

JAN 23 2026

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO FIREARMS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State's gun  
2 buyback program offers residents a safe way to dispose of  
3 unwanted or unlawful firearms, including automatic firearms,  
4 semi-automatic rifles, and unregistered "ghost guns". The  
5 program offers participants up to \$200 in Foodland Farms gift  
6 cards in exchange for each firearm and allows the firearm owner  
7 to remain anonymous. The program's goal is to allow law  
8 enforcement officers to properly dispose of the weapons and to  
9 reduce the number of firearms in the State that could be used  
10 for criminal activities. In April 2025, a gun buyback event on  
11 the island of Oahu collected an estimated three hundred  
12 sixty-seven firearms of all types, in exchange for \$37,900 in  
13 Foodland Farms gift cards, distributed by the department of law  
14 enforcement. In August 2025, the Honolulu police department, in  
15 partnership with the department of law enforcement, collected  
16 eighty-three firearms, including five unregistered ghost guns  
17 and eleven replica guns, and distributed seventy-nine gift cards



1 valued at \$100 each. The program also offers free gun locks to  
2 help support the safe storage of guns in the home. The  
3 legislature believes that the gun buyback program helps reduce  
4 firearms-related assaults and suicides, and gun-related  
5 accidents involving children.

6 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate  
7 moneys to the department of law enforcement for the State's gun  
8 buyback program, including at least two gun buyback events in  
9 each county.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 to support  
13 the State's gun buyback program, including at least two gun  
14 buyback events in each county.

15 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
16 law enforcement for the purposes of this Act.

17 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

18  
INTRODUCED BY:

  
By Request



# S.B. NO. 2503

**Report Title:**

Hawaii State Association of Counties Package; Firearms; Buyback;  
Department of Law Enforcement; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates moneys to support the State's gun buyback program,  
including at least two gun buyback events in each county.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

