

The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i
Ka 'Oihana Ho'okolokolo, Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i

Testimony to the Thirty-Third Legislature, 2026 Regular Session

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 10:15 a.m.
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 211

by

Dyan M. Medeiros
Senior Judge, Deputy Chief Judge
Luna Kānāwai 'Ohana Nui
Family Court of the First Circuit
'Aha Ho'okolokolo 'Ohana o ke Ka'apuni 'Ekahi

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 2062, H.D. 1, S.D. 1 Relating to Gun Violence Prevention.

Purpose: Appropriates funds to the Judiciary for the efficient processing of temporary restraining orders and gun violence protective orders. Appropriates funds to the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct public awareness campaigns on gun violence protective orders. Effective 7/1/2055. (SD1)

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary takes no position on House Bill No. 2062, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and thanks the House Committee on Finance for passing the House Draft 1 version which incorporates our suggested amendment clarifying that the purpose of the Judiciary appropriation is to support the



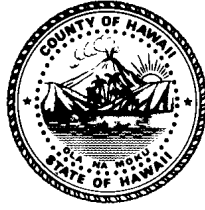
House Bill No. 2062, H.D. 1, S.D. 1 Relating to Gun Violence Prevention
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 10:15 a.m.
Page 2

efficient processing of temporary restraining orders and gun violence protective orders, rather than the enforcement of such orders.

In light of statewide budgetary constraints, the Judiciary has determined that it does not require additional appropriations at this time to effectuate the intent of this measure. We appreciate the Legislature's consideration in proposing this funding and will continue to monitor the impact of the public awareness campaigns to be undertaken by law enforcement under this bill on Judiciary operations. Should the need arise in the future for increased staffing or administrative resources, the Judiciary will take appropriate action at that time.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Jennifer Kagiwada
Council Member District 2 South Hilo



Office: (808) 961-8272
jennifer.kagiwada@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL - DISTRICT 2

25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

DATE: April 7th, 2026
TO: Senate Committee on Ways and Means & Judiciary
FROM: Jennifer Kagiwada, Council Member
Council District 2
SUBJECT: HB 2062 HD1 SD1

Aloha Chair(s) Dela Cruz and Rhoads, Vice Chair(s) Moriwaki and Gabbard, and esteemed Committee Members,

I am writing in **strong support of HB2062**. Law is only effective if people understand it, know how to access it, and are able to use it. Setting aside funds for the judiciary and supporting public awareness efforts are essential to strengthening our infrastructure around prevention.

Hawai'i already has the laws necessary to protect our communities, but without adequate resources, even well-designed laws cannot function as intended. Investing in education, outreach, and the proper enforcement of existing protecting is essential to safeguarding families and strengthening community safety across our State.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenn Kagiwada".

Jenn Kagiwada

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 10:04:45 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Heather Kimball	Testifying for Hawaii County Council D1	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

RE: STRONG SUPPORT – H.B. 2062 – Relating to Gun Violence Prevention

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of H.B. 2062, which appropriates funding to the Judiciary and the Department of Law Enforcement to strengthen implementation of Hawai‘i’s Gun Violence Protective Order (GVPO) law and expand community education and outreach.

As a Hawai‘i County Council Member and former Chair of the Council, I have seen firsthand that counties are where public safety policy becomes practice. Our police officers, court staff, and community partners are the ones responding to crisis situations, working with families, and intervening before harm occurs. When the State creates important tools like the GVPO process, it is essential that counties have the staffing, training, and resources to make those tools effective.

H.B. 2062 recognizes this reality. The bill provides funding to the Judiciary to support enforcement and processing of protective orders and to the Department of Law Enforcement for public awareness and community-based intervention initiatives . These investments are practical and preventative. They help ensure that when someone is in crisis whether due to mental health challenges, domestic violence, or escalating threats families and officers have a clear, timely pathway to temporarily remove access to firearms and connect people to appropriate supports.

In rural districts like Hāmākua, access to services can be limited and response times long. Prevention matters even more. Education about GVPOs, responsible gun ownership, and available resources empowers residents to act early, before situations escalate into tragedy. This approach protects both individual rights and community safety.

As Past President of the Hawai‘i State Association of Counties, I also want to express appreciation for the collaborative, county–state partnership reflected in this legislative package. Gun violence prevention requires coordination across all levels of government, and this measure provides the operational capacity needed for that coordination to succeed.

Hawai‘i has long been recognized for having some of the strongest gun safety laws in the nation. H.B. 2062 ensures those laws are fully implemented and accessible to the communities they are meant to protect.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this important measure.

With appreciation,

Heather Kimball
Council Member, District 1
Hawai'i County Council

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 5:44:14 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steven Sullam	Testifying for Indivisible Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- There was an immediate rise in gun deaths after the Supreme Court of the United State struck down Hawaii's restriction on concealed carry.
- Hawaii has some of the nation’s strongest firearm laws, but since the passage of the GVPO law, **the state has seen an increase in firearm suicides**. Evidence shows that temporarily removing guns from people in crisis can reduce the risk of firearm suicide.
- As part of an effort to drive down firearm suicides, the state of Hawaii should dedicate resources to make sure law enforcement, courts, and the public know about the GVPO law and have the training to use it effectively.
- **These laws can also be utilized if someone is determined to be a danger to others - in other states these laws have been used to avert violence against others.** I’m sure we can all think of well publicized cases here in HI that could have been averted if this law was used.
- A multistate study found that one suicide was averted for every 17 ERPOs issued.
- After Connecticut increased its enforcement of its Extreme Risk law, one study found the law to be associated with a 14 percent reduction in the state’s firearm suicide rate.
- Steven A. Sullam



www.AlohaILHawaii.org

Apr 8, 2026

MISSION

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) dedicated to providing independent living programs and services for persons with disabilities in Hawaii.

We work together with the community and consumers to improve the quality of life through individual choices and access to services.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Roxanne U. Bolden

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair / Sec

Valerie Yamada

Vice Chair

Zora Shove

Treasurer

Jonathan Yap

Member

Scott Suzuki
Sheila Castaneda
Jennifer Hartssock

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary
The Thirty-Third Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

SUBJECT: HB2062 HD1 SD1 – Relating to Gun Violence Prevention

Chairs and Members of the Committees:

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) respectfully submits testimony in **support of HB2062 HD1 SD1**. AILH is a statewide Center for Independent Living serving rural Oahu and all neighbor islands. We are a cross-disability, consumer-controlled organization that supports disabled people to live in the community with the services and supports they need to remain independent.

HB2062 HD1 SD1 would appropriate funds to the Judiciary for staffing and administrative costs to support efficient processing of temporary restraining orders and gun violence protective orders under Hawaii's existing gun violence protective order law, and to the Department of Law Enforcement for community-based gun violence intervention initiatives and public awareness campaigns about gun violence protective orders. These investments respond to the Legislature's findings that, although Hawaii has relatively strong gun safety laws, the State is not immune to rising gun violence, including suicides and homicides, and that Act 150's protective order framework will be more effective if residents understand how to use it and courts have sufficient capacity to process petitions.

From an Independent Living perspective, this bill matters because disabled people are often at heightened risk in the context of gun violence—both as



www.AlohaILHawaii.org

MISSION

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) dedicated to providing independent living programs and services for persons with disabilities in Hawaii.

We work together with the community and consumers to improve the quality of life through individual choices and access to services.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Roxanne U. Bolden

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair / Sec

Valerie Yamada

Vice Chair

Zora Shove

Treasurer

Jonathan Yap

Member

Scott Suzuki
Sheila Castaneda
Jennifer Hartsock

potential victims and in relation to suicide, domestic violence, or community violence. Many AILH consumers live with mental health disabilities, chronic health conditions, or other disabilities that can intersect with crisis situations. Well-designed public awareness campaigns and community-based intervention initiatives can help families, providers, and community members recognize warning signs and use existing gun violence protective orders proactively, before a situation escalates into tragedy.

Funding the Judiciary to process protective orders and related temporary restraining orders more efficiently also supports access to justice for people across the islands. Long delays or complex processes can be particularly hard on disabled petitioners or respondents who may face communication barriers, transportation challenges, or difficulty navigating the court system. Adequate staffing and clear procedures can help ensure that protective orders are accessible tools that work in practice, not just on paper.

AILH respectfully urges the Committees on Ways and Means and Judiciary to pass HB2602 HD1 SD1 and to ensure that implementation of outreach and training efforts is inclusive of disabled people, culturally responsive, and accessible across rural Oahu and the neighbor islands.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

Mahalo,

Roxanne Bolden

Executive Director

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 11:20:56 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert I Nehmad	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a resident of the State of Hawaii and support Bill HB2062.

Hope that you also support this Bill.

Mahalo

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 11:24:13 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
irene kloepfer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha. Please pass this bill. We need strong laws protecting us from firearms in the hands of anyone but most importantly those who are unstable/threatening/

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 11:27:42 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deborah G. Nehmad	Testifying for Brady Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senators,

Please support this common sense bill to help keep Hawaii's citizens safe from the proliferation of guns in our state. Funding an effort to adequately enforce efforts to temporarily remove firearms from someone who poses at threat to themselves or to others is common sense and should be non controversial

Mahalo for your consideration

Deb Nehmad,

Chapter Lead, BRady Hawaii

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 11:28:12 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

The use of public funds to promote an unconstitutional system that allows individuals to be stripped of a constitutional right before a full evidentiary hearing raises serious concerns.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 11:45:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashley de Coligny	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a resident of Oahu and I'm writing in support of this bill for these reasons:

- Hawaii has some of the nation's strongest firearm laws, but since the passage of the GVPO law, **the state has seen an increase in firearm suicides**. Evidence shows that temporarily removing guns from people in crisis can reduce the risk of firearm suicide.

- As part of an effort to drive down firearm suicides, the state of Hawaii should dedicate resources to make sure law enforcement, courts, and the public know about the GVPO law and have the training to use it effectively.

- These laws can also be utilized if someone is determined to be a danger to others; in other states these laws have been used to avert violence against others.

- A multistate study found that one suicide was averted for every 17 ERPOs issued.

- After Connecticut increased the enforcement of its Extreme Risk law, one study found the law to be associated with a 14 percent reduction in the state's firearm suicide rate.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 11:55:29 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mimi Beams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a critical step in gun safety. Please support.

thank you.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 11:55:34 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I stand in OPPOSITION to this bill as currently written, as Red Flag Orders, also known as Gun Violence Protection Orders, are flawed and they quite often violate the 5th Amendment of the Constitution. Such Orders are in essence Trails in Absentia without a chance for the subject of the order to counter accusations made against them in a court of law and face their accuser. Red Flag Orders are often used maliciously and have gotten people killed over them.

One example was after a heated political debate between a Niece and her Uncle during a holiday dinner. The Niece then filed a GVPO against her uncle, making false claims of her Uncle mentally unstable and likely to hurt himself. After a Judge issued the GVPO, Local Law Enforcement showed up banging at his door with a SWAT team in the early morning hours without properly announcing themselves. When the Uncle answered the door armed with a firearm in hand, he was gunned down by police. This was all over a dinner argument between a Conservative and a Liberal.

GVPOs, while well meaning, are too easily abused. There are other ways for credible threats to be handled through legal means and less onerous means that do not violate due process. I also question why we need an ‘awareness campaign’ for not just the public, but police officers. Do we really have to pay to tell people ‘if someone you love is threatening violence with a gun, you can call the police’?

I am thus asking that the funding for an ‘Awareness Campaign’ for GVPOs be removed from the bill.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 12:01:42 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

There is no need to spend additional tax payers money on something that violates the constitution.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 12:23:44 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nadine Ferraro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am fully in support of HB2062

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 12:54:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Ellen Williams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB2062 to educate law enforcement and the public on the Gun Violence Protective Order law in order to increase its use and to save lives.

- Hawaii has some of the nation’s strongest firearm laws, but even since the passage of the GVPO law, **the state has seen an increase in firearm suicides.**
- These laws can also be utilized if someone is determined to be a danger to others.
- A multistate study found that one suicide was averted for every 17 GVPO or ERPO (Extreme Risk Protection Order, another name for GVPO) issued.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 12:55:07 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathleen Keilman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Kathleen Keilman, I live in Kailua and I support this bill.

Thank you!

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 1:11:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

We have all sorts of laws, but all too often missing are the funds and staff to implement them. This bill fills a major hole in our gun laws. Please vote for it.

lynne matusow

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 1:42:16 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the committee,

I am writing in **strong support of HB2062**, which appropriates funds to the Judiciary for the efficient processing of temporary restraining orders and gun violence protective orders, and to the Department of Law Enforcement for public awareness campaigns on gun violence protective orders. This bill is a necessary investment in both public safety and the basic functioning of our courts.

HB2062 ensures that protective orders are processed quickly and effectively. When someone seeks a temporary restraining order or a gun violence protective order, they are often in immediate danger. Delays in processing can have life-or-death consequences. By appropriating funds to the Judiciary, this bill helps ensure that courts have the resources they need to move these cases swiftly, giving survivors the protection they need when they need it.

Public awareness saves lives. The bill also funds public awareness campaigns to educate the community about gun violence protective orders—what they are, how they work, and how to request them. Too many people do not know that these tools exist or how to access them. A informed public is a safer public, and these campaigns are a critical part of making that possible.

Protective orders are only effective if they are enforceable and understood. Funding for the Judiciary ensures orders are processed. Funding for public awareness ensures orders are known. Together, they close the gap between the law on the books and the protection in people's lives.

HB2062 is a practical, targeted investment in keeping families and communities safe. I urge you to pass it.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 3:18:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Legrande	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I continue to support this bill. Thank you, Linda Legrande

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 4:00:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Beth Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB 2062 because while Hawai'i has some of the strongest firearm laws, the state has seen an increase in firearm suicides. Evidence shows temporarily removing guns from people in crisis can reduce the risk of firearm suicides.

Thank you for supporting HB 2062 for these reasons and the fact it will increase law enforcement training to handle these crisis situations related to firearms.

Beth Anderson

Kailua, Hawaii

Dennis M. Dunn
Kailua, HI 96734

TO: **Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair**
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

RE: **H.B. 2062, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, Relating to Gun Violence Prevention**

HEARING: **Wednesday, April 8, 2026, 10:15 a.m.**

Conference Room 211

Good morning, Chairs Dela Cruz and Rhoads and Vice Chairs Moriwaki and Gabbard Lee, and Members of the Senate Committees on Ways and Means and Judiciary. I am providing testimony in **Support of H.B. 2062, H.D. 1., S.D. 1**. This Bill proposes an appropriation for the Judiciary to help underwrite the costs for an anticipated increase in the usage of Gun Violence Protective Orders (GVPO) that are projected to occur in connection with educational efforts by the State Department of Law Enforcement promoting the use of GVPOs through another appropriation to DLE for that purpose also incorporated into the Bill. GVPOs are an effective tool to quickly remove firearms from the possession of individuals determined by a judge to be an imminent danger to themselves or others. While this important violence prevention tool has been available since 2019 its usage has been very limited due primarily to the lack of awareness by the public. This is indeed unfortunate in the face of an increasing number of gun violence incidents in Hawai'i including a disturbing increase in the number of gun related suicides. There is clear evidence from other states in which GVPOs are more extensively used that they can effectively help to prevent gun deaths and injuries. As has been said so many times, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. H.B. 2062, H.D. 1, S.D. 1 represents a significant and worthwhile investment in violence prevention in Hawai'i that would hopefully pay big dividends in saved lives.

I strongly urge the members of these Committees to **support H.B 2062, H.D. 1, S.D 1 as a concrete contribution to reducing gun violence in our state.** Thank you for your time and consideration.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 5:10:05 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terriann Mohideen	Testifying for Hawaii Chapter Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Dela Cruz and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Moriwaki and Gabbard, and Members of the Committees~

I live here and I urge you to support this bill. We already have a law on the books that could help prevent firearm suicides here in our local communities as well as stop someone who is a known danger to others from killing our loved ones with a gun. The problem is, not enough people know about it! The information is hard to find online and law enforcement lacks the funds to train their staff on it. Let's get the word out. That's what this bill would do.

If someone owned a firearm and was threatening to shoot up my child or grandchild's school here or their workplace, or a neighbor was threatening other neighbors with a firearm, I would want something to be done about that AHEAD of time, BEFORE the tragic loss of life happens. Plus, if people are going to put our brave law enforcement officers in danger and others know about that ahead of time, I would want our police protected too. This is a law that is already in place. We are just asking to get the word out, to let people know how to use it if needed, to save lives here in our local communities.

Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 5:58:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erica Yamauchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of this bill. Hawai'i already has a Gun Violence Protective Order law that allows law enforcement or family members to petition a court to temporarily remove firearms from someone who poses a danger to themselves or others. However, this law is currently underutilized. **HB2062** provides the funding needed to educate both law enforcement and the public so this existing law can be used effectively to save lives.

Mahalo for your support of this measure.

Erica Yamauchi

Wilhelmina Rise/Kaimukī

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 6:20:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Ball	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the members of the Committee,

I strongly support this legislation to combat the epidemic of gun violence in our communities.

With aloha,

David Ball

Waialae-Kahala

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 6:40:01 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brodie Lockard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 7:08:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
john savino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Support HB2062 - gun violence protective orders !

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 7:59:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kanani Kai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly Support HB2062.

- **Hawaii has some of the nation’s strongest firearm laws, but since the passage of the GVPO law, the state has seen an increase in firearm suicides. Evidence shows that temporarily removing guns from people in crisis can reduce the risk of firearm suicide.**
- **As part of an effort to drive down firearm suicides, the state of Hawaii should dedicate resources to make sure law enforcement, courts, and the public know about the GVPO law and have the training to use it effectively.**
- **These laws can also be utilized if someone is determined to be a danger to others - in other states these laws have been used to avert violence against others. I’m sure we can all think of well publicized cases here in HI that could have been averted if this law was used.**
- **A multistate study found that one suicide was averted for every 17 ERPOs issued.**
- **After Connecticut increased its enforcement of its Extreme Risk law, one study found the law to be associated with a 14 percent reduction in the state’s firearm suicide rate.**

Mahalo,

Kanani Kai

Member Indivisible Hawaii

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 8:26:25 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
carol bodnar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Carol B. I live in waikiki and I support this bill.

t

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 8:34:17 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lily Troy MD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Support HB2062 - gun violence protective orders

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 8:43:16 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tammy M DeBernardi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii has some of the nation’s strongest firearm laws, but since the passage of the GVPO law, the state has seen an increase in firearm suicides. Evidence shows that temporarily removing guns from people in crisis can reduce the risk of firearm suicide.

As part of an effort to drive down firearm suicides, the state of Hawaii should dedicate resources to make sure law enforcement, courts, and the public know about the GVPO law and have the training to use it effectively.

These laws can also be utilized if someone is determined to be a danger to others - in other states these laws have been used to avert violence against others. I’m sure we can all think of well publicized cases here in HI that could have been averted if this law was used.

A multistate study found that one suicide was averted for every 17 ERPOs issued.

After Connecticut increased its enforcement of its Extreme Risk law, one study found the law to be associated with a 14 percent reduction in the state’s firearm suicide rate.

Mahalo, Tammy DeBernardi
Ocean View, Ka'u

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:19:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Allegra Giacchino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please join me in supporting HB2062 to help prevent firearm suicide and homicide in Hawaii. The state has seen an increase in firearm suicides and gun violence. Although a Gun Violence Protective Order law was enacted in 2019, it is terribly underutilized. The public is quite unaware of this law as there was never a public awareness campaign that went along with it. This bill would fund that much needed public awareness campaign and save lives.

Thank you,

Allegra Giacchino, MSW

96816

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:26:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elba Reyes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I understand Hawai'i already has a Gun Violence Protective Order law that allows law enforcement or family members to petition a court to temporarily remove firearms from someone who poses a danger to themselves or others. However, this law is currently underutilized. HB2062 provides the funding needed to educate both law enforcement and the public so this existing law can be used effectively to save lives. Please pass this bill to help stop suicide by guns.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:31:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aimee E McCullough	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support of HB2062

Hawaii has some of the nation’s strongest firearm laws, but since the passage of the GVPO law, the state has seen an increase in firearm suicides. Evidence shows that temporarily removing guns from people in crisis can reduce the risk of firearm suicide.

As part of an effort to drive down firearm suicides, the state of Hawaii should dedicate resources to make sure law enforcement, courts, and the public know about the GVPO law and have the training to use it effectively.

Thank you,

Aimee M

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:41:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy D Moser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

in support

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:41:22 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
April Ching	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is April Ching. I live in Manoa, and I support this bill. Awareness is everything when it comes to ERPO orders that help keep firearms out of the hands of those at risk of hurting themselves or others. Please pass and fund this bill. Mahalo.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:49:49 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim Huycke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

In my 34 years proudly serving as a police officer, I never responded to a call in which a firearm in the hands of a civilian helped a situation. However, I responded to hundreds of calls in which a firearm made the situation worse. Therefore, I support anything that helps prevent gun violence, such as this bill.

Gun violence protection orders have the potential to prevent gun violence. Citizens need to be made aware that such orders exist and police officers need to be trained how to enforce such orders.

I very strongly support this bill and hope you do too. Mahalo.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:50:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jesse Hutchison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm writing in strong support. Thank you!

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:58:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leah McRae	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Leah McRae and I am a registered voter living in Waipahu. I support this bill.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 10:09:00 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Trombley	Testifying for Gifford's Gun Owners for Safety	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairman, Vice Chair, and Committee members,

My name is Susan Trombley. I live in Kapolei. I am a gun owner. I am the mother of a school shooting survivor. I am a retired teacher who had a student in my 8th grade classroom with a gun. I am a domestic violence survivor.

I support legislation for the enforcement of gun violence protective orders to increase safety for all of us.

I support legislation to conduct public awareness campaigns on gun violence protective orders. Education is essential for safety.

Protecting victims of gun violence is necessary for the safety of all of us.

According to Giffords Gun Owners for Safety research,

- * In the United States, more than 125 people die every day from gun violence.**
- * 25 million US adults have been threatened or nonfatally injured by an intimate partner with a firearm.**
- * Gun violence is the leading cause of death among all children in the US.**
- * Access to a gun makes it five times more likely that a woman will be killed by an abusive intimate partner.**

I urge you to continue to keep our community safe.

Support HB2062. Mahalo.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 5:49:36 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Younghee Overly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to support HB2062 HD1 SD1 which would appropriate funds for the awareness campaign on gun violence protective orders.

Younghee Overly, a member of Indivisible Hawaii

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 6:52:43 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elna Nagasako	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members:

I am testifying in support of HB2062.

Firearm suicide deaths are a major component of deaths due to firearms in Hawai'i. Gun violence protective orders (GVPO) are increasingly recognized as having a role in suicide prevention; however, many community members, including professionals in various fields, are not aware of Hawai'i's existing GVPO law or are unsure when and how to use GVPOs. This bill would close this important gap to ensure that our community is aware of how to appropriately use these potentially life-saving tools.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Elna Nagasako, MD, PhD, MPH
Makiki

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 7:01:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane Aquino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- **Hawaii has some of the nation’s strongest firearm laws, but since the passage of the GVPO law, the state has seen an increase in firearm suicides. Evidence shows that temporarily removing guns from people in crisis can reduce the risk of firearm suicide.**
- **As part of an effort to drive down firearm suicides, the state of Hawaii should dedicate resources to make sure law enforcement, courts, and the public know about the GVPO law and have the training to use it effectively.**
- **These laws can also be utilized if someone is determined to be a danger to others - in other states these laws have been used to avert violence against others. I’m sure we can all think of well publicized cases here in HI that could have been averted if this law was used.**
- **A multistate study found that one suicide was averted for every 17 ERPOs issued.**
- **After Connecticut increased its enforcement of its Extreme Risk law, one study found the law to be associated with a 14 percent reduction in the state’s firearm suicide rate.**
- **Thank you, Jane Aquino, Indivisible**

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 7:04:46 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James E Raymond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you. I am a member of Indivisible Windward

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 7:13:11 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yvette Kay	Testifying for Kona Indivisible	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, My name is Yvette Kay and I am a resident of Kailua Kona in Hawai'i County. I am on the leadership team for Kona Indivisible and run the protest arm of Kona Indivisible named, Matriarchy Rising. I support this bill.

yvettekay_99@yahoo.com

96740

415-706-9638

- Hawai'i has some of the nation's strongest firearm laws, but since the passage of the GVPO law, the state has seen an increase in firearm suicides. Evidence shows that temporarily removing guns from people in crisis can reduce the risk of firearm suicide.
- As part of an effort to drive down firearm suicides, the state of Hawai'i should dedicate resources to make sure law enforcement, courts, and the public know about the GVPO law and have the training to use it effectively.
- These laws can also be utilized if someone is determined to be a danger to others - in other states these laws have been used to avert violence against others. I'm sure we can all think of well publicized cases here in Hawai'i that could have been averted if this law was used.
- A multistate study found that one suicide was averted for every 17 ERPOs issued.
- After Connecticut increased its enforcement of its Extreme Risk law, one study found the law to be associated with a 14 percent reduction in the state's firearm suicide rate.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 7:50:40 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Monty Clark	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of HB2062. Anthing we can do to limit the use of firearms in pursuit of violent or deadly actions should be adopted.

Monty Clark

Hawaii Kai

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 8:06:08 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Cuthbert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HD 2062 HD1 SD1

I submit testimony is strong support of HD 2062 HD1 SD1. Hawaii has some of the nation’s strongest firearm laws yet since the passage of the GVPO (Gun Violence Protective Order) law, which went into effect in January 2020, the state has seen an increase in firearm suicides. The reason for this lack of efficacy has been attributed to GVPOs being used only 13 times in the six years the law has been in effect. Note that the Honolulu Police Department has never filed a GVPO and as of last year had not trained all officers on how and when to use GVPOSs.

Evidence shows that temporarily removing guns from people in crisis can reduce the risk of firearm suicide. As part of an effort to drive down firearm suicides, the state of Hawaii needs to dedicate resources to make sure law enforcement, courts, and the public know about the GVPO law and have the training to use it effectively.

These laws can also be utilized if someone is determined to be a danger to others — in other states, these laws have been used to avert violence against others. I’m sure we can all think of well publicized cases here in HI that could have been averted if this law was used. A multistage study found that one suicide was averted for every 17 ERPs issued.

After Connecticut increased enforcement of its Extreme Risk law, one study found the law to be associated with a 14 percent reduction in the state’s firearm suicide rate. If this holds true for Hawaii, which has roughly 40 such deaths per year, six lives will be saved every year.

Thank you for taking my testimony

David Cuthbert, Pahoa

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 8:22:22 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
gabrielle davidson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Gabrielle Davidson and I live in Moloa'a, Kauai. I am writing in strong support of HB2062.

Hawaii has some of the nation's strongest firearm laws — yet since the passage of our Gun Violence Protective Order (GVPO) law, the state has actually seen an increase in firearm suicides. This is a troubling trend, and research shows that temporarily removing firearms from people in crisis is one of the most effective ways to reduce that risk.

This law has the potential to save lives — and not only from suicide. In other states, these orders have been used to prevent violence against others. We can all think of devastating cases here in Hawaii that might have turned out differently had this tool been effectively used.

But a law is only as effective as people's awareness of it. Law enforcement, courts, and the public need resources and training to put it to use. HB2062 would provide exactly that investment.

I urge you to pass HB2062 and help our existing law reach its full, life-saving potential.

Mahalo for your time and service.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 8:32:29 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynn Otaguro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 8:46:33 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Kamida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB2062 personally and as a member of Indivisible Hawaii.

My cousin in Florida committed suicide by shooting himself with his deceased father's gun. I don't know anything about the laws there, but it is a tragedy that could have been prevented if loved ones had removed the firearms from his access. Or if they had been reminded of the danger involved when guns are within easy reach of unstable people.

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

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:00:53 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kehaulani Coleman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:14:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

I've been directly affected by gun violence in Hawaii. My best friend, Kristine Cass, and her 13-year-old daughter Sandra, were murdered in Makiki on August 20, 2010. The shooter then used the gun to kill himself. He was struggling with mental illness and if there had been a way to have the firearm removed from his home before this happened, lives could have been saved. I am also a crisis counselor with The Crisis Text Line, a national hotline. I often work with suicidal people and the family members concerned about their welfare. Removal of lethal means is a key tool in helping people stay safe from gun violence. With both experiences, I strongly support this bill.

Dedicating resources to improving awareness about the laws we have in place and adding training make good sense and would be money well-spent.

Lives will be saved by legally removing lethal means when it makes sense to do so. This is strongly supported by research and I've personally seen this work in my crisis work. We can spare individuals, their families and friends, and our communities the lifelong trauma of loss through gun violence, whether it's murder or suicide, and still preserve 2nd Amendment rights.

I urge you to support this bill.

Respectfully,

Linda White

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:21:33 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gail Morrison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an individual and member of indivisible Hawaii, I support HB2062 which would reduce the risk of firearm suicide and avert violence against others.

Mahalo, Gail Morrison, Honolulu

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:27:35 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathy Thomas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Kathy Thomas and I live in Kaneohe and I support this bill.

I urge you to pass HB2062 to strengthen Hawaii's firearm laws. Funding is needed to educate on our existing GunViolence Protective Order Law. Passing this will help reduce the risk of firearm suicides.

Mahalo,

Kathy Thomas

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:38:48 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel Logan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to you in support of HB2062. This law would help provide much needed education about using this a tool/resource. Some other points:

- Hawaii has some of the nation’s strongest firearm laws, but even still, since the passage of the GVPO law (sometimes known as red flag laws), **the state has seen an increase in firearm suicides**. Evidence shows that temporarily removing guns from people in crisis can reduce the risk of firearm suicide.
- As part of an effort to drive down firearm suicides, the state of Hawaii should dedicate resources to make sure law enforcement, courts, and the public know about our GVPO law and have the training to use it effectively.
- **These laws can also be utilized if someone is determined to be a danger to others - in other states these laws have been used to avert violence against others.** I’m sure we can all think of well publicized cases here in HI that could have been averted if this law was used.
- A multistate study found that one suicide was averted for every 17 GVPO or ERPO (Extreme Risk Protection Order, another name for GVPO) issued.
- Mahalo, Rachel Logan

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:58:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christine L. Andrews, J.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As someone who has worked for years in the areas of domestic and sexual violence, I respectfully request your support of this measure.

Mahalo

HB-2062-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 11:28:06 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maya Maxym	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. Mahalo.