
A BILL FOR AN ACT

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 gift cards in
6 exchange for each firearm and allows the firearm owner to remain
7 anonymous. The program's goal is to allow law enforcement
8 officers to properly dispose of the weapons and to reduce the
9 number of firearms in the State that could be used for criminal
10 activities. In April 2025, a gun buyback event on the island of
11 Oahu collected an estimated three hundred sixty-seven firearms
12 of all types, in exchange for \$37,900 in Foodland gift cards,
13 distributed by the department of law enforcement. In August
14 2025, the Honolulu police department, in partnership with the
15 department of law enforcement, collected eighty-three firearms,
16 including five unregistered ghost guns and eleven replica guns,
17 and distributed seventy-nine gift cards valued at \$100 each.



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

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

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

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

16 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



Report Title:

Hawaii State Association of Counties Package; DLE; Firearms;
Buyback; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Department of Law Enforcement to support the State's Gun Buyback Program, including at least two gun buyback events in each county. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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