47 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lionel Delos Santos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha legislature i oppose this bill sb308 because it would not stop crime or make a differice.

thank you

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 11:38:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jon DS	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 12:21:25 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Fel Sepada	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this unconstitutional bill. This bill if passed will do more harm than good. It will deem law abiding citizens criminals. Oppose this bill and honor your oaths to defend and protect The Constitution.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:14:04 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jarek	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB 308. It is yet another blatant attack on our 2nd Amendment Rights.

Further restrictions upon our right to bear arms and their parts will result in nothing more than punishing the law abiding citizens thus restraining our ability to defend ourselves along with our ability to maintain a Free State all while the criminals will continue to obtain these "outlawed" items through illegal channels as they always have been. What will banning rifle/shotgun magazines over 10 rounds do besides turn almost every gun owner in Hawaii into a felon overnight? 10 round magazines for long guns have been legal in Hawaii for years and have proven to be the furthest thing from the problem as nearly ever criminal usage of firearms were that of ghost guns and handguns. It's apparent that State Officials that have no understanding of the matter think that the legal and law abiding owners of firearms are a greater threat to Hawaii than the illegal ways of obtaining firearms and criminals that weld them. Hawaii is obviously more concerned with lining their pockets and protecting criminals more than they are concerned with protecting their people and upholding their oath to their State, Country, and the Constitution. They take little to no consequences while it's the taxpayer's lives and dollars they spend, pocket and toy with.

Clearly this is nothing more than another last effort of the corrupt and unintelligent in office to disarm the American Citizens of Hawaii in the face of a new administration that is hellbent on uprooting those that have been stealing from and corrupting the American Citizens of Hawaii.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:51:17 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joshua Aguinaldo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly Oppose SB308!

SB308's ban on firearm magazines over 10 rounds is unconstitutional and directly infringes on our Second Amendment rights. The right to bear arms is a fundamental individual right that should not be arbitrarily limited by the government. Restricting magazine capacity hinders law-abiding citizens from effectively defending themselves and their families, which goes against the core principles of the Second Amendment. This bill unfairly targets responsible gun owners and undermines their ability to exercise their constitutional rights. It is essential to uphold and protect the Second Amendment as a cornerstone of our democracy, and SB308 clearly violates this fundamental right.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:59:57 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Luis Ma	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The argument that banning standard rifle magazines is unconstitutional 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."*

Here are some key points that opponents of such bans might raise to argue that banning standard rifle magazines is unconstitutional:

1. **Second Amendment Protects Common Use of Firearms**

- The Supreme Court's decision in **District of Columbia v. Heller (2008)** affirmed that the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to possess firearms for lawful purposes, such as self-defense. The Court also emphasized that firearms "in common use" for lawful purposes are protected.

- Standard-capacity magazines (e.g., 30-round magazines for AR-15 rifles) are widely owned and used by law-abiding citizens for self-defense, sport shooting, and other lawful activities. Banning them could be seen as infringing on the right to bear arms in common use.

2. **Arbitrary Restrictions on Capacity**

- Opponents argue that magazine capacity limits are arbitrary and do not meaningfully address public safety. For example, a ban on magazines holding more than 10 rounds might be seen as arbitrary because it does not directly correlate with preventing crime or mass shootings.

- Such restrictions could be viewed as overly broad and not tailored to address specific public safety concerns, making them unconstitutional under the Second Amendment.

3. **Infringement on Self-Defense**

- The Supreme Court in *Heller* recognized that the Second Amendment protects the right to use firearms for self-defense. Standard-capacity magazines are often seen as necessary for effective self-defense, especially in situations involving multiple attackers or home invasions.

- Banning these magazines could be argued to infringe on an individual's ability to defend themselves effectively, thereby violating their constitutional rights.

4. **Historical Precedent and Tradition**

- Opponents of magazine bans often argue that such restrictions are inconsistent with the historical tradition of firearm regulation in the United States. The Second Amendment was intended to protect the right to bear arms as they were commonly used at the time of its drafting and as they evolved over time.

- Standard-capacity magazines are seen as a modern evolution of firearm technology, and banning them could be viewed as disregarding the historical context of the Second Amendment.

5. **Overbreadth and Vagueness**

- Some argue that magazine bans are overly broad and vague, potentially criminalizing law-abiding gun owners who possess magazines that were previously legal. This could lead to arbitrary enforcement and violate due process protections under the **Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments**.

6. **Lack of Evidence for Public Safety Benefits**

- Opponents of magazine bans often claim that there is insufficient evidence to prove that such bans reduce crime or prevent mass shootings. If the law does not serve a compelling public interest, it could be argued that it unnecessarily infringes on constitutional rights.

7. **Potential for Slippery Slope**

- Critics of magazine bans argue that such restrictions could lead to further erosion of Second Amendment rights. If the government can ban standard-capacity magazines, it might later move to ban other firearm components or firearms altogether, creating a "slippery slope" of increasing restrictions.

Counterarguments and Legal Context

While opponents of magazine bans argue that they are unconstitutional, proponents of such laws often cite public safety concerns, particularly in relation to mass shootings and gun violence. Courts have sometimes upheld magazine restrictions under the principle that the Second Amendment allows for reasonable regulation. For example, in *Heller*, the Supreme Court stated that the Second Amendment does not guarantee an unlimited right to bear any type of weapon under any circumstances.

However, the constitutionality of magazine bans remains a contentious issue, and legal challenges often hinge on how courts interpret the scope of the Second Amendment and the balance between individual rights and public safety.

In summary, opponents of standard rifle magazine bans argue that such laws are unconstitutional because they infringe on the right to bear arms, are arbitrary, and undermine self-defense capabilities, all of which are protected under the Second Amendment. The debate continues to play out in courts, legislatures, and public discourse.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 3:23:42 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gian Vicuna	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. It has nothing to do with community safety and only limits law-abiding citizens' capacity to protect themselves or their families. This bill will automatically make most of the rifle owners felons.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 5:34:10 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Makane Black	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Oppose to Bill 308 because it infringes is on my Second amendment rates.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 5:55:11 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashley	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose because this is unconstitutional!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 5:59:45 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Triston Vera Cruz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 6:03:23 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marc Saguiguit	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. To begin with, is there more crime in our state that involves this type of riffles? If there is? How many? The bills that should be created is for those unlawful people that possess this guns, don't attack the people that been to gun classes and wants to abide the law. Thank you

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 6:12:23 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jay Franzone	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Jay Franzone, I live in town, just down the road on South King. I am a Bloomberg American Health Initiative Fellow, focusing on violence at Johns Hopkins University. I've been fortunate to call Hawai'i home for the past few years. My fiancé, who is Native Hawaiian, is applying to JABSOM this cycle, with hopes of returning to Kaua'i to serve the community where he was raised. I rise today in support of SB 308 because I care about the well-being of our community.

Gun violence is a public health crisis, and high-capacity magazines (HCMs) are a clear risk factor for the deadliest shootings. Research has consistently shown that restrictions on HCMs can significantly reduce both the frequency and lethality of mass shootings. A review of mass shootings between 2015 and 2022 found that mass shootings involving high-capacity magazines resulted in six times as many people shot per incident compared to those without.

When more bullets can be fired without reloading, more lives are lost.

Hawai'i has some of the strongest gun laws in the country but our current law expressly bans high-capacity magazines that can be used with pistols. Functionally, however, many such magazines are also compatible with rifles. Our state already recognizes the danger that high-capacity magazines pose, and our law should explicitly prohibit magazines that hold more than ten rounds for use in any firearm. SB 308 is a helpful clarification that reiterates Hawaii's current and strong opposition to high-capacity magazines.

Mass shootings may be rare in Hawai'i, but the impact of a single incident would be devastating. **We should not wait for tragedy to act.** The evidence and the public pressure are clear. This bill would ensure our laws are aligned with what we know keeps communities safe.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:10:46 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jon Abbott	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE SB308 SD1. It is a blatant unconstitutional bill!

Rifle magazines over 10 rounds number in the tens of thousands here in the Aloha State. They are in common use as defined by the Bruen Decision and therefore protected explicitly by the 2cd Amendment to the US Constitution.

If you pass this bill this law will be added to our current lawsuit against the State of Hawaii - Abbott vs Connors, which will overturn the 10 round pistol magazine ban here. When this occurs the State of Hawaii will be liable for damages to every owner of these pistols.

I urge you to VOTE NO on SB308 SD1.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:15:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sean J deMello	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am opposing this bill because it violates our Second Amendment rights.

Thank you,

Sean J DeMello

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:15:48 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bruce Javellana	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:17:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joelle Seashell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Opposed. Strongly. Shall not be infringed. Not debatable. Anyone trying to erode our 2nd amendment rights is in violation of their oath to uphold the constitution and should be permanently fired from working in government.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:26:41 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Babjn	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- Detachable magazines are essential for the practical use of many firearms, especially semi-automatic weapons, allowing for rapid reloading, which is considered vital for self-defense.
- When the Second Amendment was ratified, detachable magazines were already in use and considered a standard feature of firearms, making a ban on them inconsistent with historical precedent.
- **"Arms" Definition:** Courts have increasingly interpreted "arms" in the Second Amendment to include commonly used firearm accessories like detachable magazines, as they are considered necessary for the effective exercise of the right to bear arm

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:29:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robin D. Ganitano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308 which is unconstitutional and drastically restricts 2nd Amendment rights by banning detachable magazines over 10 rounds for all firearms and not just pistols.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:30:39 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaiulani Bowers	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it is unconstitutional

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:35:18 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
L Toriki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE BILL SB308!

"The right of the people to keep and bear Arms, SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED"

Why do are "elected" officials continue to chip away at law abiding citizens' rights?

This bill will not stop criminals from having weapons or ammunition and who have no qualms regarding hurting innocent people. The only thing bills like this do is prevent law abiding citizens from defending themselves and their families from criminals with weapons and over reaching governments.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:41:33 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lee Uchiyama	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:43:56 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jody Brissette	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Once again, with the education system, skyrocketing cost of living and homelessness, Hawaii Politicians dont want to fix these but want to curtail the rights of law abiding citizines. Just as Columbia v Heller states, the right of the people to own common use firearms, standard capacity (30 rounds) are common use. Law abdiing citizens arent the ones committing crimes with firearms let alone threatening anyone with standard capacity maagainzes. If this law was to pass, will Law Enforcement be limited to the same magazine restrictions? The continued assault on our rights by the politicians of Hawaii is tiresome. This law will make zero impact on any crime becuase crimials do not abide by any laws. The state should focus on actual mattars at hand such as those listed in my opening sentence.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:48:21 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kamakani de dely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:50:07 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Randall Lockwood	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308 as it infringes our 2nd Amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:50:22 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mallory De Dely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:52:10 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Dedely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:06:22 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark Barranco	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This proposed ban is far too broad and would ban many commonly owned firearms that thousands of citizens already own. These said citizens would essentially be turned into criminals, and a confiscation of these items would be extremely difficult for the government to logistically conduct in an effective manner.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:07:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandon Treloar	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308 at it infringes on my second amendment rights

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:07:20 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jim T.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:16:32 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Reid oya	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308

Again, this bill does NOTHING to stop criminals. Criminals are still going to have STANDARD capacity magazines. You are putting law abiding citizens at a disadvantage & possibly getting them killed because they ran out of ammunition & hat try to reload. Are to going to be held responsible for a death ?

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:21:41 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308. This bill infringes upon the Second Amendment rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution, which clearly protects the right to bear arms. Any laws that restrict firearm ownership or storage are a direct threat to our fundamental freedoms.

Magazines of more than 10 rounds are one of the most common accessories. There is no correlation between magazine capacity and public safety. I support lawful use of firearms including sporting and recreational shooting. Recreational and competitive shooters and hunters use these common accessories. Banning Magazines over 10 rounds for rifles and shotguns will do nothing to improve public safety.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:22:44 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ian Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose bill SB308 as it's a direct violation of our second ammendment rights

Ian Silva

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:23:53 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dan Roberts	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose at this is a direct infringement of the 2nd ammendment of the constitution of the United States of America.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:27:21 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alex	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

LEAVE OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT ALONE!! We have the strictest laws for purchasing firearms as is. Stop trying to control our freedom and our rights!! Focus your attention on bigger issues like the corruption that goes on in our state government. Changing magazine size is not going to do anything but make people more upset. Shame on you dirty politicians!!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:28:34 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
J Ching	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308 SD1. This bill violates the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution, which explicitly safeguards the right to bear arms. Any legislation that limits firearm ownership or storage poses a direct threat to our core freedoms.

Magazines with a capacity of more than 10 rounds are among the most commonly used accessories. I support the responsible use of firearms, including for sporting and recreational purposes. Recreational and competitive shooters, as well as hunters, rely on these standard accessories. Banning magazines with capacities over 10 rounds for rifles and shotguns will have no meaningful impact on public safety as there is no proven link between magazine capacity and public safety.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:35:57 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deven English	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong opposition of this bill. Stop with the goverment over reach and the unconstitutional bills when in comes to the 2nd Amendment of the United States of America.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:38:48 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeff Arceo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308. Please concentrate on mental health and DO NOT restrict my ability to defend my loved ones and friends. Honolulu Police resources are already limited, and they cannot protect you when you need it the most.

Thank you!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:42:07 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaioluhia Miguel-Hamakua	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This measure needs to be stopped, as the previous laws have already stopped us with one method of self defense, this aims to take away another. The ability, and right, to keep arms is a constitutional right. Especially being secluded in the middle of the ocean, we have no ability or access to aid should anything ever happen. Let us not forget the military is for the country, not the people as individuals. If they are needed elsewhere , ourselves, are all we have to ensure our families remain safe. Our Law Enforcement could be overtasked and undermanned, this is all we are left with.

Please stop it here.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:42:16 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:47:24 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexander Tadei	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Greetings. I am an experienced/ qualified DHS federal law enforcement officer speaking on behalf of myself. A bill as such would do more to hinder law abiding citizens and law enforcement officer's carrying off-duty more than it would hinder violent criminals. Not only would this bill be met with costly legal opposition, but it is not in line with historical laws or practices pertaining to the rights of citizens to carry commonly owned firearms. I strongly urge lawmakers to find alternative solutions which tackle the root of the problems of violent crimes that helps everybody, not like bills such as SB308 which burdens everyday citizens more than it burdens criminals. Thank you.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:47:55 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Aguigui	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly oppose the passing of this bill. This bill is another attempt to slowly but surely strip citizens of their rights guaranteed by the constitution. The restricting of magazine capacity is a slow but sure way to ban firearms in its entirety. The intent behind this bill is all about control of the population and the creators and proponents of this bill know it. This is unconstitutional and only another attempt by Hawaii's democrat party to strip people away of their rights. Once again I strongly oppose this legislation.

Respectfully,

Brian Aguigui

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:55:37 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
sean	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:59:16 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bryson Hori	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose sb308

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:00:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Reina Loughlin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill to limit gun rights. We need to defend ourselves with appropriately equipped guns that may be necessary to have detachable magazines of 10 rounds. We shouldn't be limited or controlled to have limited defense.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:01:58 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel K	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

A reminder that any ban on large capacity magazines is unconstitutional. The constitution provides all citizens the right to keep and bear arms. The Supreme Court, in its Bruen decision requires historical justification for any restriction. It also specifically protects any firearm in common use. Large capacity magazines are in common use.

For reference:

On September 22, 2023, a federal judge in California held that PC 32310—the state ban on large-capacity magazines—was unconstitutional. However, the ban will stay in place while the **Ninth Circuit** considers the issue.

On November 30, 2021, the Ninth Circuit upheld the state ban on **large-capacity magazines**. However, the United States Supreme Court **vacated that opinion** and asked the court to reconsider the issue in light of a recent United States Supreme Court ruling regarding firearm rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:05:24 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Adam	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:08:18 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tryslynn Kauionalani Jones	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill because it is unconstitutional and the government shouldn't be taking our right to bear arms. As a woman this would be affecting my right to protect myself and my children.

Aloha,

I am providing written testimony in **opposition** to SB308.

The provision to ban detachable magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds does nothing but instantly criminalize law-abiding firearms owners. There are likely hundreds of thousands of legally owned standard capacity magazines in the hands of Hawaii residents. There is no grandfather clause and thus, anyone who doesn't know about SB308 will face misdemeanor charges, potentially felony implications.

The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS), through the NYSRPA vs. Bruen decision (2022), recently established "text, history, and tradition" as the new standard for jurisprudence regarding the Second Amendment. SB308 provides no historical analogs to justify its consideration. Reaching further back, the SCOTUS decision in District of Columbia vs. Heller (2008) noted that arms in common use for lawful purposes cannot be banned. Magazines are considered arms, by definition, and thus a ban on standard capacity magazines is, by and large, an arms ban. SB308 demonstrates a blatant disregard of numerous SCOTUS decisions and should not be considered for approval.

Mahalo.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:21:44 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kevin Bachiller	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:22:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
KAIKA SASAOKA	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose this bill. Taking away our rights once again is a total disregard of the Constitution of the United States of America.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:24:18 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terry Murakami	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose. By restricting rounds in a individual magazines it will make it difficult for law-abiding citizens to defend themselves from either large mobs or if the violent criminal is difficult to hit (hiding in cover, trying to shoot while avoid getting hit, etc). Also having no restrictions on round capacity it will deter potentially violent groups from acting in mass.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:32:28 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Konrad Kaipo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE THIS BILL BECAUSE IT INFRINGES ON OUR SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:32:35 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nikolas Kamau	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill as it stands against my second amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:33:55 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Clayton Shimizu	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it infringes on our second amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:43:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joel Berg	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm sorry the state government thinks that its constituents are too stupid for civil liberties. No wonder Honolulu is covered in garbage and stinks like piss. When you treat your citizens like children they're going to act like children.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:47:38 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Ley	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this Bill. September 22, 2023 a federal judge in california held that the state ban was unconstitutional. Stop with the frizolous bans and try getting the criminal element off our streets.

Brian Ley county GMAC commishioner distric 4

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:56:31 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sally Lee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:00:46 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Healy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:00:50 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Shirai	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:03:40 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noela von Wiegandt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:04:49 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:05:59 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexander White	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

Is this body aware that virtually any detachable magazine can be modified to accept more than 10 rounds? Even modern bolt-action rifles often accept standard magazine types that while normally found in <10 round capacity will have >10 round capacity offerings. This bill should be amended to accurately reflect the intent: a ban on any firearm with a detachable magazine.

Legislators, do you really think that will hold up in court? This particular effort is a perfect example of virtue-signaling at the expense of the tax payer and legislative session time rather than a good faith effort to reduce violence. At least the voters will easily know who is in Honolulu to work and who is there to leach and waste resources.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:06:55 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Trevor	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose. It's unconstitutional!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:13:02 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly Oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:14:02 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Blaine De Ramos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308. The second amendment the right to bear arms. Once again I say Hawaii has made it very clear that the people's safety is NOT their priority. The increasing lack of HPD vacancies being filled and instead investing in cameras does not protect me from someone that wants to harm my family or myself. It is not wise to be a knife to a gun fight. If a perpetrator has a weapon and firepower, we the people have the right to have equal firepower.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:14:44 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Duane Albano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Absolutely unconstitutional!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:15:22 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kanoe Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly Oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:15:29 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Pagatpatan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:16:49 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kai nalu kelly-poznansky	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly Oppose SB308!

SB308's ban on firearm magazines over 10 rounds is unconstitutional and directly infringes on our Second Amendment rights. The right to bear arms is a fundamental individual right that should not be arbitrarily limited by the government. Restricting magazine capacity hinders law-abiding citizens from effectively defending themselves and their families, which goes against the core principles of the Second Amendment. This bill unfairly targets responsible gun owners and undermines their ability to exercise their constitutional rights. It is essential to uphold and protect the Second Amendment as a cornerstone of our democracy, and SB308 clearly violates this fundamental right. The approval of this bill is a direct violation of our presidents executive action after it's effective date and to me constitutes clear and blatant disregard of the orders set forth which is treason! I will ensure that your actions as officials are reported to the federal government if this constitutional infringement is allowed to pass and you may face disciplinary actions or removal from office as this is not the will of the people you have sworn an oath to uphold and represent.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:27:27 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Randell Remigio	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:35:40 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jerry Yuen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308 SD1. This bill goes against the Bruen Decision and standard capacity magazines greater than 10 rounds are proven to be in common use. There are tens of thousands of these magazines belonging to thousands of legal gun owners. This bill will make them criminals overnight. This bill is a clear infringement of the right to keep and bear arms. The is currently the Duncan vs Becerra case being litigated. The State of Hawaii will be challenged in court if this bill were to pass.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:36:01 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glennon T. Gingo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senate Judiciary Committee

The Hawaii Rifle Association, the oldest firearm Association in the Hawaiian Islands and with members on all islands, opposes this Bill.

Magazine Capacity has no correlation to firearm and gun crimes. Arbitrarily restricting or assigning capacities for magazines has no basis in crime prevention.

Magazine capacities of various sizes are used in many applications including advanced firearm training, competitions and recreational shooting and hunting.

Furthermore, the taking of property from law abiding firearm owners is an unconstitutional act on the part of the State.

Aloha,

Glennon T. Gingo

Hawaii Rifle Association

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:43:25 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Lono	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly ***OPPOSE*** bill **SB308**. This Bill is a direct infringement on our 2nd Amendment Rights. Bans like this have already been ruled as Unconstitutional. Bills such as these do not serve the people, only to satisfy some personal agenda of elected officials who are supposed to serve THE PEOPLE.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:53:39 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kekoa Lyau	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:00:17 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marvin Pascual	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:00:46 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Buck Giles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308,

Paul Giles

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:02:14 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peter Roa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We the people strongly oppose this tyrannical infringement

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:05:33 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaliko Trusdell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a born and raised Hawaii resident, tax payer, First Responder and registered voter I oppose SB 308. Criminals do not follow laws and law abiding citizens such as myself are constitutionally inclined to safeguard freedom. It would be pertinent for Hawaii law makers to review the Supreme Courts very recent Bruen decision prior to the submission of these types of infringements especially when there has been a precedent set Soo recently by the Supreme Court.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:11:54 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Quinn Shiroma	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

This Bill is unconstitutional and violates my 2nd amendment rights. I strongly oppose.

Very Respectfully,

Quinn S.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:13:14 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ray Baguio	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose sb308. This would turn law abiding citizens into criminals overnight. How many crimes in Hawaii have been committed by high capacity rifles? This bill does nothing to prevent criminals from carrying out what they intend to do.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:19:44 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anthony Sabado	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:27:39 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Antonio Sanchez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is also unconstitutional. See Bruin SCOTUS decision.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:38:49 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel Logan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Mahalo for hearing my testimony. Hawai'i has a 10 round magazine limit on magazines capable of being used in a pistol. I support SB 308 bill that expands the current law to apply to high-capacity magazines (more than 10 rounds) that work with any kind of firearm. When mass shooters use a high-capacity magazine –

- Nearly 5 times as many people are shot
- Nearly 2 times as many people are killed, and
- Nearly 10 times as many people are injured.

These high capacity magazines don't have a place in our society, they should be reserved for military use. Please support and pass SB 308.

Mahalo,

Rachel Logan

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:41:30 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Littleton	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:43:31 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
April Ching	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a citizen and mother of two, watching the numerous mass shootings take place over the past few years has been extremely challenging. These shootings take place in public spaces and many people have been killed. I do not want an increase in public danger for Hawaii, my home. Military-style weapons have no place in public spaces and must be carefully regulated. Our theaters, parks, churches, hospitals, libraries, sidewalks, stores, beaches, schools, and homes are not war zones or spaces where weapons are needed for self-defense but are instead spaces for living together in community. Please protect all of us by banning high-capacity magazines in public spaces. I ask you to take action to protect life.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:43:55 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alice Abellanida	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. It criminalizes law abiding gun owners. Vote no.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:51:39 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brent Uemae	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am strongly opposed to this bill. Magazines with capacities beyond 10 rounds are commonly owned in the state of Hawaii and across the United States. They are owned and used by law abiding citizens for the purposes of hunting, sport shooting, and self defense. A 10 round limit today is completely arbitrary. If this bill passes, next year it could be a bill for one round capacity.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 12:00:19 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 12:02:52 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephen Medeiros	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill, SB 308 magazine ban over 10 rounds. You are Infringing my Rights to Bear Arms with this ban. Modern Sporting Rifle/MSR. Pistols that have detachable magazines are today's weapon of choice for legal law Abiding Gun Owners to purchase for self protection. Protection of Family members. Protection of Property and Protection of Others.

Criminals do not abide by your Laws.They don't care. They laugh cause you inflict a law that ties the Gun Owners hands to abide to the law restrictioning to a magazine holding only 10 rounds. Are you planning to do the same for police. Sheriff's, armor security guards? If not, why should the legal Gun Owners have to abide by this SB 308 Bill. Limit magazine to only 10 rounds. Plus this ban has been in place since 1991. Get up with the times. Pistols rifles are being modernize as times change throughout the years

I as Combat Veteran. I carried several times of weapons to include automatic weapons. This is sidearm berratta holds more then 10 rounds M4 carbine which takes 30 magazines. M249 Squad Assault Weapon/ SAW which is magazine fed and belt fed. So why are we, the Legal Gun Owners subjected to tying our hands to only magazine of 10 rounds. Criminals out Gun us by more than 20 extra rounds.

How fast you can change a magazine of 10 rounds to someone with evil intent carrying 30 rounds? You rather match the Criminals with the same amount of rounds.

So I truly Oppose this Bill and ask to stop the Infringment of the right to Bear Arms IAW the Second Amendment Rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 12:10:10 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I OPPOSE THIS BILL AS IT GOES AGAINST E 2ND AMENDMENT RIGHT

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 12:14:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Howell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please (oppose) SB308

this bill SB308 restricting magazines that hold more then ten rounds of ammunition only harms legal , honest citizens from defending themselves , and innocents .

criminals don't care about your bills/laws, it only affects the citizens who you claim to serve .

please (oppose) SB308

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 12:18:24 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eric Kuwana	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I storongly oppose SB308, we already have some of the most restrictive laws in the nation. If passed you will make criminals out of all of the citizens who already own these magazines.

Thank you,

Eric

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 12:35:04 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wes Hodge	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it infringes on my 2nd Amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 12:38:40 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Zac Nosugref	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

I Jason T Wolford am writing to express my **strong opposition** to **SB308**, which seeks to expand the ban on detachable magazines over **ten rounds** to include **all firearms**, not just pistols. This bill unfairly penalizes law-abiding citizens while failing to address criminal activity.

Concerns with SB308:

1. Criminalizing Law-Abiding Citizens

- Under this bill, thousands of responsible firearm owners in Hawaii could instantly become **felons** for merely possessing legally acquired magazines.
- Many of us have owned these magazines for years without issue, using them for lawful activities such as self-defense, sport shooting, and hunting.

2. No Grandfather Clause or Amnesty

- The bill **does not provide exemptions** for legally purchased magazines. This means that individuals with legally acquired property could face criminal prosecution **without any means of compliance other than surrender or destruction** of their property.
- In contrast, other states that enacted similar restrictions included **grandfather clauses** or buyback programs, which this bill fails to consider.

3. Multiple Charges for Multiple Magazines

- If someone owns **20 magazines** over ten rounds, would they be charged with **20 separate violations**?
- Under existing Hawaii firearm laws, **each magazine could be considered a separate offense**, potentially leading to **multiple felony charges** for a law-abiding gun owner.
- This excessive punishment is disproportionate and targets responsible citizens instead of criminals.

4. Magazines Can Be Permanently Modified

- Many firearm owners would be willing to **permanently modify** their magazines to hold **10 rounds or fewer**, yet the bill does not clearly address whether such modifications would be legally acceptable.
- Clarification is needed on whether modification would prevent criminal liability.

5. Does Not Address Crime or Public Safety

- Criminals, by definition, do not follow gun laws. Restricting magazine capacity does **not** deter violent crime, as seen in other jurisdictions with similar bans.
- Law enforcement should focus on **targeting illegal firearm possession** rather than punishing responsible gun owners.

Request for Action

I urge you to **oppose SB308** and instead consider policies that focus on **actual criminal activity** rather than criminalizing law-abiding citizens. If this bill proceeds, it must at minimum:

- **Include a grandfather clause** for current owners
- **Allow for permanent modifications** to comply with the law
- **Clarify penalties** to prevent multiple felony charges for possession of multiple magazines

This bill, as written, **turns responsible gun owners into criminals overnight** and will have **no measurable effect on reducing crime**. I ask that you vote **NO on SB308** and protect the rights of Hawaii's law-abiding citizens.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 12:40:29 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Eichner	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose sb308. It is absolutely unconstitutional and will make law abiding citizens criminals over night. Standard compacity magazines(30 rounds) for our rifles are used for sport and also hunting

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 12:46:16 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shepard Shill	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308. This bill is an infringement on our rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 12:48:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emily McKinley	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it's unconstitutional and a clear infringement on our rights. We have the right to protect ourselves and recreational shooting.

TESTIMONY OF ELLEN GODBEY CARSON IN SUPPORT OF SB 308

I practiced law in Hawaii for 30 years, serving as President of the Hawaii State Bar Association and Hawaii Women Lawyers. I became an attorney to protect the constitutional rights of vulnerable persons in our country, including persons victimized by gun violence. While now retired, I still believe this is a critical goal in our state.

I support SB 308's ban on large capacity magazines (LCMs).

Hawai'i is the only state in the nation with an assault weapons ban that fails to ban assault rifles, assault shotguns and LCMs for those weapons, as shown below:

U.S. assault weapons bans by jurisdiction							
Jurisdiction	Status	By make or model	Semiauto rifles	Semiauto pistols	Shotguns	Features test	Magazine capacity
California ^[34]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10
Connecticut ^[35]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10
Delaware ^[36]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	17
District of Columbia ^[37]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10
Hawaii ^[38]	In force			✗		✗	10 (pistols)
Illinois ^[39]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10 (15 for handguns)
Maryland ^[40]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10
Massachusetts ^[41]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10
New Jersey ^[42]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10
New York ^[43]	In force		✗	✗	✗	✗	10
Washington ^[44]	In force	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	10

Source: [Assault weapons legislation in the United States - Wikipedia](#)

Hawaii long ago banned assault pistols/revolvers and detachable LCMs for those weapons, but in a dangerous political compromise, allowed the proliferation of assault rifles and LCMs for rifles. This invites mass shootings and violence within our shores.

The NRA and gun clubs are vocal, but they are a small minority and do not reflect the great majority in our community on this issue. The vast majority of Americans SUPPORT banning assault rifles and high-capacity magazines.

The NRA and gun groups argue that their Second Amendment rights are violated whenever limits are placed on guns and ammunition. That is untrue. The U.S. Supreme Court has clearly held that the Second Amendment right “is not a right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose.” *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S. 570, 626 (2008).

State Assault Weapons Bans have been upheld by multiple federal courts of appeal and the Supreme Court has declined to overturn the many challenges to those bans. So every other state banning assault weapons includes assault rifles, assault shotguns and large capacity magazines, while Hawaii fails to fill those gaping holes in our laws. We need this bill to ban large capacity magazines for ALL weapons.

The 1994 federal Assault Weapons Ban prohibited assault rifles, assault pistols and LCMs (over 10 rounds) for them, until it expired by its own terms in 2004. Sadly, the national political climate has not allowed the re-enactment of that ban on a federal level, despite studies showing its effectiveness. The Giffords Law Cent reports that:

Studies have found that the federal ban on large capacity magazines helped to prevent violence and the use of high-capacity magazines in crime during the 10 years in which it was in effect. During the 10-year period the federal assault weapons and large capacity magazine ban was in effect, mass shooting fatalities were 70% less likely to occur compared to the periods before and after the ban. While the federal assault weapons and large capacity ammunition ban was in effect, the number of high-fatality mass shootings fell by 37%, and the number of people dying in such shootings fell by 43%. When the ban lapsed in 2004, there was a 183% increase in high-fatality mass shootings and a 239% increase in deaths from such shootings.

<https://lawcenter.giffords.org/gun-laws/policy-areas/hardware-ammunition/large-capacity-magazines/>

Banning assault rifles and LCMs is important because they are designed to be capable of mass violence; their potential for mass murder far outweighs any plausible use for hunting, recreation or self-defense. The sooner this ban is created, the sooner we can start reducing the needless spread of assault rifles and LCMs in Hawai'i.

Ellen Godbey Carson,
Honolulu, Hawaii

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:01:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Earvin Guerrero	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it infringes our second amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:06:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE SB308!

This arbitrary bill clearly violates a fundamental and constitutionally protected right, and unfairly targets lawful and responsible gun owners!

Miles Chong

Hilo, HI 96720

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:11:44 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tad Sumida	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:14:10 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel Covert	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Law enforcement is not obligated to follow this law and neither are the criminals its only the lawful and compliant you are punishing. Why should we face longer wait times for police, less prosecution of criminals, and start at a disadvantage should we have an intruder. For sake of people who really need protection please don't pass this law. Its already failed a challenge in the 9th and is being relitigated.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:16:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Micah Fukuhara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Oppose this bill. You cannot take away the rights of the people when it has already been written in the constitution.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:16:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dustin Kimura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:19:42 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support SB308 to expand the ban on pistols with a detachable magazine to any firearm with a detachable magazine with over a 10 round magazine. This bill will help reduce the capacity to kill or injure multiple, innocent victims subject to gun violence. Counter to gun advocates claims, the bill will not infringe on their 2nd amendment rights or on individuals ability to protect themselves from crime.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:25:25 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Arzaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Sb308.

Oppose.

A detachable firearm does not make it any more dangerous. Magazines limited to 10 rounds reduce the capability of me defending myself against an assailant. Trying to harm and kill my person or family. It would make almost all magazine fed handguns illegal. And every legal firearm owner a criminal. It infringes on my right as a citizen to own a firearm.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:27:16 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
MICHAEL ING	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:28:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dayton Cabreros	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:28:12 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel Lukacinsky	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Greetings Senate Judiciary Committee Hope that you are all well. I am a taxpaying voting law abiding American citizen and a resident of the City and County of Honolulu. I am writing to express my deep concern about the Constitutional Rights Violations contained in bill HB308. It is, as such, an infringement on law abiding Hawai'i residents guaranteed 2nd Amendment rights, strongly supported by the 14th Amendment Sec.1 which clearly reads that "NO STATE shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States.", and several SCOTUS rulings most notably and very recently the Bruen ruling of 2022. Imposing a ban on STANDARD capacity magazines capable of accepting more than 10 rounds is a violation of law abiding American citizens guaranteed Constitutional rights in such that these magazines are STANDARD factory equipment on many popularly owned rifles and are thus part of the operational whole of the rifle. These so-called "high capacity" magazines are, as said, STANDARD equipment for commonly owned rifles that many Americans legally own and effectively use for an entire range of legitimate purposes, such as self-defense or competition. 10 capacity magazines are not the STANDARD factory equipment for many rifles and STANDARD factory equipment being used should NEVER be the exception, it should ALWAYS be the rule in the best interest of safety and the rifle functioning properly. That being said, it is uncertain how these factors can be completely ignored and the restriction contained in bill HB308 be considered to be put on the books here in Hawai'i. The Constitution of Hawai'i reads the same as the US Constitution verbatim for the 2nd Amendment that the "Right of the People to keep and bear arms SHALL NOT be infringed." We all want public safety here but infringing on the guaranteed Constitutional rights of law abiding citizens is not the way to bring that about. Taxpaying voting residents here in town would like to see action that DOES have a direct impact on public safety and does so quickly and effectively. That is arresting the many criminals, felons, and drug traffickers pushing dangerous drugs such as Fentanyl meth and heroin that we have in our neighborhoods threatening us and our families on a daily basis and taking their illegal guns and weapons away. These are the individuals who are intent on bringing harm to others and are unfazed by any type of gun laws or restrictions. This must be strongly taken into consideration and addressed FIRST AND FOREMOST before spending time and HARD EARNED TAX PAYER MONEY on bills like HB308 which will do little if anything to keep dangerous weapons out of the hands of criminals. The law abiding residents of Hawai'i would much rather see our hard earned tax dollars being spent WISELY on fighting crime and putting the bad guys in jail where they belong because THAT is a tried and true method that will definitely keep us, our families, our children, and all of our communities safer. The NRA-ILA and the 2ND AMENDMENT FOUNDATION are both following this bill closely and are also aware of the clear Constitutional rights violations of the pistol magazine 10 round restriction for

possible Amicus Briefs or lawsuits to be filed against additionally if needed and where appropriate. Also to remind you if you are not aware of the recent important developments on the Federal level which will directly affect Hawaii, as Hawaii is a State of the United States of America and must uphold the Constitution first and foremost as per the Supremacy clause contained in Article VI, that there is new leadership at the DOJ, FBI, and ATF which are all now strongly pro-2nd Amendment and the Feb. 7th Executive Order Protecting 2nd Amendment Rights which will allow the United States Department of Justice to investigate Rights Violations concerning the 2nd Amendment such as HB308 in any State including Hawaii. Please check the links that I've included below and pass them on to you colleagues. Thank you for your time and careful consideration. I do greatly appreciate it. Sincerely, Daniel Lukacinsky

<https://www.americas1stfreedom.org/content/president-trump-signs-huge-executive-order-on-guns/>

<https://www.nrila.org/articles/20250203/hawaii-gun-ban-bills-scheduled-for-public-hearings-this-thursday>

<https://saf.org/pinales-v-attorney-general-for-the-state-of-hawaii/>

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:30:25 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandon Allen Kainoa Leong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308.

Magazines with a capacity of more than 10 rounds is not the problem when it comes to gun crimes. Guns are not the problem when it comes to crimes committed by criminals who use them. Criminals do not care what laws are on the books. They commit crimes because they choose to break the law. Also, when a shooting happens most of the time, we find out that mental illness is a contributing factor in most mass shootings. Your laws will not stop crime, it will not deter crime and will only affect those of us that choose to follow the laws that you have pushed on us. Hawaii gun owners should not be required to remove from their possession legally acquired property because some day you, one of a handful of citizens out of over a million people living in this state are lucky enough to have been given this opportunity to hold one of the few Senate Seats by your district. Stop trying to steal our rights from us, and work to keep criminals in jail and hold them accountable for their actions.

Bradnon Leong

President

Lessons In Firearms Education

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:45:06 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Troy Goldberg	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My family and I Strongly Oppose SB308 as it violates the 2nd ammendment rights. Please listen to the people. Mahalo Nui

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:45:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Taz Gample	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Taz Gample, and I oppose SB 308. Hawaii has historically been one of the safest states in regards to incidents involving firearms. Many firearms within this state are currently sold with magazines above the proposed 10-round limit, and are not being used in an unsafe or unlawful manner. If the majority of these magazines are not being used in an unsafe or unlawful manner, then what is the reason for the restriction? This leads me to believe that a ban like there is no grounds for which a bill like this can be supported. I sincerely ask that you oppose this bill as it is a fundamental attack on our second ammendment rights.

Mahalo for your time,

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:50:06 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James Mueller	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB 308

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:51:13 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James K. Rzonca	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Gun laws are unconstitutional. "Shall not be infringed" means shall not be infringed. I oppose this bill

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:51:35 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Samuel Iler	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB308 seeks to impose a ban on standard capacity magazines capable of accepting more than 10 rounds. There are numerous normal and legit purposes that the majority of law abiding citizens use these magazines as standard equipment. Please, as a legislative rep of the citizenry, consider your constituency and your legal compliance with the letter and spirit of the 2nd Amendment. Ask yourself, is there an urgent need to restrict gun owners from using rounds of 10+ magazines? Mitigating the right to keep and bear arms is a slippery slope and might not be winning over your potential voters in the direction you think. Many believe that hunting, competition, and self defense are vital freedoms and when the governmental legislature starts to come knocking and infringe on those rights, it is time to defend our Constitutional freedoms in the voting booth. I oppose SB308.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:55:09 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan imamura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill due to the fact it imposes on my rights. Should it pass it should also apply to all law enforcement.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 2:00:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Audie Gerilla	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good afternoon.

SB308 and other related bills to owning and/purchasing firearms and/or firearm parts including accessories undermine the constitutional right of law-abiding citizens. I ask you not to approve this bill and other related bills as it will criminalize law-abiding citizens. I as a law-biding citizen has the constitutional right to bear arms to protect and defend my life and other lives that is precious to me. We need better laws that protect the innocent from persons with evil intent to harm and/or destroy a person and their property.

Again we don't want a bill that is detrimental to the constitutional right to bear arms.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Audie F Gerilla

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 2:00:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shana Cabunoc	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

As a Mother, Wife and law abiding citizen, I strongly oppose this bill. It goes against our constitutional rights! What I don't understand is why everyone wants to take away our rifles, we should be able to use them for leisure, as well as protection. Criminals will still be able to acquire these rifles, magazines and Ammo weither or not you make it illegal. What makes you think law abiding citizens want to go unarmed while criminals can still illegally get these rifles, etc? What about in the event that something majorly horrific happens here and no military is available? Would you want criminals defending you? Or law abiding citizens armed with what you are trying to take away. Please make it make sense. Hawaii is already one of the most hardest places to get a hand gun license, why cant you all work together on crime reduction, rather than unarm law abiding citizens? I feel like road rage is worse here than gun crimes, will you be taking away cars? Respectfully I oppose this bill. God Bless you and Mahalo!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 2:08:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
tony frascarelli	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly opposed as this bill, by itself, will do nothing to address what the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs referred to on 2/14/05 as gun violence being a growing and unacceptable problem in this state. If such is the case, the answer is to target repeat offenders and habitual offenders with mandatory prison sentences not take away a law abiding citizen's right to own and use a magazine of his or her choice. No room in our prison system. Build more prisons.

At 75 years young I received my first 30 round magazine when I was issued my M16 in basic training. I've owned some since. So what does the state want gun owners to do with them? Toss them in the trash or will the state offer a buyback program. It would be smarter to wait for the cases before the 9th Circuit Court and the Supreme Court to be adjudicated.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 2:11:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dave Cunningham	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Legislators,

I oppose this Bill, it makes no sense to pass such legislation when there are several pending cases against such restrictions on our Second Amendment freedoms some of which will likely make it to the US Supreme Court which is likely to block such restrictions as they have no historical significance or references and as such are Unconstitutional, therefore Hawaii is only inviting its own set of lawsuits against it that will waste our tax dollars in senseless litigation.

Stop treating the second Amendment as a second class right, leave law abiding citizens alone and allow them to pursue and enjoy their firearm hobbies in peace and focus your energy on criminals and passing laws that directly impact criminal behavior.

Mahalo.

Dave Cunningham

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 2:17:18 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Benjamin Rowe	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I Strongly oppose SB308 and its attempt to challenge the 2nd ammendment. This attempt to limit magazine capacity only affects law abiding citizens, it will do nothing to curb any type of gun violence behavior. It will only subject law abiding citizens to more risk in case of an emergency. Criminals who have guns will not limit there magaine size, giving them all of the advantage in a situation.

It is widely noted that this type of law will not withstand legal challenge which further shows that the authors of this bill have not thought of the best route to law making. It will cost the tax payers to defend something that is unconstitutional and will go through teh rigors of teh court system and not prevail on teh side of the bill.

Aa elected officials I ask that you all change your focus from "gun control " measures and look at the cirisis's that are truly affecting the People of Hawaii. HOUSING COSTS, Costs of living in general homelessness and Substance abuse treatement and prevention. If you have those types of measures that have actual merrit towards protecting local people I will gladly be in full support . In the meantime please stop wasting time on trying to regulate the lawful gun owning community. ANd while you are at it, go fix all of the illegal game rooms and crime sprees that are happening around the Public housing communities. That is a much more effective focus.

Aloha,

Ben Rowe

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 2:19:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Doi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good Morning,

I am submitting testimony in fierce opposition to SB308. These self interest bills that this committee pushes every single year is a constant infringement on our Second Amendment rights and to be quite frank is a waste of taxpayer money and time. Why this ban will be ineffective can be for a multitude of reasons but I will list a few:

- **Disadvantage to Law-Abiding Citizens**

Magazine bans primarily impact law-abiding citizens, who are restricted from exercising their Second Amendment rights in a way that ensures they have an adequate defense. Law-abiding gun owners, who take proper safety precautions and use firearms for self-defense, hunting, or sport, are disproportionately impacted by magazine bans. Meanwhile, criminals and individuals intent on harm are not deterred by laws that restrict the size of their magazines, as they are already operating outside the bounds of the law.

- **Historical Context and Real-World Examples**

History shows that bans on certain firearms or accessories rarely yield the intended results. The 1994 Federal Assault Weapons Ban, for example, did not significantly reduce mass shootings or gun violence. During and after the ban, incidents of mass shootings continued, suggesting that restricting magazine capacities was an ineffective measure. As the ban expired in 2004, crime did not see a noticeable spike, further demonstrating the limited impact such restrictions have on overall safety.

- **The Ineffectiveness of Capacity Limits in Reducing Violence**

There is no definitive evidence to show that limiting magazine capacity significantly reduces firearm-related deaths or violent crime rates. Studies conducted in jurisdictions that have implemented magazine bans have failed to demonstrate a clear link between these restrictions and a decrease in gun violence. When similar legislation has been passed, violent crime rates have not substantially decreased, suggesting that magazine size is not a major factor in the outcome of violent encounters.

- **Historical Context and Real-World Examples**

History shows that bans on certain firearms or accessories rarely yield the intended results. The 1994 Federal Assault Weapons Ban, for example, did not significantly reduce mass shootings or gun violence. During and after the ban, incidents of mass shootings continued, suggesting that restricting magazine capacities was an ineffective measure. As the ban expired in 2004, crime did not see a noticeable spike, further demonstrating the limited impact such restrictions have on overall safety.

- **Legal Challenges and Fees**

Hawai'i has a terrible track record of winning Second Amendment lawsuits. If passed, and signed into law, a lawsuit will likely be filed which will take years of litigation thousands of dollars in taxpayer money in attorney's fees. In the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals (which Hawai'i is a part of) the State of Washington's ban on magazine capacity was declared unconstitutional.

In closing, we should be focusing on bigger issues that is affecting our State and Community. As a former constituent of Rhoads and a current constituent of Moriwaki, I know very well that your respective districts have bigger and more pressing issues to focus on such as homelessness, cost of living/affordable housing, mental health and prosecution for repeat offenders. I implore you to stop pushing bills that punish law abiding citizens who only want to enjoy the our God given right to bear arms.

Thank you for your time,

Robert Doi

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 2:19:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jonathan Yoshioka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it infringes on our 2nd amendment

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 2:19:41 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Char	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly Oppose. This would infringe on our Constitutional Rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 2:21:47 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jo Carol Whittten Bodnar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to pass SB308 and close the loophole which will close a loophole in Hawaii State Law which restricts ownership and sale of multi-round handguns and high capacity magazines, but not automatic rifles such as AR15 and M16. These are military weapons for the sole purpose of killing as many people possible in as short a time as possible. They should not be in the hands of gun enthusiasts or civilians. These guns have been the gun of choice at many mass shootings on the mainland. Hawaii has not had these mainland type shootings. Allowing these guns into the state is a time bomb and it is only a matter of time until it happens. It will happen here too just like all the mainland cities that thought it couldn't happen in their town. I fear for our kids and grandkid safety when they go to school each day. I fear for our friends and family who have to fear being gunned down at the mall, or a concert, or at a parade on the side of the street. Please think of the safety of your families and pass this bill. Thank you.

To whom it may concern,

I strongly oppose SB 308. Firstly, this bill would violate the United States Constitution, Hawaii State Constitution and the United States Supreme Court Bruen decision, which states firearm laws need to comply with the historical text and tradition of the time the United States constitution was ratified. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of the government to show proof that the bill/law has historical precedence from the time the United States constitution was ratified. SB 308 has no mention of any historical precedence. In addition, magazines regardless of their capacity are protected by the Second Amendment because they are necessary to the function of firearms and this bill would make tens of thousands of legally owned items illegal. This would be the equivalent of making Honda and Toyota vehicles illegal in the state.

Thank you,

Jordan Au

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 2:34:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
anne zellinger	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill because I believe in peaceful actions to solve conflict.

Mahalo,

Anne Zellinger

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 3:27:56 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael A. Wee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE this bill. It does nothing to deter criminal behavior. All it does is make it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to exercise their 2nd Amendment rights. This is an example of lawmakers' efforts to "hang the hardware," which is easy, as opposed to going after criminals, which everybody knows is the real problem. Guns are inanimate objects, and every year we waste time on the same feel-good issues. Surely you have more important things to work on!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 3:28:54 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gene Lamkin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Shall Not Be Infringed. Words in the United States Constitution mean something. The State of Hawai'i has no authority to change the Secnd Amendment. Please respect our rights to own and bear arms.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 3:31:43 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Schneider	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

February 25, 2025

Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Legislature
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Esteemed Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I write to you with a heavy heart and a resolute spirit, urging you to reject Senate Bill 308, Senate Draft 1 (SB308 SD1), scheduled for your review on February 27, 2025. This legislation, though framed as a step toward safety, risks casting a shadow over the rights and security of Hawaii's law-abiding citizens. I implore you to look beyond its surface and see the peril it poses to those you serve.

SB308 SD1 targets firearms in a way that punishes the innocent rather than the guilty. Law-abiding residents—parents, workers, retirees—rely on their constitutional rights to protect themselves in a world that grows less predictable by the day. Yet this bill seems poised to burden them with restrictions that do nothing to deter those who flout the law. Criminals, by definition, ignore statutes—they hoard weapons while we debate disarming the honest. Ask yourselves: when has a new rule ever stopped a heart bent on harm?

Consider the real lives at stake. A shopkeeper in Hilo facing a break-in, a single mother in Waianae hearing footsteps at midnight, a hunter in the hills outnumbered by feral threats—these are not hypothetical. They're our neighbors, our ohana, and they deserve laws that empower, not endanger, their safety. SB308 SD1 tilts the scales against them, leaving them less equipped to face dangers the state cannot always prevent.

You hold the power to choose a different path. This bill offers a mirage of control while eroding the freedoms that define us. I urge you to vote no, to stand with the people who build this state, not the policies that weaken it. Let Hawaii remain a place where rights and realities align, not where one is traded for the illusion of the other.

With deep respect and unwavering hope,

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 3:34:12 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ramiro Noguerol	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 3:43:53 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noel Baker	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 3:44:09 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Raymond Ishii	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Raymond Ishii and I strongly Oppose SB308 as it is a violation on my rights as given to me by our creator and guaranteed by the 2nd Amendment of the United States Constitution.

The United States Supreme Court in the New York State Rifle and Pistol Association Vs Bruen has affirmed that the 2nd Amendment is a individual right and The Supreme Court declared that any regulation affecting the right to bear arms must be rooted in the “historical tradition of firearm regulation” in the United States.

President Donald Trump's Executive Order date 02-07-25 states as follows:

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Purpose. The Second Amendment is an indispensable safeguard of security and liberty. It has preserved the right of the American people to protect ourselves, our families, and our freedoms since the founding of our great Nation. Because it is foundational to maintaining all other rights held by Americans, the right to keep and bear arms must not be infringed.

Sec. 2. Plan of Action. (a) Within 30 days of the date of this order, the Attorney General shall examine all orders, regulations, guidance, plans, international agreements, and other actions of executive departments and agencies (agencies) to assess any ongoing infringements of the Second Amendment rights of our citizens, and present a proposed plan of action to the President, through the Domestic Policy Advisor, to protect the Second Amendment rights of all Americans.

(b) In developing such proposed plan of action, the Attorney General shall review, at a minimum:

(i) All Presidential and agencies’ actions from January 2021 through January 2025 that purport to promote safety but may have impinged on the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens;

(ii) Rules promulgated by the Department of Justice, including by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, from January 2021 through January 2025 pertaining to firearms and/or Federal firearms licensees;

(iii) Agencies’ plans, orders, and actions regarding the so-called “enhanced regulatory enforcement policy” pertaining to firearms and/or Federal firearms licensees;

(iv) Reports and related documents issued by the White House Office of Gun Violence

Prevention;

(v) The positions taken by the United States in any and all ongoing and potential litigation that affects or could affect the ability of Americans to exercise their Second Amendment rights;

(vi) Agencies' classifications of firearms and ammunition; and

(vii) The processing of applications to make, manufacture, transfer, or export firearms.

Sec. 3. Implementation. Upon submission of the proposed plan of action described in section 2 of this order, the Attorney General shall work with the Domestic Policy Advisor to finalize the plan of action and establish a process for implementation.

Sec. 4. General Provisions. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(i) the authority granted by law to an executive department, agency, or the head thereof; or

(ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

President Trump's Executive Order simply states that Firearms have been used since the founding of our great Republic for the protection of ourselves, our families and our freedom, and is the foundation for all the other rights we as Americans hold dear, the rights of the people must not be infringed.

Our Forefathers wrote in the Declaration of Independence:

"We hold these truths to be [self-evident](#), that [all men are created equal](#), that they are endowed by their [Creator](#) with certain [unalienable Rights](#), that among these are [Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness](#).—That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the [consent of the governed](#),—That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the [Right of the People to alter or to abolish it](#), and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute [Despotism](#), it is their right, it is their duty, to [throw off such Government](#), and to provide new Guards for their future security."

The Bill of Rights, the First 10 Amendments to the United States Constitution, guarantees the rights that were given to all men by our creator, it was written to protect We The People of the

United States from the Government of the United State. They were written to ensure that the a Government of the People, by the People and for the People did not become tyrannical like the King they had just overthrown. The Bill of Rights were written in the order of importance for a free people.

The 1st Amendment guarantees the rights of free speech, a free press, the right to assemble and the right to freely worship your chosen religion. This Amendment guarantees the right of the citizens to freely criticize the Government without fear of retribution, the press the right to investigate the Government and the right assemble to protest the government.

The 2nd Amendment

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

These simple words are the foundational for the rest of the Bill of Rights. In the words of our forefathers.

“Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the [consent of the governed](#),—That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the [Right of the People to alter or to abolish it](#), and to institute new Government”

Argument some may make is when the Bill of Rights were written, the only firearms technology they had were muzzle loaders. What they fail to realize is the muzzle loader was the AR-15 of it day and the AR-15 is covered by the 2nd Amendment. The same way radio, television and the internet porn is protected by the 1st Amendment, and the contents of your cell phone and computer are protected by the 4th Amendment.

SB308 if passed will have the effect of punishing ten of thousand of law abiding, taxpaying citizens of the state all of whom have passed both a rigorous criminal and mental health background checks conducted by the county Police Departments because the acts of a very few.

SB308 as written is based on the current law banning pistol magazines that hold more than 10 rounds, the current law is so poorly written that in my opinion is unenforceable. If SB308 is passed it will cause ten of thousand of law abiding, taxpaying citizens of the state all of whom have passed both a rigorous criminal and mental health background checks conducted by the county Police Departments to become felons overnight, which is the epitome of a TYRANNICAL Government.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB 308 and ask you to vote no.

Thank You

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:01:28 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Roch Leblanc	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose all of the restrictions listed in this bill to what size of magazine I can use.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:19:28 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amanda Wehrly	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

I oppose this bill Sb308.

This is a blatant overreach to disarm us law abiding citizens here in Hawaii.

Please stop this bill. We go by the laws you have in place why are you trying to restricted us more.

Thank you

Amanda

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:22:23 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Besides being Unconstitutional, the subject of this bill is in the Federal Court system for review.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:25:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bo Breda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Peter Wilson and I live in Pahoa HI. I am in enthusiastic support of SB308 SD1 as I feel there is no need for the ability of any peaceful person needing High Capacity magazines for any weapons use. The only thing you can do with enhanced number of bullets is to fire them faster and fire in great quantity. There is no use on a firing range when accuracy counts that you take the time to make a clean shot. There is certainly no use in your community where the indiscriminate use of high capacity magazines would be hazardous to the well being of your neighbors. There is only one use for high capacity magazines and that is to do the most damage to the most people and property in the shortest period of time and then be able to rapidly reload with another high capacity magazine to do it all over again. This country has the most weapons per capita of any nation on this planet. That is not something that we should be proud of in this scenario. More people die from weapons use than There is no need in our lovely island state to damage and destroy life and property with manic abandon. Please understand and support SB308 SD1.

Sincerley,

Peter Wilson

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:36:18 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Druz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii is no place for guns of any kind! Guns are dangerous and opposite to the aloha spirit. Keep Hawaii safe from gun violence!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:44:18 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
GUY NAGATA	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly **OPPOSE SB308**. Banning Magazines over 10 rounds for rifles and shotguns will do nothing to improve public safety. It will criminalize Law abiding citizens.

Sincerely,

Guy Nagata

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:46:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peter Wilson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloaha and thank you for taking testimoney from me in support of SB308 SD1. My name is Peter Wilson and I live in Pahao Hawaii. There are too many wapons on this island and in this state and adding high capacity magazine into the populace would inflame an already difficult situation. Gun violence is a leading cause of premature death in the U.S. Gun violence has lasting impacts on the health and well-being of everyone in the country. there is no need foir the mayhem and damage that would be caused by high capacity magazines. I rise in support of SB308 SD1 and hope that you will also.

Sincerely,

Peter Wilson

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:47:35 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please limit access to automatic weapons in Hawaii.

We do not want mass killings to be something that happens here.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:48:16 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Allan Sebastian	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear HI Stare Legislators,

| oppose this bill because it infringes on our second amendment rights.

Thank you for your time,

Allan Sebastian

96777

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:57:59 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
G L Hutchinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

PLEASE PROTECT OUR KEIKI AND CITIZENS

PLEASE extend the ban on high caliber WEAPONS - NO need for them in our community.

STOP the madness!!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:58:17 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chris Millen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

strongly oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 5:08:40 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frederick Laciste	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it infringes on our second amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 5:15:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Fred Delosantos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please oppose SB308. This bill would continue to punish law abiding citizens of the State of Hawaii and infringe upon their right to defend themselves in a manner which they deem acceptable. It would severely impact their ability while at home in the unfortunate event of a home invasion. It's the middle of the night and someone breaks in with the intent to cause physical harm. The bad actors have firearms obtained illegally and are a threat to you and your family, but you are limited to only 10 rounds in a magazine and have no way to carry extra magazines in your pajamas and you are calling 911 with your cellphone in your other hand. What do you do? It has been proven on many different occasions that standard capacity magazines made the difference between life and death for the law abiding citizen. Judge Roger Benitez from California declared magazine bans unconstitutional in his 2019 ruling. He ruled that magazines holding more than 10 rounds are "arms" under the U.S. Constitution, and that the... ..law "burdens the core of the Second Amendment by criminalizing the acquisition and possession of these magazines that are commonly held by law-abiding citizens for defense of self, home, and state."

Law abiding gun owners in Hawaii are left more susceptible to harm or death by being limited in their means of self-defense, criminals who are intent on doing harm will not follow this same law. Magazines that hold more than 10 rounds are considered standard and that many firearms are not available with magazines that hold fewer than 10 rounds. This law does nothing more than penalize law-abiding citizens while criminalizing components of handguns they own that were previously legal. A person with 15 rounds of ammunition available will be better able to defend himself or herself from a criminal gang, during a home-invasion, or from a drug-crazed criminal who continues attacking even after being shot, than a person who has only 10 rounds of ammunition available before they must reload their gun.

Banning magazines with capacities of more than 10 rounds does nothing to address the real issues of crime in Hawaii and is only trying to fix a problem that doesn't exist. Banning larger-capacity ammunition magazines won't reduce the number of shootings, and makes as much sense as the legislature banning all alcohol as a knee-jerk measure to reduce alcohol-related fatalities, or even banning all cars because that's what-you-think is the right approach to reduce car-related fatalities. Sort of like London banning knives to reduce stabbings. How's that working out for them? (hint: not very well)

I urge you to OPPOSE SB308 and to work to repeal the current nonsense law of pistol magazine restrictions for the safety and welfare of Hawaii residents.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 5:16:02 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jaelan Subia-Etrata	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Oppose.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 5:33:13 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Christopher Rafael	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it acts to restrict law abiding citizens of choosing how they can effectively protect themselves.

Against SB308 Mag Ban

I am against SB308, specifically the ban on this magazine ban.

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

These restrictions leave upstanding citizens significantly, disadvantaged in their own home, against violent criminals who are willing to commit violent crime, will certainly not obey lesser laws of carrying weapons.

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

Rather than limiting upstanding citizens in their 2nd Amendment Rights and their right to self defense, Hawaii should focus on laws that target criminals and their criminal behavior.

Laws should be changed as follows:

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Lori Fujimoto

Against SB308 Mag Ban

I am against SB308, specifically the ban on this magazine ban.

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

These restrictions leave upstanding citizens significantly, disadvantaged in their own home, against violent criminals who are willing to commit violent crime, will certainly not obey lesser laws of carrying weapons.

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

Rather than limiting upstanding citizens in their 2nd Amendment Rights and their right to self defense, Hawaii should focus on laws that target criminals and their criminal behavior.

Laws should be changed as follows:

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

Respectfully Submitted,

R. K. Fujimoto, S/A

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 5:54:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerald Nishihara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

restricting or limiting the mag capacity will not significantly reduce crime. I believe that the criminal will not abide by it, even if laws are passed. Therefore, the law abiding citizen will be at a greater disadvantage because the criminal doesn't care about the law, and the law abiding citizen does. A larger capacity is a benefit to confront criminals as there might be many. It is not a good bill mainly because criminals do not follow the law and a bill like this only benefits the criminal. I strongly oppose it.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 5:58:42 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Waialae	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 6:03:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaeo Waialae	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 6:11:35 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Luke Reiss	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Luke Reiss of Kahului HI 96732 Oppose SB308.

This is a direct attack and infringement of our 2nd Amendment right.

The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution 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

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 6:21:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hookela kaleikini	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hi. My name is kela kaleikini, I appose this bill because I use rifles for hunting, which puts food on our family's table. Thank you

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 6:33:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeffrey White	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308. SB308 is punishing law abiding citizens by taking there rights away and giving them to the crimminals who should be punished when acquiring high capacity magazines when they break the law. Taking from law abiding citizens is not going to correct the problem.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 6:36:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steven Fukuhara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill!

Please dont let this bill pass!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 6:36:22 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Warren kulberg	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this attempt to again encroach on the rights of law abiding citizens that already go through extensive vetting to be able to own and bear arms in this state; many doing so willingly. To then be criminalized and forced to abandoned hundreds of dollars in some cases of investment in the firearms we are legally permitted to own is outrageous.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 6:45:28 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William R Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am opposed to SB 308.

This bill would ban standard capacity magazines capable of accepting more than 10 rounds.

These magazines are standard equipment for commonly owned firearms that many Americans legally and effectively use for legitimate purposes, such as self-defense or competition, and do not need to be restricted.

Mahalo

William R Smith

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 6:56:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kallen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to any proposed ban on firearm magazines with a capacity of 10 rounds or more. Such a ban is an unjustified infringement on the rights of responsible firearm owners and would not effectively address the root causes of violence or crime.

First, it is important to recognize that magazines are simply a component of a firearm. The number of rounds a magazine holds does not inherently make a firearm more dangerous or more likely to be used for criminal activity. Law-abiding citizens use high-capacity magazines for a variety of legitimate purposes, including target shooting, hunting, and self-defense. Restricting access to magazines with a capacity of 10 rounds would only impact responsible gun owners, not criminals who already operate outside the law.

In addition, there is no evidence to suggest that restricting magazine capacity will reduce violent crime or mass shootings. In fact, the 1994 federal assault weapons ban, which included a similar restriction on magazine capacity, did not show a significant reduction in gun-related crimes or fatalities. Criminals, by definition, do not follow the law and would still find ways to acquire magazines with a higher capacity, rendering such a ban largely ineffective.

Self-defense is another key consideration. In dangerous situations, such as home invasions or encounters with multiple assailants, individuals need to have adequate means to defend themselves. Limiting magazine capacity would place law-abiding citizens at a disadvantage in these situations, reducing their ability to protect themselves and their families. It is essential that citizens have the ability to use the tools necessary to ensure their safety in life-threatening circumstances.

Moreover, a ban on 10-round magazines would disproportionately affect those who engage in legal recreational shooting, such as sports shooting and hunting. These activities are not only important for personal enjoyment but also contribute to the economy and promote responsible firearm use. There are countless examples of people using magazines with capacities of more than 10 rounds for these lawful activities, and banning them would have a detrimental effect on these pursuits.

Lastly, such a ban would do little to address the larger issue of gun violence. A more effective approach would focus on enforcing existing laws, supporting mental health initiatives, and improving community safety measures. These are the areas where we can truly make a difference in reducing crime and ensuring public safety.

I urge you to reject any proposal to ban firearm magazines with a capacity of 10 rounds. Instead, we should focus on sensible solutions that respect the rights of responsible gun owners and address the real causes of violence.

Sincerely,

Mr. Brown

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:02:47 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryota Takuma	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am writing to respectfully oppose SB308, which expands the existing ban on pistols with detachable magazines holding more than ten rounds to encompass all firearms with detachable magazines exceeding this capacity. While I appreciate the intent to promote safety, this bill is overly restrictive, lacks supporting evidence, and unfairly burdens law-abiding Hawaii residents who use firearms responsibly.

First, this expansion significantly impacts a wide range of firearms beyond pistols, including rifles and shotguns commonly used for legitimate purposes such as hunting, sport shooting, and home defense. Many standard magazines for these firearms exceed ten rounds. By banning them, SB308 effectively outlaws tools that law-abiding citizens rely on, without distinguishing between lawful use and criminal misuse.

Second, there is little evidence that limiting magazine capacity to ten rounds reduces gun violence. Criminals, by definition, do not adhere to laws, and those intent on harm can easily circumvent this restriction by carrying multiple magazines or using illegal firearms. Meanwhile, law-abiding individuals—such as competitive shooters or those defending their homes—may be left at a disadvantage, forced to reload more frequently in critical situations. In a state like Hawaii, where rural areas can be far from immediate law enforcement response, this limitation could undermine personal safety.

Third, the bill's broad language fails to account for practical realities. Many firearms come with factory-standard magazines exceeding ten rounds, meaning owners would either need to modify their equipment—at additional cost—or face criminal penalties for possessing what was previously legal. This retroactive burden penalizes responsible gun owners without clear justification or a grandfather clause to protect existing property.

I share the goal of keeping our communities safe, but SB308's approach is too blunt and disconnected from the root causes of violence. Rather than imposing sweeping restrictions on lawful citizens, I urge the committee to focus on targeted solutions—such as enforcing current laws, addressing mental health challenges, or combatting illegal gun trafficking. These efforts would better enhance safety without eroding the rights of responsible individuals.

Mahalo for your time and consideration. I respectfully request that you oppose SB308 in its current form.

Sincerely,

Ryota

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:03:39 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Travis Tanouye	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill goes against all of our rights and I feel that it is pointless to have the bill take place. There is no logical true reason why this bill should take place especially for us responsible/ gun holders. This bill is a no go for me and many others.

mahalo

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:11:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janessa Bonifacio	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose thos bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:12:37 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shane Correia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:22:43 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Logan chamberlin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose sb308 complete violation of my 2nd amendment rights

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:30:06 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandon Santiago	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308. This bill is an infringement on both the second amendment of the United States Constitution, and Article one; section seventeen of the Hawai'i State Constitution. SB308 is a solution for a problem that does not exist. SB308 will make criminals of law abiding citizens. The language and intent of SB308 are unconstitutional.

Most modern rifle magazines that have a capacity of thirty rounds are considered standard capacity. Gun control advocates like to label these magazines as "high capacity," or "large capacity," but these magazines are accepted and manufactured to be the standard. Law makers need to focus on public policies that make sense; that deal with criminal behavior and the criminal misuse of firearms, and not criminalize, law abiding citizens.

Joshua Hooper
91-1050 Apaa Street
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
808-673-0565
February 24, 2025

Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Hawaii State Senate
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: OPPOSITION TO SB401 & SB308 – Firearms Restrictions

Dear Honorable Members of the Senate Committee,

I am submitting this written testimony in strong opposition to Senate Bills 401 and 308, both of which seek to impose a ban on so-called “high-caliber” firearms and restrict magazine capacities to ten rounds or fewer. These bills represent an overbroad and unconstitutional infringement on the rights of law-abiding citizens, lack a substantial basis in crime prevention, and impose undue burdens on individuals who responsibly exercise their Second Amendment rights.

1. Constitutional Concerns The proposed legislation violates fundamental constitutional protections guaranteed under the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution, as well as Article I, Section 17 of the Hawaii State Constitution. The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly affirmed, most notably in *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008) and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022), that firearm restrictions must be consistent with the nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation. A ban on so-called “high-caliber” weapons and standard-capacity magazines does not meet this legal standard.

2. Lack of Empirical Support for Crime Reduction The assumption that these bans will meaningfully reduce violent crime is not supported by empirical data. Studies, including those from the U.S. Department of Justice, have shown that magazine capacity restrictions have no measurable effect on crime rates. Criminals, by definition, do not adhere to firearm regulations, and restrictions such as those proposed in SB401 and SB308 disproportionately burden lawful gun owners without addressing the root causes of violent crime.

3. Disproportionate Impact on Law-Abiding Citizens Many commonly owned firearms—used for lawful purposes such as self-defense, hunting, and sporting—fall under the vague and arbitrary restrictions proposed in these bills. The majority of modern firearms, including those utilized by millions of Americans, come standard with magazines exceeding ten rounds. Restricting magazine capacity disadvantages law-abiding individuals in self-defense scenarios, particularly against multiple attackers, while providing no tangible public safety benefit.

4. Enforcement Challenges and Legal Liabilities If enacted, SB401 and SB308 would present serious enforcement difficulties, potentially criminalizing thousands of otherwise law-abiding citizens for possessing firearms and magazines that have been legally owned for

decades. This raises concerns regarding ex post facto laws, due process violations, and potential Fifth Amendment takings claims. Moreover, it places an undue burden on law enforcement agencies that should be focusing on criminal activity rather than regulating responsible firearm ownership.

Conclusion Public safety is of paramount importance, and we all share a common goal of reducing unlawful violence. However, SB401 and SB308 are misguided measures that will do little to enhance public safety while significantly infringing upon the constitutional rights of Hawaii's citizens. I urge this committee to reject these bills and instead focus on policies that address criminal behavior rather than penalizing law-abiding residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Hooper", written in a cursive style.

Joshua Hooper

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:48:06 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
james wallace	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308 SD1 because this is a foolish bill where criminals wont follow.Stop giving criminals the upper hand!!!Dont Tread On Me....2nd Ammendment Rules!!!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:58:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dwayne Lim	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

An Opposition to Hawaii State Senate Bill 308

Honorable members of the committee, I appreciate the intent behind Hawaii Senate Bill 308 (SB308), which aims to enhance public safety by restricting high-capacity magazines. However, I respectfully oppose this bill due to concerns about its fairness, enforceability, and effectiveness. While reducing crime is a shared goal, this bill inadvertently penalizes responsible gun owners rather than focusing on the individuals committing violent acts.

Unintended Consequences for Law-Abiding Citizens

One major issue with SB308 is that it does not provide a grandfather clause or compliance pathway for those who legally own standard-capacity magazines over ten rounds. Many popular firearms, including those used for self-defense and sport shooting, come factory-equipped with magazines exceeding this limit (NSSF, 2023). This law could suddenly make responsible citizens non-compliant, despite their firearms being legal at the time of purchase. States like California and New York have faced lawsuits over similar laws due to their failure to account for existing owners (Duncan v. Bonta, 2023).

Questionable Impact on Public Safety

While the goal of SB308 is to reduce gun violence, studies indicate that magazine capacity restrictions do not significantly impact crime rates (NIJ Report, 2018). Criminals often obtain firearms illegally and are unlikely to be deterred by capacity limits. Additionally, FBI data shows that rifles, including those with high-capacity magazines, account for less than 3% of firearm-related homicides annually (FBI Uniform Crime Report, 2022). Instead of targeting law-abiding gun owners, resources would be better spent on initiatives that address illegal gun trafficking, mental health support, and community violence intervention programs.

Legal and Constitutional Considerations

SB308 also raises constitutional concerns under the Second Amendment. The New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen (2022) decision reinforced that firearm restrictions must align with historical precedent. Courts have already ruled against similar magazine bans, with Duncan v. Bonta striking down California's law as unconstitutional. If SB308 is enacted, Hawaii may face costly legal challenges, diverting funds from more effective crime prevention efforts.

A More Effective Approach

Rather than implementing a broad restriction that disproportionately affects responsible gun owners, a more targeted approach could achieve better results. Hawaii should consider enhancing penalties for firearm-related crimes, increasing mental health services, and focusing on illegal gun trafficking. These measures would directly address the sources of gun violence rather than restricting rights of those who follow the law.

Conclusion

While SB308 is well-intended, its impact may be ineffective and unfair to responsible firearm owners. I encourage lawmakers to consider data-driven solutions that address crime at its root while respecting the rights of law-abiding citizens. Public safety is a shared priority, and we should pursue policies that create real, measurable improvements rather than symbolic restrictions.

Respectfully,

Dwayne Lim

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:59:40 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelly Lim	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

An Opposition to Hawaii State Senate Bill 308

Honorable members of the committee, I appreciate the intent behind Hawaii Senate Bill 308 (SB308), which aims to enhance public safety by restricting high-capacity magazines. However, I respectfully oppose this bill due to concerns about its fairness, enforceability, and effectiveness. While reducing crime is a shared goal, this bill inadvertently penalizes responsible gun owners rather than focusing on the individuals committing violent acts.

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Conclusion

While SB308 is well-intended, its impact may be ineffective and unfair to responsible firearm owners. I encourage lawmakers to consider data-driven solutions that address crime at its root while respecting the rights of law-abiding citizens. Public safety is a shared priority, and we should pursue policies that create real, measurable improvements rather than symbolic restrictions.

Respectfully,

Kelly Lim

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:03:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stafford Uemura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill and feel it violates my 2A rights. Why limit the amount of ammo i can load into my rifle? I do competition shooting and this bill would prohibit me from entering these matches. This bill will not stop criminals from getting 10 plus round magazines, just law abiding citizens like myself.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:04:25 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose to this bill. We have our 2nd amendment rights

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:12:02 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynn Otaguro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB 308 in order to keep our communities safer and urge you to vote for its passage.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:17:17 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel Zhang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:17:45 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charles Victor Scholz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha lawmakers,

I urge you to reconsider and defeat the proposed legislation restricting rifle magazines to 10 rounds or fewer. This measure, while perhaps well-intentioned, fails to address the root causes of violence and instead undermines the rights and practical needs of law-abiding citizens. Here's why it should be stopped:

First, it's a blunt tool that ignores reality. Criminals, by definition, don't follow laws—magazine limits included. Studies, like those from the RAND Corporation, show no conclusive evidence that magazine capacity restrictions reduce violent crime. Hawaii's already strict gun laws haven't eliminated shootings, and this won't either—it just burdens the compliant while the lawless carry on.

Second, it hampers self-defense. In high-stress situations, where every second counts, law-abiding citizens—especially in rural areas like parts of the Big Island—may face multiple threats or wild animals like feral boars. Forcing someone to reload after 10 shots could mean the difference between safety and tragedy. Police aren't always minutes away; sometimes it's hours. Standard-capacity magazines, often holding 15 or 30 rounds, aren't "high-capacity"—they're designed for the rifle's intended use.

Third, it's a step toward erosion of rights. The Second Amendment isn't just about hunting or sport—it's about securing liberty. Hawaii's unique geography and history, from its overthrow to its isolation, should remind us why self-reliance matters. This law disproportionately affects lawful owners, not the black-market pipelines feeding crime.

Finally, enforcement is a fantasy. How do you police thousands of existing magazines? You either create a costly bureaucratic mess or turn regular folks into felons overnight. Focus on what works: mental health funding, community programs, or cracking down on illegal guns—not symbolic gestures that miss the mark.

Defeat this bill. Protect freedom, prioritize real solutions, and trust the people of Hawaii to act responsibly.

Mahalo, Charlie Scholz

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:28:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ian Terpstra	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308 due to infringement on the 2nd amendment.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:33:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dawn O'Brien	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Representatives of the People of Hawai'i~

TYSVM for reading & reviewing these testimonies as a vital part of the process of vetting these bills, to give space for the voices of WE THE PEOPLE! Mahalo plenty!

I stand in strong OPPOSITION to SB 308 regarding rights to bear arms and necessary ammunition, a right covered by the Constitution of the United States of America. This proposed bill in one of the lesser states of the Union would strip we the people of our right to defend ourselves, our families & our properties.

This is a matter of self-defense for those of us who are law-abiding citizens. As you know the non-law-abiding citizens already do what they want, this bill would further strip the law-abiding citizens which is the majority of the population that you represent. Never in the history of humanity has taking away the weapons of the citizenry ended well for the citizens. In fact, it has always spiraled into violent tyranny. No thank you.

Overall this is a radical stripping of weaponry & rights of the law-abiding majority of your voters. No thank you.

In conclusion, I strongly oppose SB 308 and I ask you to do the same. Thank you!

Malama Pono,

Dawn O'Brien

Pres., HOPE HI, Inc.

Lifelong resident & taxpayer of State of Hawai'i

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:35:24 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

My name is Leah McRae and I am a resident living in Waipahu. I support SB 308 as a common sense safety measure. Military capacity weapons are not meant for personal self defense, recreation or hunting. Pass SB 308 now!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:51:16 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Fedor Polyakov	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The proposed expansion of the ban on firearms with detachable magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds presents several concerns. First, it restricts lawful gun owners' access to firearms that are widely used for sport shooting and self-defense. The current limitations already cover a significant portion of high-capacity firearms, and expanding the ban would disproportionately affect responsible gun owners who use these weapons for legitimate purposes. Additionally, evidence does not support the claim that firearms with detachable magazines contribute significantly to public safety risks. Instead of expanding bans, a more effective approach would focus on addressing root causes of violence and improving mental health services. **Criminals do not follow laws.**

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:57:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ari Daniel Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am opposed to SB 308.

This bill would ban standard capacity magazines capable of accepting more than 10 rounds.

These magazines are standard equipment for commonly owned firearms that many Americans legally and effectively use for legitimate purposes, such as self-defense, hunting, or competition, and do not need to be restricted. I do not even own firearms at the moment but I disagree with this bill as it would make it harder for me to own them in the future,

Mahalo,

Ari Smith

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary (JDC)
Hearing: Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 10:01 AM
Regarding: **SB308 SD1 (Relating to Firearms)**
Voter Position: OPPOSITION

Senators of the JDC Committee,

I express my continued **opposition** to **SB308 SD1 (Relating to Firearms)**.

Public Harm Still Imposed by SB308

SB308 SD1 continues its focus on artificial firearm magazine capacity restrictions. **SB308 SD1** continues the pursuit to injure firearm owners with malicious modification requirements. Provisions in Section 2 of **SB308 SD1** still seeks to ban standard-capacity ammunition magazines and magazine tubes designed for rifles and shotguns. **SB308 SD1** still negligently instructs firearm owners to modify detachable ammunition magazines to accept no more than ten rounds for rifles in addition to pistols and certain shotguns that use detachable magazines. As mentioned in original testimony against SB308, any ammunition magazine modification against original manufacture specifications can not only void a warranty, but also cause the firearm to malfunction during its firing cycle. Firearm ammunition misfeed and other dangers can pose a risk to the firearm owner whenever they operate their firearms using modified magazines. Such ill-advisement shows that magazine capacity reductions still do not constitute valid public safety, but in reality, still magnifies a definitive public harm.

Focus on Stopping Current Criminal Activity

SB308 SD1 still doesn't have a measurable effect on criminals seeking to commit public harm. The measure won't magically stop a violent criminal from using a firearm magazine in excess of ten rounds. Moreover, the negligent suggestion to modify firearm magazines still contradicts the very tenants of public safety, prompting the continued need to halt **SB308 SD1** in the interest of public securing public safety and reduce unnecessary injury.

Thank you for taking the time to review this testimony.

Respectfully,

Ryan C. Tinajero

Constituent of **Senate District 23**

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:06:52 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Neal Wakabayashi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Neal Wakabayashi oppose SB 308.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:08:02 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keanu Shimaoka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:10:53 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Benjamin Cole	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Opposition to SB308**Hawaii State Legislature**

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

I respectfully submit this testimony in **strong opposition** to Senate Bill 308, which seeks to ban all detachable magazines with a capacity greater than ten rounds for all firearms. While this legislation is presented as a public safety measure, it is **constitutionally flawed, ineffective in reducing crime, disproportionately harms law-abiding citizens, and will expose the state to costly litigation that will burden Hawaii's taxpayers.**

SB308 Does Not Reduce Crime or Prevent Criminals from Acquiring High-Capacity Magazines

A fundamental issue with SB308 is that **it does not address the actual source of firearm-related crime.** Criminals do not follow magazine capacity restrictions, and bans on standard-capacity magazines have been shown to be ineffective at reducing gun violence.

Fact: Criminals Acquire Firearms and Magazines Through Illegal Means

According to data from the **U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)** and the **Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)**:

- **90% of firearms used in crimes** are obtained **illegally** through theft, straw purchases, or the black market.
- Bans on magazine capacities have **no impact on reducing violent crime** because criminals can easily obtain them from out-of-state sources.

If SB308 is enacted, only **law-abiding citizens** will be affected, while **criminals will continue to acquire these magazines through illegal channels.** This legislation fails to **address the root causes of crime** and instead punishes responsible firearm owners.

SB308 Unjustly Restricts the Right to Self-Defense

The **U.S. Supreme Court** has repeatedly reaffirmed that the **Second Amendment protects the right of individuals to own firearms for self-defense**. In *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008) and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022), the Court ruled that laws restricting commonly used firearms and accessories must be consistent with the **historical tradition of firearm regulation** in the United States.

Fact: Standard-Capacity Magazines Are Common and Necessary for Self-Defense

- **Magazines that hold more than ten rounds are standard** for many commonly owned handguns and rifles used for home defense, personal protection, and lawful sporting purposes.
- According to industry data, the vast majority of handguns **sold today come standard with magazines larger than ten rounds**.
- Law-abiding citizens, including those in **rural areas with long law enforcement response times**, rely on standard-capacity magazines for personal protection.

By arbitrarily limiting magazine capacity, SB308 **prevents law-abiding citizens from having the tools they need to effectively defend themselves and their families**.

Hawaii's Emergency Response Delays Make Self-Defense Even More Critical

Hawaii's unique geography and police staffing limitations **often result in dangerously long emergency response times**.

- **In rural areas of Hawaii County, response times regularly exceed 30 minutes.**
- The national average police response time to an active crime is **7-10 minutes**, but in Hawaii's more isolated communities, response times can be **three to five times longer**.

In a **home invasion or violent encounter**, ten rounds may not be sufficient to stop multiple attackers or deter a violent threat—especially when immediate law enforcement assistance is **unavailable**.

SB308 **does not consider the real-life defensive needs of residents who cannot rely on rapid police intervention**.

SB308 Is Unconstitutional and Will Cost Taxpayers Millions in Legal Fees.

This legislation is **not only ineffective but also unconstitutional**, meaning it will be subject to costly legal challenges that will ultimately **be paid for by Hawaii's taxpayers**.

Fact: Courts Have Struck Down Similar Magazine Bans as Unconstitutional

Several states have passed laws similar to SB308, only to see them **overturned in federal courts**:

- **California's Magazine Ban:** In 2023, the U.S. District Court ruled that California's ban on magazines over ten rounds was unconstitutional. The court found that **magazines over ten rounds are in common use** and that banning them violates the Second Amendment.
- **Illinois' Magazine and Rifle Ban:** In 2024, a federal judge ruled that Illinois' ban on magazines over ten rounds and certain rifles was unconstitutional. The decision was based on the Supreme Court's *Bruen* ruling, which requires gun laws to align with historical tradition.

Given these legal precedents, **SB308 is almost certain to be overturned if challenged in federal court**.

Hawaii Taxpayers Will Bear the Financial Burden of Unconstitutional Legislation

- **California spent over \$3 million** in legal fees defending its now-overturned magazine ban.
- **New York's unconstitutional firearm licensing law cost taxpayers nearly \$5 million** in legal battles.
- **Illinois is projected to spend at least \$2 million in taxpayer funds appealing its struck-down firearm ban.**

If SB308 is passed, **Hawaii taxpayers could be forced to pay between \$2 million and \$5 million in legal fees** defending a law that will likely be ruled unconstitutional. This is **a reckless waste of public funds for legislation that does not improve public safety**.

SB308 Should Be Rejected.

SB308 is an ineffective, unconstitutional, and costly bill that:

Fails to reduce crime, as criminals obtain magazines through illegal means.

Unjustly restricts the rights of law-abiding citizens by banning commonly owned standard-capacity magazines.

Endangers Hawaii residents by limiting their ability to defend themselves, especially in rural areas with long emergency response times.

Will cost taxpayers millions in legal fees, despite clear legal precedent indicating it will be overturned.

Rather than passing **arbitrary and ineffective restrictions**, I urge lawmakers to focus on:
Enhancing law enforcement capabilities to combat illegal gun trafficking.
Strengthening penalties for violent offenders rather than restricting responsible citizens.
Investing in community safety programs that address the **root causes of crime**.

For these reasons, I strongly urge this committee to **reject SB308** and instead pursue legislation that genuinely enhances public safety **without infringing on constitutional rights**.

Respectfully submitted,

Benjamin Cole

Hawaii Resident

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:14:38 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shane	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:17:52 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tad Araki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

I oppose SB308, as it infringes on my second amendment rights

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:38:42 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David P Vea	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly OPPOSE Senate Bill 308 as it would impose an unlawful and Unconstitutional ban on standard capacity magazines capable of accepting more than 10 rounds. These so-called “high capacity” magazines are standard equipment for commonly owned firearms that many Americans legally and effectively use for an entire range of legitimate purposes, such as self-defense or competition. This type of legislation also places an undue hardship on law abiding citizens to find 10rd magazines which are not readily available because they are not standard issue.

****If I am away on a trip and at night my wife calls me deathly afraid saying, "Men have broken into our home what do I do?" Should I advise her to grab the standard capacity 30rd magazine or to grab the non-standard 10rd magazines to protect her and my kids? 30 rds, correct? In a self defense life or death situation, you want to equip yourself and your family to have any and every advantage that would allow them to see another day.****

Not to mention these types of bans are being struck down after being reviewed at higher level courts. If you pursue this type of legislation and sneak it through, it will be challenged and as already demonstrated and it will not withstand Constitutional scrutiny at a Higher Level review and you will have again wasted tax payer dollars and time when you should have been fully aware of the results.

Moreover, this type of consistent disregard to the Rule of Law seen in recent 2A decisions and the obvious past opposition from your community by pushing legislation that gets knocked down every year is an insult to your constituents and the will of the people. Especially when this type of proposed legislation does nothing for the safety and well being of the people and only really impacts law abiding citizens. I urge to due your due diligence and listen to the will of the people.

David V.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:40:04 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Max Peterson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This goes against my 2nd ammendment rights!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:41:52 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tony Kilakila Tolentino	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose this bill because it infringes on our second amendment rights. Thank you for your time.

Tony Tolentino

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:01:52 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keahi Masusako	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308 as it will only affect law abiding citizens and our safety. Criminals will never follow these laws and will benefit from this being passed.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:07:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jordan Cardenas	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in STRONG OPPOSITION to SB308 SD1

This measure, would make law abiding citizens, criminals overnight for merely possessing a magazine that holds more than 10 rounds, and unjustly so

This "magazine ban" would do little to nothing to help stop the issues we see today, this would just embolden criminals to be even more brazen, knowing that a measure like this was passed and they , since they dont follow the law of the land anyway, would have an advantage over the law abiding, everyday citizen

Secondly,I quote from our own State of Hawaii Constitution, "the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. [Ren Const Con 1978 and election Nov 7, 1978], This measure directly effects this portion, Article 1, Section 17, as this would hinder the "right of the people to keep and bear arms"

I urge you to vote NO on this measure

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:15:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Benel Piros	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:25:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Matt L.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Unconstitutional.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:29:45 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peter Carvalho	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this legislation as it will only infringe upon law abiding citizens and do nothing to make our community safer. In addition there are already thousands of these magazines in out communitiy owned by lawfuil gun owners already. What will be the status of these? Will the state compensate these owners if they are unable to use them? Will they be grandfathered in. Our State has some of the lowest gun crimes in the nation and it is not due to our laws but due to the people of our state. You cannot legilate morality.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:47:06 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bradford Davis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I respectfully oppose this bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:47:37 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Bergin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong opposition of this bill as it directly violates the second amendment and our freedoms granted by our nation.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:51:09 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Cabjuan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill because it bans standard equipment sold by the manufacturer. This limits my ability to purchase many types of competition and self defense style firearms. (I do NOT own any "assault weapons") Why should I have to pay more for a company to sell me a 10 round magazine when the gun comes with a 21 round or 30 round magazine included w purchase? This bill will create an unnecessary law that does not make me feel safer but rather less safe. What if I'm in a situation where I need to defend myself against multiple gang members that want to rape or kill me? I would definitely prefer to have a higher capacity magazine in order to escape with my life. Please oppose this bill for the sake of law abiding citizens. Criminals will still be able to obtain any capacity they want, just like fireworks!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:00:59 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Allegra Giacchino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm a resident of Hawaii in strong support SB308 SD1 and am asking for your support as well. Please hold the safety of our citizens in the highest regard and close this dangerous loophole now. The people of Hawaii deserve to live, not be gunned down as so many are on the mainland. Guns with detachable high-capacity magazines and military features were designed for the battlefield, not for target practice, hunting or self-defense. This is a reasonable bill that allows people who currently own these types of guns to keep them, but does not allow the proliferation of additional firearms with detachable high-capacity magazines.

Hawaii is known around the world for our warm spirit of aloha, not for gun violence. Let's take action today and keep it that way.

Thank you for everything you do to help keep our communities safe.

Sincerely,

Allegra Giacchino

96816

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:32:09 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ben Lamosao	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Oppose !

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:33:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark W Iobst II	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am opposed to SB308. It criminalizes legal gun owners and further illegally restricts our 2nd amendments rights. It criminalizes common self-defense and sport shooting practices.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:44:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rozalynn Marae Erickson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The proposed bill, which seeks to regulate the carrying and possession of firearm parts by restricting their transport to specific locations and requiring an enclosed container, represents a direct and unconstitutional infringement on the Second Amendment. Additionally, it imposes unnecessary and arbitrary restrictions on law-abiding citizens while failing to address criminal misuse of firearms. Recent Supreme Court decisions, particularly *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen* (2022),* provide a clear legal standard for evaluating such regulations, and this proposal does not meet that test.

Unconstitutionality and Second Amendment Violation

The Second Amendment states that “the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.” The Supreme Court’s decision in *Bruen* reaffirmed that firearm regulations must be “consistent with the Nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation.” This means that any restriction lacking historical precedent is unconstitutional.

1. No Historical Basis for Restricting Firearm Parts

- The regulation of firearm components, including limitations on where and how they may be possessed or transported, lacks any historical tradition from the time of the Founding.
- *Heller* (2008) held that the Second Amendment protects arms “in common use,” and *Bruen* expanded upon this principle, requiring regulations to be justified by historical precedent.
- Firearm parts—such as barrels, triggers, and magazines—are integral to maintaining, repairing, and customizing firearms for lawful purposes, including self-defense and sport shooting. Restrictions on their transport and possession serve only to burden law-abiding gun owners without legitimate constitutional justification.

2. Unlawful and Arbitrary Transport Restrictions

- Restricting the carrying and possession of firearm parts to “specific locations” and requiring them to be enclosed in a container imposes an undue burden on lawful gun owners.
- There is no historical tradition of requiring firearms or their components to be transported in a particular manner, making this restriction unconstitutional under *Bruen*.
- The law would criminalize otherwise lawful activities, such as gunsmithing, competitive shooting, and firearms training, by imposing arbitrary limitations on how firearm parts are moved between locations.

3. Increased Penalties for Lawful Conduct

- By increasing penalties for the mere possession or transport of firearm parts outside government-approved locations, this bill turns ordinary citizens into criminals for exercising their constitutional rights.
- The *Bruen* decision specifically rejected interest-balancing approaches that weigh public safety concerns against constitutional rights, emphasizing that the Second Amendment cannot be subjected to a lesser level of scrutiny.

Supreme Court Precedent: Bruen and Its Impact

The *Bruen* ruling set a clear standard: gun control laws must be deeply rooted in historical tradition. This proposed bill fails that test because:

- There is no historical precedent for restricting firearm parts or imposing transport limitations.
- The government cannot impose broad restrictions on lawful gun owners without demonstrating a direct connection to historical firearm regulations.
- The penalties imposed are not narrowly tailored to criminal misuse of firearms but instead burden lawful possession and transportation.

This bill is an unconstitutional overreach that imposes undue restrictions on law-abiding gun owners while failing to align with historical firearm regulations as required by *Bruen*. By limiting where and how firearm parts can be carried or transported, it directly infringes upon the Second Amendment. Rather than imposing arbitrary restrictions, lawmakers should focus on enforcing existing laws that target criminal misuse of firearms. Given the Supreme Court’s strong stance on protecting gun rights, this bill is likely to face significant legal challenges and should be rejected outright.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:53:33 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marvie Bustos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly Oppose SB308!

SB308's ban on firearm magazines over 10 rounds is unconstitutional and directly infringes on our Second Amendment rights. The right to bear arms is a fundamental individual right that should not be arbitrarily limited by the government. Restricting magazine capacity hinders law-abiding citizens from effectively defending themselves and their families, which goes against the core principles of the Second Amendment. This bill unfairly targets responsible gun owners and undermines their ability to exercise their constitutional rights. It is essential to uphold and protect the Second Amendment as a cornerstone of our democracy, and SB308 clearly violates this fundamental right.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 12:04:57 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeanine Acopan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSED!!!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 12:14:41 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kevin Oberhofer	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB308, which seeks to expand the ban on detachable magazines exceeding ten rounds to include all firearms. This bill unjustly penalizes law-abiding citizens while doing little to deter crime or enhance public safety.

First and foremost, SB308 infringes upon the constitutional rights of Hawaiians responsible gun owners. The Second Amendment protects the right to keep and bear arms, and magazine restrictions disproportionately impact individuals who rely on their firearms for self-defense, home protection, and lawful recreational use. Standard-capacity magazines are not tools of crime—they are commonly used by responsible citizens across the country.

Furthermore, there is no clear evidence that magazine capacity limits reduce gun violence. Criminals, by definition, do not abide by the law. Restricting magazine capacity only disadvantages law-abiding citizens, making it more difficult for them to defend themselves and their families in emergency situations where multiple rounds may be necessary.

Additionally, SB308 unfairly criminalizes thousands of responsible gun owners who have legally possessed standard-capacity magazines for years. These individuals, who have done nothing wrong, would suddenly face the risk of being penalized for simply owning a commonly used firearm accessory. This is an unnecessary burden on Hawaiians residents and an ineffective approach to addressing crime.

The economic consequences of this bill should also not be overlooked. Local businesses that sell firearms, accessories, and related equipment will suffer financial losses, impacting Hawaiians already fragile economy. Many small businesses depend on firearm-related sales, and forcing them to discontinue commonly sold items will result in lost revenue, potential layoffs, and a negative impact on our community.

I urge the committee to reject SB308. This bill does not improve public safety but instead punishes responsible citizens, imposes unnecessary restrictions, and undermines constitutional rights. I ask that you focus on measures that address the root causes of crime rather than enacting ineffective and burdensome regulations on law-abiding individuals.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 1:32:03 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bruce F Braun	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 1:38:55 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph P Vesperas Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308 because it is a violation of my Second Amendment rights.

Joseph Vesperas

Hilo Hawaii 96720

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 2:05:15 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alan Miller	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB308

I strongly oppose this universal over ten round capacity magazine ban.

This bill seeks to expand the current over 10 round magazine limit that currently only applies to handguns. That restriction is already unconstitutional according SCOTUS Bruen decision, and ten round capacity magazine limits are currently being challenged all over the United States including Hawaii in court. Those cases will eventually be ruled in favor of the 2nd amendment and all magazine capacity limit bans will be reversed. It's only a matter of time, and trying to expand an already failing ban is wrong.

Criminals already do not follow the rules and will have magazines with capacity exceeding any arbitrary limit, no matter what. The only people this law will hurt is law abiding citizens. The same law abiding citizens who are currently having their safety adversely impacted by the "ten round handgun capacity limit" already in place. In most of the United States law abiding citizens are allowed to use STANDARD CAPACITY magazines over 10 rounds for all lawful sporting and defense purposes. Limiting magazine capacity of law abiding citizens does not increase safety, it actually makes law abiding gun owners less safe by forcing them to defend themselves against multiple attackers, or determined (possibly drugged or mentally unstable) attackers without proper STANDARD MAGAZINE CAPACITY to defend themselves.

This proposed law also has no grandfather clause so passing this law would essentially create thousands of felons overnight unless they destroy or give away their federal constitutionally protected property that they legally purchased with their hard earned money.

Please oppose this measure for public safety.

Testimony in Practice:

SB308 states that legally-possessed long guns (those with barrels over 16 inches) in our own homes couldn't have any more rounds in them than easily concealable handguns. However, we would still be able to have as many legally-owned firearms in our house as we want; **we could have a dozen guns each with a 10-round magazine in them, but we couldn't have a single gun with an 11-round magazine.** Is that logical? What is this bill seeking to achieve, what would it incentivize?

For the role of self-defense within a neighborhood, smaller calibers like 5.7x28 should be encouraged; these are not highly energetic rounds, but they are viable for self-defense and offer reduced over-penetration risk. Their lack of power is made up for with low recoil and larger magazine capacities, commonly up to 50 rounds. **A law limiting capacity to 10 rounds incentivizes larger, more powerful calibers that are more prone to overpenetration.** I would much, much rather my neighbors defend themselves with smaller-caliber rounds.

This bill would also add thousands of magazines to an outstanding grey area of what exactly counts as a legal reduced-capacity magazine. We still don't know what "not readily restorable" means exactly, despite the language having been applied to pistol magazines for 30-some years. Does filling a 20-round magazine with enough epoxy so it only can fit 10 rounds keep us from being felons? What about using hot glue? Bubble gum? What about putting a nut and bolt through the side of it? Or a rivet? This sort of ambiguity weighs most heavily on the minds of those of those who society has the least reason to worry about. **I would be personally compelled to modify over a dozen magazines; how would I be able to determine whether my modifications were non-"readily-restorable" enough to keep me from being tried as a felon?**

Different guns can use the same magazines filled with different capacities of different types of ammunition. For instance, one could buy a 300 WSM rifle that uses the same magazines as a 308 rifle; the same magazine that can hold 10 308 rounds usually only holds 3-4 300 WSM rounds. **This is a common situation, and this bill makes no attempt to address it.** In effect, it seems this bill would limit some larger caliber firearms, which are largely intended for hunting, to well under 10 rounds.

Firearms are serialized, their purchases are controlled, and bureaucracies track them on the national and local levels, yet they still routinely end up in the hands of those who can't legally hold them. The magazines that this bill seeks to ban are sold with zero legal oversight in most of the country, so it would be trivial for the criminally-minded to get them in the mail. The enforcement of this law is likely to only manifest as additional legal charges after another crime has been committed; any illegal magazines are likely to be found along with ammunition and a (likely illegally-possessed) gun in a location where it'd be illegal to possess either. So what is this law expecting to accomplish? **Is it worth limiting the self-defense capacity of the people who fulfill every legal requirement to keep firearms in their own homes, to enable prosecutors to add "magazine possession" charges in cases where there would already be gun and ammo possession charges?**

Testimony in Theory:

One's right to self-defense does not stop applying if a certain number of people attack them. Three or four assailants are not unheard-of during home invasions. In historical cases of terrorism or violence based on politics or cultural hatred, like lynchings, over a dozen assailants is common. My family

and people like myself have been refugees and victims of violence due to political upheaval, organized crime, and intolerance going back as many generations as we have history. **I am not so privileged to think violent mobs, possibly identified by the color of their shirts, robes or hats, could never “happen here”.**

My family possesses several firearms to provide a plausible defense against targeted or random violence. Gun violence is extremely bad, but the *credible potential* of just gun use is one of the cornerstones of our stable society; **would-be criminals must have reason to expect effective opposition**, from law enforcement or from their would-be victims. I would much rather my family's personal deterrence be theoretical and ambiguous rather than on public record, but certain legislators and special interests draft bills every year that'd make my wife and I felons for possessing what we already asked for and received permission to own, so what option do I have? We have gone through the legal process to acquire our firearms in Hawaii; we took approved training, had our backgrounds checked, submitted our medical records for the perusal of local authorities, had our fingerprints taken, paid for the process, waited a certain amount of time to get permits to acquire, ordered the firearms, and then registered them with the police department. And we do nothing with those firearms that is not legal; we can only have them in very particular places, and they can essentially only be loaded on our property or at a shooting range.

SB308 would declare, that despite going through all legally required steps to acquire and keep firearms in our home, steps which are beyond those in any other state, we would now not be able to own the magazines some of our firearms were designed to use.

Cases of defensive gun use where more than 10 rounds are fired are thankfully rare, but they do happen, and a cursory web search finds recent examples. But moreover, **the credible potential of effective defense against mob violence goes a long way in ensuring that actual defensive use is not required**. This bill would maintain exceptions for law enforcement, and local police recognize the value of standard capacity magazines; does that alone not demonstrate plausible legal use cases for over 10 rounds in a firearm?

Please don't advance SB308, and rather spend the legislature's time on bills that benefit our community.

Thank you;

-Cassidy Kohout, Kihei

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 4:00:46 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kimo galon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose sb308.sd1. This bill further restricts our 2nd amendment rights. Year after year we fight this bill that does nothing to curb violence. You can have a magazine ban against criminals and charge them to the fullest if used in a crime but stop restricting our rights when we abide by the laws. See Colorado's Magazine ban. It doesn't not affect its law abiding citizens

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 5:11:54 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Casey Nakama	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 5:12:46 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Todd Yukutake	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308

This bill affects my ability own magazines which I use for competition shooting, self-defense and to teach classes with. It bans the most common magazines and requires the costly modification of existing magazines which could also make them unreliable.

This bill is extremely unconstitutional and will adversely affect law abiding gun owners. Please focus your efforts on criminals making laws that penalize them (and enforcing those laws) without affecting legal gun owners in any way.

The US Supreme Court is currently considering taking an appeal Snopes v Brown which will determine the unconstitutionality of Maryland's assault weapon ban.

<https://www.scotusblog.com/case-files/cases/snope-v-brown/>

<https://www.supremecourt.gov/search.aspx?filename=/docket/docketfiles/html/public/24-203.html>

Todd Yukutake

toddyukutake@gmail.com

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 5:20:41 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Travis Brashers	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in opposition to this bill as it directly undermines our Second Amendment rights. The right of the People to keep and bear arms include the ability to use standard equipment for self-defense. Larger-capacity magazines—often holding 15, 20, or 30 rounds—are factory-standard for many modern rifles like the AR-15, one of the most popular firearms in the United States. These magazines aren't some exotic accessory; they're integral to the design and function of countless rifles owned for lawful purposes, including home defense and sport shooting. Restricting them doesn't just inconvenience gun owners—it effectively hobbles their constitutional protections by targeting the very tools that make those rights practical, all while doing nothing to address the root causes of violence.

Beyond infringing on our rights, SB308 invites costly legal battles that could burden the state with significant expenses. Recent challenges to similar bans, like California's ongoing *Duncan v. Becerra* case in the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, show how such laws spark prolonged litigation from defenders of the 2nd Amendment. Our own Supreme Court has already clashed with federal precedent, as seen in its 2024 *State v. Wilson* ruling, which defied U.S. Supreme Court interpretations of the 2nd Amendment. Defending SB308 against inevitable lawsuits would drain state resources, diverting funds from public services to legal fees—all to uphold a questionable restriction on standard rifle magazines.

Please oppose SB308.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 5:22:17 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Phillip	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 5:29:36 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Branden Hun	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 5:37:55 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William chase	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. These types of ban have been found unconstitutional. Gun parts in common use in the United States are protected and hawaii will find it self in legal litigation. I strongly oppose.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 5:43:42 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brent	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill, it's unconstitutional and my rights shall not be infringed.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 5:58:38 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gauranga Anthony	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I strongly oppose this bill as further regulation on guns will trample our freedom in the long run and criminals will still have access to guns meanwhile law abiding citizens are the ones affected. Kill this bill and let freedom reign.

Sincerely,

Gauranga Anthony

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 5:56:58 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Andres	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308 because it is yet ANOTHER infringement on our second amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:08:14 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
chad	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:11:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scott Choy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:14:03 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Coral Shaw	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am writing to strongly oppose SB401 and SB308, which threaten our Second Amendment rights and our fundamental ability to protect ourselves and our families. These bills do not address the real issue at hand – they only disarm law-abiding citizens, leaving us more vulnerable to crime.

PEOPLE KILL PEOPLE, NOT GUNS. Stripping law-abiding citizens of their constitutional right to bear arms does nothing to stop criminals who already operate outside of the law. In fact, **99% of gun violence is committed with illegal guns, not legally purchased firearms.** These bills do not target the source of the problem – they only punish responsible gun owners who follow the law.

If the intention is to combat violence and improve public safety, then focus should be placed on the root cause: **gang violence and illegal firearms.** Hawaii's crime problem is driven by gangs who operate with no regard for the law. Disarming good people does nothing to deter bad actors – it only emboldens them, knowing their victims are defenseless.

Passing SB401 and SB308 would be a **totalitarian overreach**, undermining our constitutional rights and setting a dangerous precedent for government control. This is not the answer to making our communities safer. If the goal is truly to reduce violence, then efforts should be directed toward dismantling gang networks, increasing penalties for illegal gun possession, and better law enforcement resources to tackle organized crime.

Do not punish the law-abiding citizens of Hawaii for the actions of criminals. We deserve the right to **protect ourselves and our loved ones.** I urge you to **oppose SB401 and SB308** and instead focus on real solutions that address the actual issues facing our state.

Mahalo for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,
Coral Shaw

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:32:11 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Roscoe	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill does not actually specify what "readily restorable" means, nor is there a grandfather clause. This means that a great multitude of law abiding gun owners will be forced to dispose of their property without any sort of compensation.

Magazine bans are also being challenged in several courts as unconstitutional. These magazines are also in common use across the country and are in fact considered standard capacity, with only select states like Hawaii proposing to arbitrarily ban them.

There are several firearms that use magazines which can be used with different bullets that affect capacity. A normally 20 round magazine can have its capacity reduced to sub 10 with larger bullets.

If it is the legislatures intent to actually promote public safety, it should instead consider whether our existing laws are being enforced, if HPD is receiving the right amount of funding to enforce these laws, and should actually draft bills to address the multitude of stressors such as cost of living, etc

I would like to think that members of our legislature would consider that all this bill does is arbitrarily deprive law abiding citizens of their property with no compensation, and in the context of our current economy, puts an additional amount of financial stress upon your fellow law abiding citizens.

Thank you all for your time.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:37:15 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sean Collins	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Sean Michael Collins. I am an NRA Certified Firearms Instructor. I strongly oppose SB308 because it is a complete infringement on our constitutional rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:38:42 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laetitia Thibault Santoro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

my name is Laetitia Thibault Santoro.

I am writing as a citizen, as a mom and as a retail professional.

We don't need high capacity magazines on fire arms. It is dangerous for the community (as we can see how it is too often used in shootings on the mainland).

we need to protect our community and our keikis.

i support the ban on high capacity magazines.

best,

laetitia Thibault Santoro

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:46:35 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Felicia Nohealani Otsuji	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it is UNCONSTITUTIONAL!

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:50:38 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Raymund Bragado	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I'm a retired military service member with two combat tours in Iraq 2003 and 2008. I took an oath to support and defend the Constitution.

Please do not infringe on our second amendment.

Mahalo,

Raymund Bragado

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:54:29 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel B	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

By the stroke of a pen, this bill would make thousands of law abiding citizens into criminals. This is a clear overreach of government. A progressive society should aim to keep its citizens out of prisons, not to fill them.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:54:56 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Trevor Bowman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 7:14:52 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steven Foth	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB308 which Expands the current ban on handgun magazines

Steven Foth

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 7:20:27 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carl Laugerbaum	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

I'd like to voice my strong opposition to SB 308.

SB 308 prohibits possession of magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds, expanding upon the current restrictions on magazines “designed for or capable of use with a pistol”. Gun control advocates like to label these magazines as “large” or “high capacity”. However, they are in fact standard equipment for commonly owned firearms that many Americans legally and effectively use for an entire range of legitimate purposes, such as self-defense or competition.

Proponents will argue that this legislation will make Hawaii safer. However, evidence clearly shows that magazine bans do absolutely nothing to combat crime and actually make communities less safe. The Federal “assault weapon ban” of 1994-2004 contained a similar provision banning “large” magazines. The congressionally mandated study of the ban by the Urban Institute found that the ban had no impact on crime. In fact, murder rates were 19.3% higher when the ban was in effect.

Furthermore, SB 308 would constitute a clear violation of the Hawaiian citizenry’s Second Amendment rights. Law-abiding citizens have the right to defend themselves and their loved ones using whatever equipment they find most effective. Magazines with a capacity higher than 10 or 15 rounds are in common use and have a clear self-defense purpose and should therefore be covered under the standard defined by the Supreme Court in District of Columbia vs. Heller.

SB 308 provides no public safety benefit and will do nothing more than strip law-abiding citizens of their ability to use effective equipment in self-defense.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 7:26:20 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
nick	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because we already have very strict laws on firearms this would do nothing to stop or prevent crime from occurring. Criminals will find a way to go around this bill/law and get magazines and even other weapons that are banned to commit crimes. This bill will only effect law abiding citizens and make them criminals over night! Your average citizen already has to do safety classes, fingers printing, background checks and a waiting period to buy firearms and accessories!

So i will be opposing this bill Aloha

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 7:42:17 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeanette Cruz-Tongpalan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it infringes on our second amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 7:44:29 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Moyer	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308. SB308 does not support the 2nd Amenedment of the Constitution of the United States.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 7:49:45 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glen Lefiti	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308.

This is a violation of the second amendment rights established by the Constitution of the United States of America.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 7:50:50 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David E Shormann	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is unconstitutional. This is America, where we have the right to bear arms. We also have the right to put real criminals in jail, so please encourage better enforcement of existing laws and work to ensure law enforcement has the resources they need to keep Hawaii safe.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 7:53:04 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julian Tongpalan Jr.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It infringes on my right as a law abiding citizen and to my right to bear arms to protect myself and family

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 7:55:14 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terence Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: My name is Terence Lee. I am a gun violence survivor and I am in support of this bill, SB308. I was shot 5 times. I think 10 rounds is enough. Mahalo Terence Lee

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 7:59:47 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
DAVE SMITH	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

As a member of the Big Island Community I implore you to vote no on these bills.

Gun magazine bans, which limit the number of rounds a firearm can hold, are often proposed as a way to reduce gun violence, particularly in mass shootings. However, there's a case to be made that they don't work as intended, and here's why.

First, the practical impact on shooters is minimal. Reloading a firearm takes seconds—experienced shooters can swap magazines in under two seconds, and even novices can do it quickly with minimal practice. In a mass shooting scenario, where victims are often unarmed and chaos reigns, this brief pause doesn't meaningfully hinder the attacker or provide a window for intervention. Look at the 2012 Aurora theater shooting: the shooter used a 100-round drum magazine, which notoriously jammed, yet he still fired 76 rounds by switching to other weapons. A ban on high-capacity magazines wouldn't have stopped him—he adapted on the spot.

Second, enforcement is a nightmare. Millions of standard-capacity magazines (typically 10-30 rounds) are already in circulation, legally owned by civilians. The ATF estimated in 1994, during the federal assault weapons ban, that there were tens of millions of these magazines out there. No buyback or confiscation program could realistically collect them all, especially since many owners wouldn't comply. Criminals, who don't follow laws by definition, would keep or source them illegally anyway. The 1994-2004 federal ban saw no measurable drop in gun homicides, per studies like the 2004 DOJ report, partly because pre-ban magazines stayed widely available.

Third, the focus on magazine size ignores the bigger picture of gun violence. Most gun deaths—over 60% in the U.S., according to CDC data—are suicides, where magazine capacity is irrelevant. Homicides, often tied to gang activity or domestic disputes, typically involve far fewer rounds than any magazine limit would restrict. A 2013 study from the FBI found that the average number of shots fired in criminal assaults is under 4. Mass shootings, while horrific, are statistically rare, making up less than 1% of gun deaths annually. Targeting magazines feels like a solution mismatched to the problem.

Lastly, bans spark workarounds. Shooters can carry multiple guns or magazines—Virginia Tech

(2007) saw 174 rounds fired with 10- and 15-round magazines, legally compliant at the time. 3D printing now lets anyone make high-capacity magazines at home, bypassing laws entirely. Tech's only gotten better since then.

The argument isn't that magazine bans are inherently bad policy—just that they don't deliver the promised results. They're a feel-good measure that doesn't address root causes or adapt to real-world behavior. Data and history suggest the juice isn't worth the squeeze.

Thank you for your review and no vote.

Mahalo,

Dave Smith

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:00:11 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Hawkins	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB 308 seeks to prohibit possession of magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds, expanding upon the current restrictions on magazines “designed for or capable of use with a pistol”. Gun control advocates like to label these magazines as “large” or “high capacity”. However, they are in fact standard equipment for commonly owned firearms that many Americans legally and effectively use for an entire range of legitimate purposes, such as self-defense or competition.

Proponents will argue that this legislation will make Hawaii safer. However, evidence clearly shows that magazine bans do absolutely nothing to combat crime and actually make communities less safe. The Federal “assault weapon ban” of 1994-2004 contained a similar provision banning “large” magazines. The congressionally mandated study of the ban by the Urban Institute found that the ban had no impact on crime. In fact, murder rates were 19.3% higher when the ban was in effect.

Furthermore, SB 308 would constitute a clear violation of the Hawaiian citizenry’s Second Amendment rights. Law-abiding citizens have the right to defend themselves and their loved ones using whatever equipment they find most effective. Magazines with a capacity higher than 10 or 15 rounds are in common use and have a clear self-defense purpose and should therefore be covered under the standard defined by the Supreme Court in *District of Colombia vs. Heller*.

SB 308 provides no public safety benefit and will do nothing more than strip law-abiding citizens of their ability to use effective equipment in self-defense. When you are face to face with a criminal who does not abide by the laws of the land, that is in possession of a firearm and a standard capacity magazine, how does one effectively defend themselves and their family with only 10 rounds? Let the law-abiding citizens have a chance against those lawless criminals that are hell bent on doing harm.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:08:20 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Roy Jensen III	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308 because Hawaii State Legislature continues to infringe on the rights of law-abiding citizens. It clearly states in the Second Amendment to the US Constitution that we have a right to bear arms. Stop infringing on our constitutional rights and stop SB308

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:10:45 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Norberto Dumo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

I strongly oppose SB308 as it is a direct violation of our second amendment rights as a law abiding citizen. If these gun laws are passed then truly the criminals will be happy. It seems like these bills are targeting law abiding citizens and not the criminals who are the ones breaking the laws. When someone is injured/killed by a drunk driver no laws are created to ban any alcohol or motor vehicles the driver is held responsible so why isn't it the same here. Laws should be specific to the criminals. Hawaii already has one of the strictest gun laws and if there are crimes committed with a firearm in Hawaii they are not with a firearm that are owned by a law abiding citizen.

Thank you

Norberto Dumo

Hilo HI 96720

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:11:02 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terriann Mohideen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB 308 SUPPORT

Good afternoon Chairman Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, Senator Chang, Senator San Buenaventura, and Senator Awa:

My name is Terriann Mohideen, I am a mother and a resident of Hawaii. I urge you to support SB 308 and expand the ban on pistols with a detachable magazine with over a ten-round capacity to any firearm with a detachable magazine with over a ten-round capacity. These weapons have been used in the majority of mass shootings in the US and we need to close this loophole that exists in Hawaii in order to not start having these mass shooting incidents here. The Department of Law Enforcement in Hawaii supports this law and they want it in the interest of public safety. Please support them, keep us safe and pass this bill. Thank you.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:12:18 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Neil Wehrsigg	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose SB308 as this infringes on my

2nd Amendment rights as a US Citizen

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chairman
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chairman
Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairman K. Rhoads; Vice Chairman M. Gabbard,

I am writing to register my STRONG OPPOSITION to Bill SB308 (all forms put forth to date), the proposed legislation to ban the class of all firearms capable of firing more than 10 rounds without reloading (an extension of the so-called, misleadingly, "detachable high-capacity magazine" ban).

I oppose this bill for many reasons. To enumerate a few:

1) This bill will do nothing to prevent violent criminals from using such a class of firearms to commit crimes anywhere in the State. Violent criminals and the mentally deranged pay no attention to legal restrictions. For example, criminals use machine guns every day to commit crimes despite the fact that they have been strictly regulated / restricted since early in the 20th century. They don't buy their arms through regulated channels , and they don't register them. Laws seeking to ban commonly owned arms only punish those of us who do not commit violent crimes. The Supreme Court has made it clear that there is no justification to banning the law-abiding from the use of a thing, simply because criminals use that thing in the commission of crimes. Otherwise government entities would also seek to ban private ownership of vehicles, knives, hammers, and many other useful tools.

2) This bill attempts to impose the same punitive measures taken against law-abiding citizens as the legislators and Governors of Illinois, New York, Washington and California, which have completely ignored and/or twisted the interpretation of recent Supreme Court rulings in *Bruen* and *Heller*. Supreme court rulings which have made it clear that the U.S. Government and the State entities may not ban commonly possessed arms, which millions of Americans possess for lawful purposes. And note: possess NOT just for self-defense, but for ANY lawful purpose. Clearly, millions upon millions of U.S. citizens keep and bear self-loading rifles that may discharge more than 10 rounds without reloading, for lawful purposes every day. This is therefore yet another proposed ban on an entire *class* of commonly owned firearms. Even those who seek to ban these firearms admit as much. Yet, here in Hawaii we citizens have now to face yet another egregious attempt to deny our Constitutional right to keep and bear arms which are protected, not only by the Constitution, but as clarified by recent rulings of the Supreme Court.
Classes of arms commonly owned by citizens for lawful purposes may not be banned.

3) This bill would further (and illegally), restricts the Second Amendment right to bear arms in the form of an extension to the ban on magazines for handguns that hold more than 10 rounds, to that of all other arms. Outrageously, it make felons

out of anyone owning such arms once the law goes into effect. *Arms*, as held by the Supreme Court and based upon 18th century lexicographers definition of the term, are anything that may be used offensively or defensively. This is how the Founding Fathers regarded arms when the Constitution was codified and was thus the *intent* of the Second Amendment. Magazines themselves, which are IN COMMON USE and which facilitate self-defense within an entire class of commonly owned arms, are therefore considered arms and therefore may not be banned. Magazines are no different than the barrel of a firearm, or the ammunition used by a firearm. The phrase "shall not be infringed", means that the keeping (owning/storing/maintaining), and bearing (carrying and using), of arms, including magazines, barrels, triggers and other components of arms, may not be suspended, delayed, or otherwise interfered with because such activities are a fundamental right. The Supreme Court has further ruled in *Heller* that the Government may not arbitrarily ban an entire "class" of arms that Americans overwhelmingly choose for lawful purposes, and that is clearly what is being done / expanded in this bill.

4) This banning of magazines over 10 rounds is, additionally, in violation of the Ex Post Facto provisions of the Constitution. A law that classifies an act as criminal, the commission of which was legal prior to the enactment of said law, is an *ex post facto* law within the prohibition of the Constitution. Large numbers of standard capacity (holding over 10 rounds), magazines are owned by Hawaii citizens, and were so lawfully purchased. This bill seeks to make what was once legal, criminal. This is strictly forbidden by our Constitution, and is morally reprehensible as well.

5) The Supreme Court has affirmed that the Second Amendment right is not a second-class right. Citizens wishing to exercise their right to keep and bear arms have no more need to justify that right to Government authority than they would to exercise their right of free speech, or the right to vote. This is implicit in the wording of the Second Amendment. It has been argued by those seeking to ban individual ownership of firearms that the Founding Fathers could not have foreseen the developments that led to modern day self-loading firearms. Such an argument, however, is never applied to the First Amendment. We aren't restricted to writing with quill pens, or to only making speeches to crowds of people standing before us. The First Amendment, as is proper, is interpreted to apply to modern forms of communication as much as it has to those of the past. Nor are we required to vote using the methods in play during the time of our Nation's founding. Firearms technology is not static with respect to criminals and Governments, nor was it intended to be with respect to civilians given it is the ultimate guarantor of the personal safety and freedom of the People. Just as the right to free speech and the right to vote are not static with respect to technology.

So. PLEASE vote AGAINST this bill. It blatantly violates the supreme law of our land, which is the Bill of Rights as enshrined in The Constitution of the United States. The passing and implementation of laws which ignore and/or attempt to suspend our Constitutional laws as set forth by our Founders is not only unwise and illegal, it also sets a very bad example for all of our citizens.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Russell Price
831 Lower Kimo Drive
Kula, Hawaii 96790
808-763-9653
rnfrmprice@gmail.com

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:18:02 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Tiritas	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:26:36 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frank Schultz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

[SB308](#) would impose a ban on standard capacity magazines capable of accepting more than 10 rounds. These so-called “high capacity” magazines are standard equipment for commonly owned firearms that many Americans legally and effectively use for an entire range of legitimate purposes, such as self-defense or competition.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:32:00 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Clifford Deanson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose bill SB308 because it infringes on our second amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:37:21 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas M. McCamley	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha:

According to the office of the Attorney General of the State of Hawai‘i, for years now there have been more lawfully registered guns in this state than the total resident population, yet Hawai‘i continues to rank at the very bottom percentiles of gun crime nationally according to FBI statistics.

Gun owners in Hawaii perennially demonstrate their fidelity to the rule of law and the Constitution as citizens of the United States, yet, just as consistently, there are some state legislators who, as a matter of course, incessantly introduce unconstitutional measures the sole purpose of which are to torment and deprive the citizens of Hawaii of their Bill of Rights. SB308 is a clear case in point, as there is no countervailing public policy consideration whatsoever for existing lawfully owned magazines to be made illegal overnight by some diktat like SB308.

It is a profoundly disturbing thing that we have legislators in this state who openly show such contempt for its citizens and the constitution they took an oath to uphold.

Depending on the survey, somewhere between 40% and 70% of the population here is seriously considering leaving this state.

This is incontrovertible evidence of the effects of decades of anti-business, anti-growth and increasingly anti-constitutional governance as exemplified by measures such as SB308 - and so the people simply have no choice but to vote with their feet, and they are doing so in increasing numbers.

Bills like SB308 simply accelerate a fiscal death spiral of the ruling party’s own making, as they day by day take away reasons for citizens to continue to call an increasingly hostile Hawaii, home.

We call on those legislators of goodwill, who recall their oath of office and retain their commitment to the lawful rights of the people, to vote against all bills of the ilk of SB308, and keep the focus of the Legislature on pulling this state out of the existential crisis it is in.

Mahalo

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:38:50 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandon Haught-Aliotti	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose because this goes against an individuals second amendment rights. The amount a pistol holds does not matter. It's the education behind using the pistol or firearm. Individuals should be able to carry as many rounds as they want if they have a properly legal fire arm.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:42:10 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Luanna H Meyer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill to expand the ban on high capacity magazines. There is no legitimate purpose for private citizens to own magazines designed for warfare and lawful policing activities. These are not weapons for hunting, nor are they needed for self-defense. They were intended for use in war, and innocent citizens and children must be protected from the possibility of such weapons being used to kill and maim either indiscriminantly or deliberately.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:44:38 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erick Allende	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I would like to show that im opposed to this bill as its something that takes away our constitutional rights to bear arms.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:44:49 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathan roldan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

This piece of legislation has been found unconstitutional in many courts. Standard capacity magazines have been wrongly labeled as high capacity. The supreme court of the united states has ruled that magazines are an intergral part of the operation of a firearm and thus is protected. Any magazine limit bans are unconsitutional. I have seen the aftermath of a home invasion. It was not a single person but several, all armed with various weapons. If the home owner did not have a STANDARD capacity magazine. He would have lost his life that day. Make no mistake. The Police Department has made it clear that the protection of the public is not their priority. Instead, enforcing the laws is their priority. Hawaii is not all sunshine and roses crime is on the rise and a clearly bad bill will not help make the public safer.

Please vote no to this unconstitutational bill.

Thank you for you time.

Nathan Roldan

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:53:24 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Megan Iobst	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stop violating my 2nd amendment rights! I am a law abiding citizen. Criminals will break laws and do harm to others whether or not it's against the law! I oppose sb308

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:58:29 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William J M. Evans	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

High capacity magazines are unnecessary and dangerous in the wrong hands. Wrong hands means anyone who is not a sworn active duty member of the military. The only reason ordinary citizens want any type of high capacity magazine is to make them feel powerful. Overcoming someone's feelings of inferiority and weakness is not a good reason to allow military style firepower.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:02:04 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shyla Moon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

You can't just make a legal magazine owner (these 30 capacity magazines come stock with most firearms) a felon overnight! That is insane. Even our mayor of Kauai has these. What you can't grandfather this in? Ridiculous bill. Please oppose.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:03:54 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
George Aguiar	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it infringes on our second amendment rights

George Aguiar

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:14:30 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marlee Kamakaala-Miller	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it violates our second amendment rights and goes against the most recent SCOTUS Bruen decision.

Expanding the 10 round magazine ban to include all firearms not just handguns, will not increase public safety.

This law is extremely prejudice because it doesn't even include a grandfather clause. So it will just make normal law abiding citizens who purchased their magazines legally into criminals.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:15:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Josh Lockhart	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:26:05 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Gouveia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308 because this will only restrict law-abiding gun owners even more, rather than criminals.

This is another attempt at violating the 2nd Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:26:32 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jamie Yamamoto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose. Meaningless infringement on 2nd Amendment rights

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:27:15 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Carreira	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to STRONGLY OPPOSE Senate bill SB308. The expansion of the 10 round pistol magazine limit to all magazines will make criminals of lawful taxpayers. Picking an arbitrary number of bullets allowed in a magazine is ridiculous. It will put law-following taxpayers at a disadvantage in self-defense scenarios where these weapons are employed. Criminals don't follow laws by definition. I ask that the honorable members of the Senate vote down this bill.

Respectfully,

William Carreira

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:29:53 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laney Azevedo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308 as it infringes on our second amendment rights.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:36:02 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ryan hopf	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This law does absolutely *nothing to combat gun violence or violent crime*. The existing magazine ban unfairly penalizes law-abiding citizens like myself while doing nothing to stop criminals.

Expanding this ban will only further punish responsible citizens like me.

Please do your duty and vote in alignment with the *will of the people* and vote *NO*.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:37:15 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Myron Hoefer	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose banning standard capacity magazines (11+ rounds). If a drunk driver kills someone the legal solution is not to take everyone's car away, but to punish the perpetrator. The same applies to standard capacity magazines. My property should not be banned because someone else uses it to commit a crime. I also object to the "capable of being readily restored" language. It is too vague and leaves criminal prosecution up to discretionary judgement. Please defer this bill. Thank you.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:39:59 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
cody rogers	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good Day to all who read this,

my name is cosy i am in the oppose side of this bill. as someone who has lived in alot of diffrent states with a very wide range of gun laws from California to Florida. i know that this law will only make law abiding gun owners felons over night because the people this is targeting the criminals currently dont fallow the current laws on magazine restrictions. By passing this bill you will be placeing over 43,000 service members who are in possession of these at risk. And example - A young solder, marine, sailor, or airmen a gets done with a field ttraining is tired and wants to grab some food and head home to his or her spouse. on this drive home they forget to use a turn signal an honest mistake, but while the police officer is walking up to get there driver and car info sees there gear in the back seat with there standard magazines. This solder, marine,sailor or airmen are now being writen a felony ticket for being in possesion of equipment that the federal government had given them and requir them to have. Outside of service members this bill would be turning 14.9% or 51,807 legal long gun owners in the felons. this bill doesnt just hurt the people who purchased firearms for the defense of there selfs, families, and homes but it also effects the people who buy them to go hunting or compete in competition shoot, or sport shooting like shooting skets.

So i urge you to please vote in opposition of this bill

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:42:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Louella Vidinha	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We have the right to bear arms, without limiting.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:47:00 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth Plank	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Kenneth Plank Honolulu, HI, 96814 In opposition Date: February 26, 2025 To the Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Legislature, I am writing to respectfully voice my opposition to Senate Bill 308 (SB308), which proposes to make all firearms magazines illegal in the State of Hawaii. While I understand and appreciate the intent to enhance public safety, I believe this bill is overly broad, impractical, and infringes upon the rights of law-abiding citizens without effectively addressing the root causes of gun violence. First, SB308 fails to distinguish between responsible gun owners and those who misuse firearms. Law-abiding citizens, including hunters, sport shooters, and individuals who rely on firearms for self-defense, depend on magazines as standard components of their legally owned firearms. By banning all magazines, this bill effectively renders most firearms inoperative, disproportionately punishing those who comply with existing laws rather than targeting criminal behavior. Second, there is little evidence to suggest that a blanket ban on magazines would reduce crime in Hawaii. Criminals, by definition, do not adhere to laws, and those intent on causing harm are unlikely to be deterred by this legislation. Instead, they may resort to illegal means to obtain magazines or other weapons, leaving law-abiding residents defenseless. Studies and data from other states with similar restrictions show mixed results at best, with no clear correlation between magazine bans and reduced violent crime rates. Additionally, this bill overlooks practical realities. Magazines are not optional accessories but integral parts of most modern firearms. Banning them outright would create significant logistical and economic burdens for residents, law enforcement, and businesses, while doing little to address illegal trafficking or the underlying social issues—such as mental health and economic disparity—that often drive violence. I urge you to consider the constitutional implications as well. The Second Amendment protects the right to keep and bear arms, a right upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court and cherished by many Hawaii residents. SB308's sweeping approach risks overstepping this protection, potentially inviting legal challenges that could cost the state time and resources. Rather than a blanket ban, I encourage the legislature to pursue targeted, evidence-based solutions—such as stronger enforcement of existing laws, improved mental health support, and community outreach programs—that address the causes of violence without unduly burdening law-abiding citizens. I respectfully request that you vote against SB308 and work toward policies that balance public safety with individual rights. Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to discuss this further or provide additional input as you deliberate on this important matter. Sincerely,^{[[SEP]]} Kenneth Plank

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:53:08 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ethan Fergerstrom	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308 as it is a violation of second amendment rights and serves no legitimate purpose.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:05:01 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph Stenaka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a retired Navy Officer and a person who has safely and legally used firearms for over 40 years, I strongly oppose Senate Bill 308 (SB 308). SB 308 prohibits the possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds for rifles with the intent of reducing gun violence. Historically, prohibiting larger magazine capacity has not reduced crime (and increased it with one study). Prohibiting larger magazines will infringe on the rights of law-abiding citizens of Hawaii with no reduction in gun violence.

First, it is important to understand that banning higher capacity rifle magazines would not effectively prevent violent crimes. 99.99% of gun owners do not use rifles or magazines in the commission of crimes. Limiting rifle magazine size based on the actions of a few individuals unfairly punishes responsible gun owners who use their rifles for legal purposes, such as hunting, sport shooting, or self-defense.

Additionally, banning high-capacity magazines would be an infringement on the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens. High-capacity magazines are a legitimate part of many firearms, especially semi-automatic rifles, which are popular among gun owners. These magazines enable users to engage in sporting activities and are particularly useful for those who rely on them for personal defense in situations where multiple threats may be present. Restricting access to these higher capacity magazines limits an individual's ability to adequately defend themselves or participate in legitimate activities. With the current political climate, Magazines with a capacity higher than 10 or 15 rounds are in common use and have a clear self-defense purpose and are therefore be covered under the standard defined by the Supreme Court in District of Colombia vs. Heller , restricting higher capacity rifle magazines will be quickly overruled by higher courts to include the US Supreme Court.

Moreover, a higher capacity rifle magazine ban overlooks the broader issue of gun violence. The real issue lies in addressing the root causes of violence, such as mental health, poverty, and social alienation, rather than imposing blanket restrictions that do little to address these factors. The Federal "assault weapon ban" of 1994-2004 contained a similar provision banning "large" magazines. The congressionally mandated study of the ban by the Urban Institute found that the ban had no impact on crime. In fact, murder rates were 19.3% higher when the ban was in effect. The ban was allowed to expire in 2004. Lastly, a 2019 Rand study could find NO correlation between high-capacity magazine bans such as those proposed on rifles in SB 308 to reductions in firearm homicides or injuries.

Banning higher-capacity rifle magazines would create unnecessary obstacles for law-abiding gun owners without improving public safety. Instead of focusing on symbolic measures that may not work, Hawai'i should prioritize more effective strategies, such as better background checks, improved mental health care, and addressing the root causes of violence. Efforts to criminalize specific types of firearms accessories such as higher capacity magazines will not have the desired impact on reducing gun violence and will only serve to alienate responsible gun owners.

In conclusion, banning higher capacity rifle magazine is a bad idea because SB 308 fails to address the real causes of violence, infringe on individual rights, and would have negligible effect on shooting outcomes. A more comprehensive and balanced approach is needed to tackle the complex issue of gun violence in our society. Vote no to SB308.

Sincerely,

Joseph Stenaka

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:06:26 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Fukuda	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:27:09 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keleb I. Paglinawan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I opposed this bill because its violating the people's constitutional rights.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:30:18 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Roy Gillis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Roy Gillis strongly oppose and disagree with this bill (SB 308) as it goes against my (along with many others) 2nd amendment right.

Roy Gillis

Keaau, Hawaii 96749

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:37:56 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ihilani Buffett	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308 another overreach of the government. Does anyone hearing this bill understand what licensed gun owners have to go through to get our licenses? Move on to a more productive issue!

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:40:06 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gregory Abe	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Committee Members

SB 308 prohibits possession of magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds, expanding upon the current restrictions on magazines “designed for or capable of use with a pistol”. Gun control advocates like to label these magazines as “large” or “high capacity”. However, they are in fact standard equipment for commonly owned firearms that many Americans legally and effectively use for an entire range of legitimate purposes, such as self-defense or competition.

📷 Proponents will argue that this legislation will make Hawaii safer. However, evidence clearly shows that magazine bans do absolutely nothing to combat crime and actually make communities less safe. The Federal “assault weapon ban” of 1994-2004 contained a similar provision banning “large” magazines. The congressionally mandated study of the ban by the Urban Institute found that the ban had no impact on crime. In fact, murder rates were 19.3% higher when the ban was in effect.

Furthermore, SB 308 would constitute a clear violation of the Hawaiian citizenry’s Second Amendment rights. Law-abiding citizens have the right to defend themselves and their loved ones using whatever equipment they find most effective. Magazines with a capacity higher than 10 or 15 rounds are in common use and have a clear self-defense purpose and should therefore be covered under the standard defined by the Supreme Court in District of Columbia vs. Heller.

SB 308 provides no public safety benefit and will do nothing more than strip law-abiding citizens of their ability to use effective equipment in self-defense.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:42:29 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Roanne Abe	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Judiciary Committee Members,

I am a woman, a mom, a businesswoman, a voter, and a concerned citizen.

Having a firearm that works properly is key to firearm safety for both those using the firearm and those in the vicinity of the firearm. Ten-round magazines are not the standard size for firearms. Using non-standard magazines that the firearm was not manufactured to use creates safety issues for the user. Law enforcement agencies use the manufacturer's magazine for their duty-issued firearm, and these magazines are not ten rounds or less. These magazines were made to allow users of the firearm to operate the firearm safely and reliably.

Furthermore, no grandfather clause is allowed in this bill, so law-abiding citizens possessing magazines with a capacity of more than ten rounds would be criminals.

I respectfully ask you to oppose SB308 because it makes firearms unsafe and has no grandfather clause.

Thank you,

Roanne.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 11:05:01 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard W. Adams	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

it makes criminals out of law abiding citizens. Do not support this bill.

This continued effort of this body to strip law abiding citizens of 2A Rights is a travesty of justice for Hawai'i citizens.

Do Not Support This Bill.

Richaed Adams

Citizen of Hawai'i

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 11:15:00 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Legislators,

Please read that thing called the Constitution of the United States of America. In the back there is also a Bill of Rights, that are guaranteed to the People of the United States. Also the Bill of Rights of the Hawaii State Constitution.

Here's how the 2nd Amendment and Article 1, section 17 reads: A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the People to keep and bear Arms, SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED.

These brilliant founders knew about people such as yourself. They used the word "arms" to insure as the weapons changed over time, that those weapons would be included. Arms mean any weapon, ammunition and related items.

STOP with the Unconstitutional Bills. Either you are uneducated or you are purposely warring against the founding documents, the Constitution is the highest law of the land. Ignorance of the law is no excuse.

What should be the penalty for public servants who do this?

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 11:16:58 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keenan Place-Puaa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly stand in opposition to this bill.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 11:18:25 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jim	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I highly oppose this bill!!!

Any bill that is geared towards 2nd amendment rights is rightfully wrong. And any gov't that tries to take away this amendment or find a loop hole that will control guns from being owned by law abiding citizens is gov't overreach and **WRONG**.

The solution you're looking for is to find a way to make owning a gun safer. So more education on gun ownership and use. More safety requirements before owning a gun such as a gun use and safety class. Better and more thorough background checks. There's a lot better solutions that just stripping away bits and pieces of our second amendment b/c you found a loop hole or think b/c you're gov't you can do what you want without listening to the **PEOPLE** you actually work for.

Criminals will still find a way to illegally own and use guns of any kind. Look at drugs. Most are still illegal but yet millions still get them and use them and distribute them.

Same thing goes for SB401!!! Which i will literally put the same testimony.

OPPOSE OPPOSE OPPOSE!!!

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 11:41:12 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keoni Pikini	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill...please up hold my 2nd amendment rights

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 11:53:12 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
s shimoda	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Focus on the laws we have and not new ones.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 11:54:58 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I wholeheartedly support expanding the ban on high capacity magazines. This is common sense and puts public safety first.

Sincerely,

Mrs Linda White

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 12:03:17 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Phil Davidson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Again, another anti-second amendment bill! Why is it at the state Senators and representatives get armed protection while the people of Hawaii are stuck with overly restrictive rules and left with an inability to effectively protect ourselves? This bill wants to turn law abiding citizens into criminals. I would like to hope that you recognize the criminals will break the law and do harmful things to people, and they do not care of the repercussions. Stripping the people of their ability to protect themselves from these criminals is downright wrong. Those who vote yes to this will lose any possible chance of getting a vote from me or my family or friends in the future. Shame on all who think these laws will protect anyone, while you sit behind your desk protected by the very thing you're trying to ban people from possessing.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 12:03:19 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicolas Dramisino	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose all anti gun laws.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 12:45:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isaac croydon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This violates our second amendment rights and I oppose this bill

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 12:51:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Conol	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose the SB308 Bill that attempts to limit firearm magazine capacity which I believe infringes upon Second Amendment rights. I understand what the law intends to achieve but do believe that limiting magazine size will not solve the true problems behind gun violence while risking the constitutional rights of law-abiding gun owners. Studies initially revealed that a firearm magazine's capacity does not play a decisive role in determining the lethality of a gunshot. Statistics from the FBI indicate that many mass shootings involve firearms equipped with standard-capacity magazines while attackers commonly use several magazines to achieve their goals regardless of magazine size.

During the 2012 Aurora theater massacre, the attacker successfully carried out his attack using several low-capacity magazines. The simple limitation of magazine capacity fails to produce a meaningful reduction in gun violence rates. Law-abiding citizens face potential disadvantages from this legislation compared to criminals who would likely ignore these legal requirements. Law-abiding firearm enthusiasts often need firearms with larger magazine capacities for activities like hunting and sport shooting along with self-defense situations. Participants in competitive shooting sports can perform their activities more efficiently and safely when they possess higher-capacity magazines.

Government supervision effectiveness becomes doubtful because of how these regulations are enforced. How can law enforcement best enforce this legislation while preserving the rights of compliant gun store owners who fulfill current regulations? While I understand the concerns about public safety, I believe we need to implement a more advanced approach to address gun violence. The most effective approach to address gun violence involves prioritizing mental health support and community resources along with targeted interventions instead of just limiting magazine sizes. What steps should we take to protect responsible gun owners' rights while guaranteeing public safety? Which other strategies would you recommend for effectively decreasing gun violence?

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 12:53:22 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark Woodward	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB308 SD1.

If passed, this bill will be a clear violation of my constitutional rights granted to me by the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America. The standard capacity of detachable magazines for most modern rifles (AR 15) is 20 rounds. Two of my rifles do not function properly with 10 round magazines. At the rifle range I use 20 round magazines loaded with 5 rounds each. Over the last 14 years I have purchased a number of 20 round magazines. If passed, I assume I will be required to give up my personal property that was legally purchased. These magazines are not inexpensive.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 12:59:53 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lyndel C Cabatu	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I as a law abiding citizen and gun owner , strongly oppose bill sb308. It not only infringes on my second amendment rights, it does nothing to deter or stop criminals.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 1:13:06 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Winfrey Pablo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am opposed to SB308,

Handgun magazines are already restricted to 10 round capacity. Rifle magazines are not restricted at this time but this bill is trying to mirror 10 round capacity. In regards to hunting and self defense I do not want to see 10 round capacity limits for magazines.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 1:41:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karl Kubo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Oppose SB308. This is a near total firearms BAN disguised as a feel good public safety law. It does nothing for public safety. Over powered and high speed vehicles have killed and injured more people here than firearms ever did. But we don't try to ban high powered engines or vehicles that exceed 60 mph.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 2:24:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maverick Quartero	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senators,

I whole heartedly oppose this bill. The 2nd Ammendment of the U.S. Constitution is guaranteed. This proposed bill does nothing to reduce gun related crimes, as the vast majority of these crimes are conducted with illegal firearms handled by individuals that can't legally possess firearms. This proposed Bill would make every rifle owner a criminal instantly. Once again, these laws only affect law abiding citizens and not the criminals that willfully disregard laws. A firearm infraction does not deter someone that is determined to rob, assault, or murder someone. It does negate a law abiding citizen's capabilities to defend themselves. Gun owners in Hawaii aren't the individuals committing these crimes, but are the only ones suffering from the introduction of these unconstitutional regulations.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 4:02:36 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason acosta	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, im wiring to oppose bill SB308 expanding the ban on pistol magazine with over 10 round capacity to any firearm with detachable magaine. i believe this is an infringement on our rights. Statistics have also shown places that have limited their magazine capacity, crime rates have not gone down. Mahalo for your time and understanding.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 4:56:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Timothy Miyao	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Senate Judiciary Committee,

Please oppose SB308.

Mahalo!

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 5:53:28 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Korben Yonting	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it simply unconstitutionally infringes on my 2nd amendment right as an American. As a newly started gun owner and aspiring gun enthusiast I've met a whole community of responsible gun owners that educate not only themselves but their communities, families, and friends about safe practices for proper gun ownership.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:25:53 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steven T Takekoshi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chairman Elefante:

SB 308 prohibits possession of magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds, expanding upon the current restrictions on magazines “designed for or capable of use with a pistol”. The advocates of gun controllabel these magazines as “large” or “high capacity;” however, these magazines are standard equipment designed for commonly owned firearms that many Americans legally and effectively use for an entire range of legitimate purposes, such as self-defense, recreation, or competition.

Arguements that this legislation will make Hawaii safer is false. Historical evidence clearly shows that magazine bans do absolutely nothing to combat crime and actually make communities less safe by putting citizens at a disadvantage to criminals. The Federal “assault weapon ban” of 1994-2004 contained a similar provision banning “large” magazines and the congressionally mandated study of the ban by the Urban Institute found that the ban had no impact on crime. In fact, murder rates were 19.3% higher when the ban was in effect. Their argument holds no water.

Furthermore, SB 308 would constitute a clear violation of the Hawaiian citizenry’s Second Amendment rights. Law-abiding citizens have the right to defend themselves and their loved ones using whatever equipment they find most effective. Magazines with a capacity higher than 10 or 15 rounds are in common use and have a clear self-defense purpose and should therefore be covered under the standard defined by the Supreme Court in *District of Colombia vs. Heller*. Please do not further this bill and expose the taxpayers to costly litigation to pursue a pet project or secure funding from a lobbyist of PAC, simply uphold your duty to defend the Constitutions of bith Hawaii and our great United States.

SB 308 provides no public safety benefit and will do nothing more than strip law-abiding citizens of their ability to use effective equipment in self-defense. This misguided bill has the potential to draw funds needed for other priorities here in Hawaii like affordable living, education, and others to defend losing legal battles with our tax dollars.

Thank you.

Very respectfully,

Steve Takekoshi

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:28:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it chips away at the 2nd amendment. Also, in a time when we could be invaded by other countries or terrorists, we should not be limited as to what kind of defense we should be allowed to have for self defense.

I urge you to vote "NO" on this bill.

Thank you.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 7:23:28 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James A Stanley	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Restricting detachable magazines in excess of 10 rds is an unnecessary restriction for pistols and for rifles. I do not feel that the research supporting this bill is unbiased.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 7:56:06 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Seth Proctor	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I do not support this bill as it negatively affects those that use standard capacity magazines in competition.

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:32:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne Kamau	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308 SD1. Mahalo.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 8:51:50 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

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

As a concerned citizen and advocate for individual liberties, I strongly oppose the provisions in SB308 that seek to expand the ban on pistols with detachable magazines of over ten rounds to include all firearms with such magazines. This bill **infringes on the fundamental right to self-defense, a right enshrined in the United States Constitution**, and fails to address the root causes of violence in our society.

The right to bear arms is a core principle of a free society. The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution explicitly protects the right of the people to keep and bear arms, and this includes the right to possess firearms with magazines that suit an individual's needs for self-defense. **Limiting magazine capacity effectively reduces an individual's ability to defend themselves, particularly in situations where they may be facing multiple attackers or in life-threatening emergencies.** It is not the government's role to dictate or limit how an individual may defend themselves.

While proponents of the bill argue that magazine restrictions are a reasonable safety measure, the reality is that **law-abiding citizens who follow the law will be disproportionately impacted.** Criminals, by contrast, will continue to access high-capacity magazines through illegal means, rendering the law ineffective in addressing crime. **Limiting magazine capacity punishes responsible gun owners rather than preventing the actions of those who would misuse firearms.**

There is no credible evidence to suggest that restricting magazine capacity will significantly reduce crime or mass shootings. Studies from both criminologists and law enforcement agencies have shown that restrictions on magazine size do not directly correlate with lower rates of violent crime or mass shootings. In fact, many high-profile mass shootings have been carried out with firearms that had magazines with fewer than ten rounds.

Supporters of the bill might argue that limiting magazine capacity reduces the potential for mass casualties by forcing a shooter to reload more often. However, this overlooks the fact that the vast majority of firearm owners use large-capacity magazines responsibly. **The goal should be to address the causes of violence—such as mental health issues and criminal behavior—rather than imposing arbitrary restrictions on lawful firearms ownership.** Magazine

restrictions do not address the root causes of gun violence and will have little impact on reducing overall crime rates.

SB308 represents an overreach of government authority into the lives of law-abiding citizens. It seeks to criminalize the possession of magazines that are entirely legal and constitutionally protected under the Second Amendment. Furthermore, this bill **disregards the principle of due process by penalizing individuals who legally acquired their magazines under existing laws**. By imposing retrospective restrictions on previously legal items, the bill creates uncertainty and undermines trust in the legal system.

This kind of legislation sets a **dangerous precedent for further encroachments** on personal freedoms. If the government can restrict or confiscate legally purchased property—such as detachable magazines—what’s next? The imposition of arbitrary restrictions on other forms of property or rights is a troubling prospect for any free society. Protecting the integrity of individual rights requires that we be vigilant against such erosion of freedoms, no matter how well-intentioned.

While SB308 may seem like a narrow regulation, it could easily be the first step toward broader, more intrusive gun control measures. We have seen throughout history how the gradual imposition of restrictions on rights can snowball into widespread government control. For example, in places like California, small regulatory changes have led to the complete dismantling of individual gun rights over time. What starts as a restriction on magazine capacity today could easily expand to restrictions on firearm types, ownership, and other aspects of personal liberty tomorrow.

A government that controls the capacity of magazines can also control the types of firearms one may own, the types of ammunition one can purchase, and many other aspects of an individual’s rights. This slippery slope undermines the foundational principles of freedom and self-determination that our country was built upon.

While many proponents of SB308 claim that magazine restrictions will reduce crime, the evidence supporting this assertion is weak. Research on magazine capacity bans, such as the 1994 Federal Assault Weapons Ban, shows little to no effect on overall crime rates or mass shooting fatalities. Moreover, the laws have proven difficult to enforce, disproportionately affecting law-abiding gun owners without addressing the root causes of gun violence.

Instead of focusing on magazine restrictions, **we should look to effective policies that tackle the underlying causes of violence, such as better mental health care, stricter enforcement of existing laws, and community-based prevention programs**. These approaches have shown far more promise in reducing crime and improving safety than laws that target legal, responsible gun ownership.

I urge the legislature to reject SB308 and focus on more effective solutions that respect the rights of all citizens.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,
Nicholas Zehr

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:33:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Willy Colt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Legislators,

Senate Bill 308 is aimed at lawful citizens who own guns for sports, hunting, collecting, and self-defense. The majority of their weapons, as described in this bill, would be considered unlawful as they were acquired previously.

Senate Bill 308 will not promote public safety. Criminals do not follow the law.

Vote no to SB308.

Mahalo,

Willy Colt

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:11:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
chris p pang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I oppose SB 308 because the good citizens should be able to carry large capacity magazines. Lets face it crime is bad and the law abiding citizens have to fend for themselves the police department doesn't have enough police and the democrats have been weak on crime. Our own mayor said that we need to take back our streets he may have back paddled but what first came out of his mouth is the truth and what he really felt, he knows himself that crime is bad and citizens need to start protection themselves. Please drop this kind of non sense laws and make laws that make sense, it seems like whoever writes these laws are just writing to kill time so they feel justified of using taxpayer's money to write something that makes no sense. We need someone like Trump to clean up the corruption.

Thank you,

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:44:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lesha Mathes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Another bill that infringes on the 2nd amendment. This needs to stop. This is offensive to law abiding gun owning citizens and future gun owners.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:57:35 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nelson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it infringes on our second amendment rights.

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2025 1:03:45 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle R Stefanik	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB308 as it violates the Second Amendment's right to bear arms. Prohibiting law-abiding citizens from being able to bear arms will not affect the criminals who don't abide by laws. Law-abiding citizens have a right to bear arms. They should not have their rights infringed upon because the Second Amendment does not say citizens can only bear certain kinds of guns or ammunition. You can't just add what you want to the Second Amendment. I urge you to vote NO!

LATE

SB-308-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2025 8:06:37 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/27/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph Alivero	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB301 is an overreach that punishes lawful gun owners rather than addressing crime. By banning detachable magazines over ten rounds for all firearms, it restricts hunters, sport shooters, and citizens defending themselves, forcing them to modify or surrender legally owned property without evidence that such limits reduce violence. Criminals, who ignore regulations, won't be deterred by this. A quick look at Chicago will prove this. Studies, like the 2004 Koper and Roth analysis of the federal assault weapons ban, found no clear link between magazine capacity limits and reduced gun crime. This feels like a solution in search of a problem, eroding rights without delivering safety. Focus should stay on enforcing current laws, not piling on symbolic restrictions. This is another erosion attempt on the second amendment.