
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that, for the past two
2 hundred years, the State's public has had an expectation of
3 entering private restaurants and places of business without
4 encountering lethal firearms or large knives. However, the
5 United States Supreme Court case of *New York State Rifle &*
6 *Pistol Ass'n, Inc. v. Bruen*, 142 S.Ct. 2111, 2133 (2022) changed
7 this expectation, which has made life more dangerous for the
8 State's residents by allowing lethal firearms and large knives
9 in many places where there was previously no expectation they
10 would be encountered by the public.

11 The legislature believes that to ensure public safety, the
12 public should be given notice whether they might encounter
13 lethal and dangerous weapons in places open to the public.

14 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

15 (1) Require businesses or restaurants open to the public
16 to post a color-coded placard indicating whether the



1 business or restaurant allows firearms or large knives
2 to be brought onto the premises; and
3 (2) Require the department of law enforcement to provide
4 businesses and restaurants with free and easily
5 downloadable placards.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 134, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
8 and to read as follows:

9 "§134- Placarding; notice of property owner's permission
10 to carry firearms or large knives at businesses or restaurants
11 open to the public. (a) Any business or restaurant open to the
12 public shall post a color-coded placard indicating whether the
13 business or restaurant allows firearms or large knives to be
14 brought onto the premises. The placard shall be posted in a
15 location clearly visible to the general public and patrons
16 entering the business or restaurant.

17 (b) The placard shall not be defaced, marred, camouflaged,
18 hidden, or removed. It shall be unlawful to operate a business
19 or restaurant unless the placard is posted in accordance with
20 this section.



1 (c) By January 1, 2027, the department of law enforcement
2 shall provide businesses and restaurants with free and easily
3 downloadable placards. The placards shall be color-coded as
4 follows:

5 (1) A green placard shall indicate that the business or
6 restaurant does not allow firearms or large knives to
7 be brought onto the premises;
8 (2) A yellow placard shall indicate that the business or
9 restaurant allows either firearms or large knives to
10 be brought onto the premises, but not both; and
11 (3) A red placard shall indicate that the business or
12 restaurant allows firearms and large knives to be
13 brought onto the premises.

14 (d) For the purposes of this section:

15 "Business" has the same meaning as defined in section
16 328J-1.

17 "Large knife" means a knife with a blade more
18 than inches in length.

19 "Open to the public" means enclosed or partially enclosed
20 areas to which the public is invited or permitted and areas
21 within any building available for use by or accessible to the



1 general public during the normal course of business conducted
2 therein by private entities, including educational facilities,
3 financial institutions, health care facilities, hotel and motel
4 lobbies, lanais, laundromats, reception areas, restaurants,
5 retail food production and marketing establishments, retail
6 service establishments, retail stores, shopping malls, sports
7 arenas, theaters, and waiting rooms, but does not include a
8 private residence unless it is used as a child care, adult day
9 care, or health care facility.

10 "Restaurant" has the same meaning as defined in section
11 328J-1."

12 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
13 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
14 begun before its effective date.

15 SECTION 4. If any provision of this Act, or the
16 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held
17 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
18 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the
19 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions
20 of this Act are severable.

21 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2027.

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INTRODUCED BY: 



S.B. NO. 3041

Report Title:

DLE; Firearms; Large Knives; Placards; Businesses; Restaurants;
Open to the Public; Notice; Requirement

Description:

Requires businesses or restaurants open to the public to post a color-coded placard indicating whether the business or restaurant allows firearms or large knives to be brought onto the premises. By January 1, 2027, requires the Department of Law Enforcement to provide businesses and restaurants with free and easily downloadable placards. Effective 1/1/2027.

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