



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

Testimony to the Thirty-Third Legislature, 2026 Regular Session

House Committee on Finance
Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 308

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, Relating to Gun Violence Prevention.

Purpose: Appropriates funds to the Judiciary for the enforcement of gun violence protective orders. Appropriates funds to the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct public awareness campaigns on gun violence protective orders.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary takes no position on House Bill No. 2062, H.D. 1, and thanks the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs for incorporating our suggested amendment clarifying that the purpose of the Judiciary appropriation is to support the efficient processing of temporary restraining orders and gun violence protective orders, rather than the enforcement of such orders.

Upon further review, and 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



House Bill No. 2062, H.D.1, Relating to Gun Violence Prevention
House Committee on Finance
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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.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



MIKE LAMBERT
Director

ERNEST J. ROBELLO
Deputy Director
Administration

SYLVIA LUKE
LT GOVERNOR
KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

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 HOUSE BILL 2062, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION
Before the House Committee on
FINANCE

Thursday, February 26, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

State Capitol Conference Room 308

Testifiers: Mike Lambert

Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) supports House Bill 2062, House Draft 1. This bill appropriates funds to the Judiciary for the efficient processing of temporary restraining orders (TROs) and gun violence protective orders (GVPOs), and to the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct public awareness campaigns on GVPOs.

Gun violence protective orders are a critical tool in the prevention of gun violence, allowing courts to temporarily restrict access to firearms for individuals who pose a significant danger to themselves or others. The timely and efficient processing of TROs and GVPOs is essential to ensuring that these protective measures are available to those who need them most. Delays in processing can have life-threatening consequences, and the appropriation of funds to the Judiciary for this purpose will help ensure that the courts have the resources necessary to act swiftly and effectively in these critical situations.

The DLE is committed to the safety and well-being of all Hawaii residents. Public awareness of gun violence protective orders is a vital component of any comprehensive strategy to reduce gun violence in our communities. Many individuals who could benefit from these protective orders are unaware of their existence or how to access them. Appropriating funds to the DLE for public awareness campaigns will enable the department to reach out to communities across the State, educate the public about the availability and purpose of GVPOs, and provide guidance on how to seek these protections when needed.

The DLE believes that a well-informed public, combined with an efficient judicial process for issuing protective orders, represents a meaningful and proactive step toward reducing gun violence in Hawaii. These efforts align with the DLE's broader mission to preserve public peace, prevent crime, and protect the rights and safety of all persons in the State.

The DLE looks forward to collaborating with the Judiciary, community organizations, and other stakeholders to implement effective public awareness campaigns and to support the efficient processing of gun violence protective orders throughout the State.

DLE requests that \$500,000 be inserted into the appropriation on page 4, line 16.

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

Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC)

Counties of Kaua'i, Maui, Hawai'i, and City & County of Honolulu

Website: hawaiicounties.org | Email: hsac@hawaiicounties.org



Testimony of the Hawai'i State Association of Counties

HB 2062 HD1 - Support

Relating to Gun Violence Prevention

Committee on Finance

Thursday, February 26, 2026, 2 p.m.

The Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC) is a nonprofit organization representing Hawai'i's four counties: the County of Kaua'i, County of Maui, County of Hawai'i, and the City and County of Honolulu. Its membership consists of the elected members of each county council, who work collectively to advance policies and programs that strengthen county government, improve public safety, and enhance the quality of life for residents throughout the state. Through this collaboration, HSAC ensures that counties are well positioned to address shared challenges and that statewide policies reflect the practical realities faced by county governments, ultimately strengthening our counties.

Counties play a critical role in residents' daily lives by delivering a wide array of essential services, including law enforcement and emergency response, public works and infrastructure, water and wastewater systems, parks and recreation, housing, public health coordination, and community services. Because counties are responsible for implementing and supporting many public safety and social service functions, policies that prevent harm and reduce demand on emergency and social systems are especially impactful at the county level.

HSAC **supports HB 2062 HD1**, which appropriates funds to the Judiciary for the efficient processing of temporary restraining orders and gun violence protective orders (GVPOs), and to the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct public awareness campaigns regarding the availability and use of GVPOs.

Hawai'i enacted its Gun Violence Protective Order law to provide a civil process that allows law enforcement officers and, in certain circumstances, family or household members to petition the court to temporarily remove firearms from individuals who pose a significant risk of harm to themselves or others. However, testimony and reporting have indicated that the law remains underutilized, due in part to limited awareness, training, and administrative capacity.



Ensuring that the Judiciary has adequate resources to process petitions efficiently is essential. When an individual is in crisis, timeliness can mean the difference between prevention and tragedy. Likewise, public education and law enforcement training are necessary to ensure that those who are eligible to seek relief understand when and how to do so. A law that exists but is not understood or effectively implemented cannot achieve its intended protective purpose.

From a county perspective, strengthening the effective use of GVPOs has direct implications for public safety and the delivery of local services. By supporting early intervention tools already authorized under state law, this measure enhances community safety statewide.

HSAC respectfully urges the Committee to support HB 2062 HD1.

Nahelani Parsons, Executive Director.



February 24, 2026

To: COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Chris Todd, Chair
Rep. Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair

Re: SUPPORT of SB 2062 RELATING TO GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Hrg: February 26, 2026 at 2:00PM

The Hawai'i Public Health Association (HPHA) is a group of over 450 community members, public health professionals, and organizations statewide dedicated to improving public health. Our mission is to promote public health in Hawai'i through leadership, collaboration, education and advocacy.

The Hawaii Public Health Association supports SB2062. This measure is important as it protects public health by appropriating funds to the Judiciary for the enforcement of gun violence protective orders, and it appropriates funds to the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct public awareness campaigns on gun violence protective orders.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important public health issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Holly Kessler' in a cursive script.

Holly Kessler
Executive Director

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 9:39:36 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Namiki Roberts	Hawaii Firearms Coalition	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Opposition to HB2062 (HD1)

Submitted by: Hawaii Firearms Coalition

Hawaii Firearms Coalition respectfully submits testimony in strong opposition to HB2062 (HD1).

This measure seeks to dramatically expand funding and infrastructure for the State’s red flag law system, despite the fact that the existing law has seen limited use since its passage. Rather than addressing demonstrable failures or gaps in current statutes, this bill appears to be driven by frustration that more petitions have not been filed. The solution proposed is not improved due process or clearer standards — it is increased spending and active promotion of firearm confiscation procedures.

HB2062 would appropriate taxpayer funds to advertise and encourage the public to utilize red flag petitions. It would also dedicate additional court resources specifically to process these cases. This is concerning. When government begins funding public campaigns designed to encourage citizens to initiate firearm confiscation proceedings against others, it shifts from neutral adjudication to active promotion.

Red flag laws are fundamentally different from other judicial tools. Unlike temporary restraining orders, which are tied to defined disputes and typically involve prompt adversarial hearings, red flag orders allow firearms to be seized first — and only afterward does the owner bear the burden of fighting to restore their rights. In some cases, these orders can be extended or made effectively permanent, resulting in the loss of constitutional rights despite the absence of any criminal conviction.

HB2062 does not reform these due process concerns. Instead, it seeks to expand the scale and funding of the system.

The State of Hawai‘i already has mechanisms in place to address individuals who pose a genuine threat to themselves or others, including criminal statutes, emergency mental health holds, and protective orders. Before expanding a program that removes constitutional rights without a

criminal finding, the Legislature should demand clear evidence of necessity, effectiveness, and constitutional durability.

Public safety is a serious matter. So are constitutional rights.

Hawaii Firearms Coalition urges the Legislature to reject HB2062 (HD1) and instead focus on policies that address violent crime directly, respect due process, and uphold both public safety and the fundamental right to keep and bear arms.

Respectfully submitted,
Hawaii Firearms Coalition

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 11:29:41 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi and members of the Committee,

I live here in Hawaii and I urge you to support this bill. We already have a law on the books that could help prevent firearms 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 even HPD doesn't have 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 like we saw back in the Xerox shooting years ago or a neighbor threatening other neighbors with a firearm (which we have seen horrible cases here), 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, to save lives here in our local communities.

Mahao for your consideration.

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



Testimony of Daniel Sagrera, State Policy Manager, Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence
Support for HB 2062
Before the Hawaii House Finance Committee
February 26, 2026

HB 2062, appropriates funds to the Judiciary for the efficient processing of temporary restraining orders and gun violence protective orders, also known as extreme risk protection orders, or “ERPOs”. It also appropriates funds to the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct public awareness campaigns on gun violence protective orders.

ERPOs are court orders that allow the temporary removal of firearms from individuals at highest risk to themselves or others before tragedy strikes. Extreme risk laws are evidence-based solutions currently enacted in 21 states and Washington D.C. that give law enforcement and the courts an avenue to prevent an individual in crisis from harming themselves or others by temporarily removing guns and prohibiting the purchase of other firearms.¹ These laws effectively target various forms of gun violence we see on a daily basis in the United States, including interpersonal violence, homicides, intimate partner violence, some unintentional shootings, and importantly suicide, the most common type of gun violence. The presence of a gun turns what is frequently an impulsive act—that is usually not repeated if the person survives—into an almost always fatal act. People who choose a firearm over other methods typically do not have the opportunity or ability to summon help or reconsider.

By temporarily removing firearms or making them more difficult to access for individuals in the midst of a crisis, those with suicidal ideation are more likely to survive and get a second chance at life. That second chance is critical: *the vast majority—about 90 percent—of people who make a suicide attempt and survive do not ultimately go on to die by suicide later in life.*² This is why laws like extreme risk protection orders are so important.

¹ The states which have adopted a form of this law include: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

² Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. n.d. *Means matter: attempters' longterm survival*. Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/means-matter/means-matter/survival/>

Extreme risk laws are an important tool that can prevent tragedies because people closest to an individual in crisis are likely to see signs before the person acts. Research shows that gun violence is frequently preceded by an escalation in problematic behavior - threats (whether physical, verbal, or online), exhibiting inappropriate behavior with firearms, misuse of controlled substances or alcohol, violating prior restraining or protective orders, and/or stalking or harassing others.³ In many cases, family members or law enforcement are the witnesses to the troubling escalation of behaviors that typically precede an act of gun violence - whether that violence ultimately results against one's self or another individual. Extreme risk protection orders provide a way for the courts and law enforcement to temporarily remove guns from the situation and save lives.

Public education and awareness campaigns on ERPOs would have a measurable impact in reducing gun deaths across the state. ERPOs are an effective tool for preventing gun violence, but research shows that this effectiveness is limited due to a lack of public awareness around the existence of these laws, and their uses.

Hawai'i's ERPO law has the potential to prevent accidental gun deaths and save lives, but its effectiveness will be determined by how the state implements this law. Providing funding for a statewide public education campaign will ensure awareness and compliance, and will bolster the policy's effectiveness in reducing gun violence.

³ Frattaroli, S., McGinty, E. E., Barnhorst, A., et al. (2015). Gun violence restraining orders: alternative or adjunct to mental health-based restrictions on firearms?. *Behavioral Sciences & The Law*, 33(2-3), 290–307. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bsl.2173>

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 9:09:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Trombley	Gifford's Gun Owners for Safety	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chariman and members,

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-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 9:45:05 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Waste of money, plus red flags are unconstitutional.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 10:15:29 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael I Rice	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I stand in OPPOSITION to this bill, 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 am thus asking that this bill be deferred.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 11:29:31 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am a resident of Hawaii concerned about the state's fiscal health and the efficient use of taxpayer dollars. I am submitting this testimony in strong opposition to HB 2062, which appropriates unspecified sums from the general revenues of the State of Hawaii for fiscal year 2026-2027 to fund additional staffing and administrative costs in the Judiciary for processing temporary restraining orders and gun violence protective orders, as well as community-based gun violence intervention initiatives and public awareness campaigns through the Department of Law Enforcement. While the intent to address gun violence may seem well-meaning, this bill represents an unnecessary and potentially burdensome financial commitment that could exacerbate Hawaii's already strained budget without delivering measurable results. Hawaii's state budget is under immense pressure, with ongoing challenges in areas like affordable housing, education, healthcare, and disaster recovery from events such as the Maui wildfires. The latest fiscal projections indicate that the state is facing a potential shortfall in the coming years due to rising costs, inflation, and slower tourism recovery post-pandemic. Allocating blank-check funding—literally, as the bill leaves the appropriation amounts unspecified ("\$ or so much thereof as may be necessary")—to new programs without clear cost estimates or proven efficacy is fiscally irresponsible. This open-ended approach invites unchecked spending, potentially adding hundreds of thousands or even millions to the state's expenditures for hiring personnel, administrative overhead, and marketing campaigns, all drawn from general revenues that could otherwise support critical infrastructure or tax relief for residents. Consider the financial implications in detail:

- **Judiciary Funding:** The bill would require hiring additional personnel across each circuit to handle gun violence protective orders under Chapter 134, HRS. Based on similar judicial staffing expansions in recent years, this could cost upwards of \$500,000 annually per circuit just for salaries, benefits, and training, not including ongoing operational costs. With no cap specified, these expenses could balloon, straining the Judiciary's budget which already relies heavily on state appropriations amid rising caseloads.
- **Department of Law Enforcement Initiatives:** Funding public awareness campaigns and intervention programs is another vague commitment. Comparable state-funded awareness efforts, such as those for traffic safety or public health, have historically ranged from \$200,000 to \$1 million per campaign, often with questionable return on investment. In a state where the cost of living is among the highest in the nation, diverting funds to these initiatives means less money for essential services like policing core crimes or emergency response, potentially leading to higher taxes or cuts elsewhere.

- Overall Budget Impact: Hawaii's general fund is projected to face deficits if new spending isn't carefully controlled. This bill, even in its amended form (HD1), lacks fiscal notes detailing exact costs or cost-benefit analyses, making it a risky proposition during a time of economic uncertainty. Taxpayers should not be saddled with funding programs that may duplicate existing efforts, such as federal grants for violence prevention or current law enforcement resources, without evidence of their necessity or effectiveness.

Instead of approving this bill, I urge the committee to prioritize fiscal restraint and redirect any potential funds toward high-impact areas that directly benefit Hawaii's families, such as reducing property taxes, bolstering public schools, or investing in renewable energy to lower utility costs. Approving HB 2062 would only add to the financial burden on residents without guaranteeing safer communities. Thank you for considering my testimony. I respectfully request that you hold or vote **no** on HB 2062.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 11:32:20 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Ruiz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stop infringing and wasting my money!

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 12:14:39 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose HB 2062. HB 2062 would be a waste of resources and taxpayer money.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 12:19:14 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eric Kaneshiro	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

While I support the intent of this measure, particularly law enforcement training and efficient judicial processing, I have concerns with the allocation of funds for public awareness campaigns.

State and county agencies already have the ability to conduct outreach and public education using existing resources and communication channels. Earmarking additional funds specifically for public awareness campaigns risks unnecessary spending without clear evidence of improved outcomes.

Hawaii residents already face one of the highest overall tax burdens in the nation. At a time when the cost of living remains a serious concern for many families, it is critical that the Legislature prioritize fiscal discipline and ensure that limited public funds are directed toward core functions that deliver measurable impact.

In this context, I strongly support prioritizing:

- Enhanced training for law enforcement and first responders
- Efficient and timely judicial processes
- Coordination across agencies to ensure cases are handled effectively and consistently

These investments directly affect outcomes and help ensure that vulnerable individuals receive protection and services when they need them most.

By contrast, public awareness campaigns while well-intentioned should not be funded as a standalone priority when agencies can incorporate outreach into their existing operations.

I respectfully urge the Committee to amend the measure to remove funding for public awareness campaigns and instead prioritize operational effectiveness, training, and system efficiency.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 12:49:54 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE this bill.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 12:51:11 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

HB2062's proposal to spend tax dollars advertising that domestic violence jeopardizes your gun rights is wasteful and unnecessary. When you register your firearm you become educated on all matters that make you ineligible to legally own or use a firearm. Spending money to re-emphasize this is redundant and unnecessary. The courts and law enforcement have regulations and procedures for handling domestic violence offenders and their firearms. If that system is flawed, correct it. Advertising dollars aren't going to fix existing flaws. I strongly oppose this bill as a citizen and firearm owner. If you want to make sure firearm owners understand the laws that apply to them, give them a test before finalizing the registration of any firearms.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 1:16:26 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chris Millen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i oppose the proposed house bill HB2062. It seems like a severe over reach and very unconstitutional.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 1:41:55 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James Revells	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill as we already have measures to handle situations of this nature and adding more like measures would be a waste of taxpayers money.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 2:51:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I opposed HB2062.

Hawai‘i already has tools in place to disarm genuinely dangerous individuals — including criminal statutes and protective orders — that contain established due process protections. Expanding and promoting an additional system that has not shown public demand is unnecessary and wasteful.

At a time when our state faces serious budget priorities, spending more taxpayer money on something that is unwanted and redundant is not responsible governance.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 3:43:58 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

As a retired teacher, parent, grandparent and spouse of a US veteran, I strongly support this bill. This bill will help keep our keiki and communities safer.

Kathy Thomas - Kaneohe Resident

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 3:46:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Public awareness and law enforcement training re ERPOs will strengthen our public safety and keep Hawaii near the top of states with the lowest rates of gun violence.

Please support this measure.

Judith White, Kapaa

Member Moms Demand Action

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 3:52:50 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julie Iezzi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. Even more today it is essential to have laws that can be used to avert violence against others and to keep firearms out of the hands of those who may harm themselves.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 3:55:28 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I very strongly support HB2062.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 3:56:00 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

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

Hawai'i has some of the nation's strongest firearm laws, but since the passage of the gun violence prevention order (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 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 resources are needed to implement the law and save lives. According to a recent Civil Beat article:

"Honolulu and Kaua'i police haven't filed any petitions since the law was enacted. The Honolulu Police Department doesn't train all of its staff on the law and information on how to file the petitions is tough to find publicly available online, even for police."

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.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Erica Yamauchi, Wilhelmina Rise/Kaimukī

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 4:37:33 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deborah G. Nehmad	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. Having strong gun safety protection laws means little if there is no financial support to enforce them. As an example, 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.

Please support this bill,

Deb Nehmad

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 4:40:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the House Finance Committee,

My name is Michael Brown, and I submit this testimony in strong opposition to HB206 due to its wasteful spending, redundancy, and lack of demonstrated need.

HB206 would expand and fund Hawai‘i’s existing “red flag” framework by allocating additional taxpayer money for **court processing** and **public promotion** of firearm confiscation petitions. This bill prioritizes growing and advertising a program rather than addressing core concerns such as due process safeguards, transparency, effectiveness metrics, and real-world outcomes.

From a fiscal perspective, this is the wrong direction. **Court systems are already strained**, and taxpayer funds should be directed toward urgent, measurable priorities—such as public safety resources that are already proven, mental health crisis response, victim services, and improving the efficiency of existing court operations. HB206 adds administrative and promotional costs while increasing workload pressures, creating an ongoing funding obligation without clear evidence of public demand or benefit.

Just as important, **Hawai‘i already has established legal mechanisms** to disarm individuals who pose a legitimate danger, including criminal statutes, restraining orders, and protective orders—tools that come with more established procedural standards and due process protections. Expanding an additional, parallel system is **redundant** and risks duplicating efforts rather than improving outcomes. If gaps exist, the better approach is to strengthen and properly resource the systems already in place—not build and market an additional one.

At a time when Hawai‘i faces serious budget pressures and competing needs, **spending more taxpayer money to expand and promote a program that is duplicative and not clearly utilized is not responsible governance**. HB206 asks taxpayers to fund more processing and public outreach for confiscation petitions without first demonstrating a compelling need, measurable effectiveness, or cost-benefit justification.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to **HOLD HB206**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 5:30:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
MICHAEL ING	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 5:47:52 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alice Abellanida	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. There are already laws in place. This is a waste of taxpayers money. Please vote no on this bill.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 6:10:09 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 6:16:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this legislation.

David Ball

Waiialae-Kahala

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 6:33:21 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Gomes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill because it is so important to do everything we can to prevent suicides. Additionally, gun violence prevention orders can be used if someone is determined to be a danger to others. In several states, these orders have been used to avert violence against others. The amount of funding is small compared to the value of potential lives saved in our beloved Hawaii. Thank you for your consideration.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 6:40:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lory Ono	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill, as it can help keep people safer.

Thank you,

Lory Ono

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 6:41:42 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ramiro Noguerol	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose!!

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 7:11:23 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am a Hawaii resident writing in strong support of this bill. Common sense gun laws, and funding them properly, make all of us safer. Thank you for keeping our families' and communities' safety a priority, and thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 7:37:41 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Herb Conley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in total support of this bill. As someone who experienced a close family member, suffering from depression, commit suicide with a legal hand gun they owned, this bill could save lives and family members and friends from this devastating outcome.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 7:40:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support HB 2062 because funding is needed to inform and educate the public and law enforcement about the law that allows family members to petition the court to have firearms temporarily removed from someone who poses a risk to themselves or others.

The increase in firearm suicide in our State is disturbing. Preventive measures this bill funds—educating the public and law enforcement about the law are necessary to increase preventive measures when a person with a firearm is a threat to themselves or others.

Mahalo for supporting HB 2062 and saving lives.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 7:45:27 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eunice M Werner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of this bill--that people who are a danger to themselves or others can have their firearms removed and that officers will become educated so we will have less violent incidents.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 7:47:06 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peter Burns	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Sir or Madame:

I very much support this bill. While I am a member of Indivisible, I am submitting this on my own behalf.

We need to do a better job of addressing gun violence in our society and I believe this bill will help us get there.

Peter Burns

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 7:49:58 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

"I support this bill"

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 8:04:25 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Yamaguchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill!

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 8:05:00 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

In support

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 8:06:10 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

HB2062 provides the funding needed to educate both law enforcement and the public so this existing law can be used effectively to save lives.

Thank you, Linda Legrande

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 8:07:01 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Raymond Ishii	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB 2026 for the simple reason that in this time of fiscal restraint, the Legislature continues to spend money like a drunken sailor.

This current Red Flag law is sufficient to safe guard the public from generally dangerous persons. There are advocacy agency that assist person with obtaining a restraining order. While the Judiciary would love to have more employees and Department of Law Enforcement would love to run public safety commercials to increase its exposure to the public.

The simple truth is, the state is broke, Tourism is down, Federal funding is down, tax collection is down, the Legislature is looking at increasing taxes to make up for the budget short fall. Any bill that would needlessly increase spending and increase the tax burden on the citizens of the state should dead on arival if the Legislature has any sense of fiscal responsiblity.

Again I oppose HB2026 as it is a waste of money in a time the State of Hawaii needs to account for every dime.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 9:07:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Timothy Miyao	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Please oppose HB 2062: Hawai'i State Association of Counties Package; Gun Violence Protective Orders; Public Awareness Campaigns; Appropriations. In the local news, I frequently see that many (including members of the Hawaii State government) are concerned over the economic uncertainty for Hawaii. Limited budgetary funds should therefore go toward impactful programs that address critical problems.

HB2062 would not address a substantial need for the State of Hawaii. If an individual is a danger to society, police will arrest the threat. One could deprive an individual of firearms but it would not prevent that person from posing a threat to society.

Hawaii falls within the top 10 states with the worst driving conditions. Poor road quality is one of the factors that keeps our state in this rating. State and counties should be prioritizing funds toward improving road conditions.

I applaud legislation like HB1779 which would help children who suffer from food uncertainty. There are many children who would benefit from free school meal programs. Helping children to gain nutrition necessary, to thrive, is a valuable allocation of taxpayer dollars.

I urge you to oppose HB 2062 which would take funding from crucial programs. With the economic uncertainty for our state, it is important to prioritize funding allocation to address Hawaii's greatest needs. Making our roads safer to travel on will improve safety and save taxpayers money on car repairs. Ensuring that children do not live with food uncertainty needs to be prioritized.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 9:20:33 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laurel Nakanishi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I am writing to express my support for HB2062. 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,

Laurel

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 9:24:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. We do not need to spend more money on red flag laws.

These protective orders remove rights without due process of the law.

We need to target individuals who commit crimes not the ordinary citizen.

We need the lawmakers to embrace the individual right to self-defense, make it easier for the victim of violence to protect themselves and others.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 9:37:40 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eileen Cain	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Members of the Finance Committee,

Our people need to be safe from gun violence. Those who have asked for a restraining order against a potentially violent person need to be protected QUICKLY! Please kokua by passing HB2062 HD1.

Mahalo!

Eileen Cain

Mō'ili'ili, Honolulu, Hawai'i

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 9:42:57 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Hawai'i 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 support this bill.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 11:32:59 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rex Ito	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The State of Hawaii has laws and tools that are in place to disarm dangerous individuals. Having more funds that could go better elsewhere seems like a much better plan. We don't have unlimited resources. We are wasting resources by constantly having bills drafted that are already there to do the same thing when we could be doing things for more productive items. We should be strengthening due process and not advertising

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 3:21:55 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michele Nihipali	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB2062 will provide much needed support to reduce gun deaths in Hawaii by helping to remove guns from unstable individuals.

Please support this bill.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Michele Nihipali

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 5:48:42 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thank you

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 6:26:10 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wendy Dame	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this house bill as it provides law enforcement the ability to remove firearms as necessary to protect the lives of others or of the person who is in possession of the firearms.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 6:27:39 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Representatives,

I support HB 2062 HD1 to fund efforts to prevent gun violence. I urge you to support this important legislation.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 6:35:10 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in opposition of HB2062. I feel it is a redundant bill that wastes taxpayers dollars in an attempt to seem as if something is being done to prevent violence in our communities. We have laws on the books that can be used now to prevent this and I think our courts and law enforcement need to use them more. Officers simply could take more time to explain to victims their rights and paths to safety and judges can stop slapping wrists of violent individuals who pass through their courts.

Hawai'i already has tools in place to disarm genuinely dangerous individuals, including criminal statutes and protective orders that contain established due process protections. Expanding and promoting an additional system that has not shown public demand is unnecessary and wasteful.

At a time when our state faces serious budget priorities, spending more taxpayer money on something that is unwanted and redundant is not responsible governance.

Please vote no on HB2062.

Mahalo,

Chase Cavitt

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 6:58:55 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 7:01:32 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this bill.

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.

Mahalo, Jane Aquino

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 7:30:53 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support HB2062.

Hawai‘i has strong firearm laws, yet firearm suicides remain a serious concern. The GVPO law is a proven, life-saving tool, but it cannot work if law enforcement and the public lack training and awareness. Evidence from other states shows these laws reduce suicides and can prevent violence when properly implemented.

HB2062 provides the practical support needed to ensure this existing law is used effectively. This is a commonsense, prevention-focused measure that can save lives without creating new restrictions.

Please pass HB2062.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 8:42:08 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Gollin	Indivisible	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Speaking of aloha, there appears to be an uptick in gun violence in Hawai'i. I strongly support this bill as well as any laws that increase education and gun buy back programs.

Guns are for hunting at best. Never defense: it doesn't work.

Stop accidental deaths, gun violence preemptively!

Thanks, Lisa Gollin

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 8:50:39 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 8:51:51 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am a resident of Waikiki and I am in support of HB2062. I strongly urge you to vote "yes" to pass this bill for the safety of all of us and our families. 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. 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.

Please Vote to approve this bill to educate all Hawaiians and allow us, our children, and our grandchildren to live without the fear of being randomly gunned down as we go about our normal daily activities.

Thank you .

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 9:04:56 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Cabjuan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose this bill. Please stop wasting our tax \$\$ and use it for Maui rebuilding instead. Please vote NO on this bill.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 9:10:57 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mala Wingerd	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In principle I support this bill!

My hesitation is having more funds go to any government policing agency at this time. I do NOT want any of these funds going to support ICE or CBP, or to the jets for several of the current officials, etc.

BUT it is an important measure - in practice - to help slow gun violence and protect those who are at threat from gun violence.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 9:30:07 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to support HB2062.

I'm a member of Indivisible Hawaii.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 9:35:47 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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 implelent them. This bill fills a major hole in our gun laws. Please vote for it.

lynne matusow

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 9:44:13 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ellen Godbey Carson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

Hawaii 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.

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, we 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.

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

I am in strong support of HB2050.

This measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. It is important to increase the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2:1.

Public financing encourages candidates without establishment backing, and allows campaigns to focus on reaching voters instead of donors.

This bill is a significant step toward enabling more candidates to utilize this program and reduces the influence of big money in our elections.

Mahalo,

Keith Neal
Waimea

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 9:52:01 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Littleton	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB2062

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:04:47 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deborah Ann Harada	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello and thank you for the work you're doing on issues around gun violence, to keep our community safe.

I am in support of HB 2602. It's a common sense approach to preventing gun violence. It's our kuleana to make ensure GVPO laws are fully understood by the public and that law enforcement can make best use of this tool to keep the public and individuals safe.

Mahalo.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:18:00 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing to express my opposition to HB206, primarily due to its fiscal implications.

This bill proposes allocating additional taxpayer funds to expand court processing and public promotion of the State’s red flag law system. At a time when Hawai‘i continues to face serious budget pressures and competing priorities, expanding and marketing an existing confiscation program is not a prudent financial decision.

Hawai‘i already has established legal tools to address individuals who pose a genuine danger, including criminal enforcement mechanisms and protective orders that provide structured due process safeguards. Expanding a parallel system — and committing additional public funds to advertise it — appears redundant and fiscally unjustified.

Responsible governance requires careful prioritization of limited resources. Taxpayer dollars should be directed toward clear, demonstrated needs — not toward expanding bureaucracy or promoting programs that have not shown measurable demand or effectiveness.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to vote NO on HB206.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Kai Asam

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:18:42 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

My name is Xander Asam, and I am 16 years old. I am writing to respectfully oppose HB206.

I understand that safety is important. However, I am concerned about the financial impact of this bill. HB206 would spend additional taxpayer money to expand and promote a red flag law system that already exists.

Hawai'i has many important needs right now. Schools need funding, infrastructure needs repairs, and families are struggling with the high cost of living. Spending more money to advertise and expand a program that has not shown strong public demand does not seem like the best use of limited state funds.

There are already laws in place that allow authorities to disarm people who are truly dangerous, and those laws include due process protections. Adding and promoting another system feels unnecessary and wasteful.

I respectfully ask you to consider whether this spending is truly needed and to vote NO on HB206.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Xander Asam

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:19:31 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing to respectfully oppose HB2062.

My primary concern is the financial impact of this bill. HB2062 would expand and fund the State’s red flag law system by allocating additional taxpayer dollars toward court processing and public promotion of firearm confiscation petitions. At a time when Hawai‘i faces significant budget priorities — including infrastructure, public safety staffing, education, and cost-of-living pressures — expanding and advertising an already existing program is not a responsible use of limited public funds.

Hawai‘i already has legal mechanisms in place to address genuinely dangerous individuals, including criminal statutes and protective orders that include established due process protections. Creating additional layers of administrative and promotional spending for a system that has not demonstrated strong public demand appears redundant and fiscally unnecessary.

Government resources should be directed toward programs with measurable effectiveness and clear public benefit. Expanding bureaucracy and funding public outreach for firearm confiscation petitions does not meet that standard.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to vote NO on HB2062.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Wayne Asam

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:20:20 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lori Kizer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

PLEASE support this bill to provide the necessary funding, you will be saving lives! Mahalo.

Lori Kizer, Kapaa

Dennis M. Dunn
Kailua, HI 96734
dennismdunn47@gmail.com

TO: Representative Chris Todd, Chair

Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair

House Committee on Finance

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

HEARING: Thursday, February 26, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

Conference Room 308

Good afternoon, Chair Todd and Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the House Committee on Finance. I am providing testimony in **Support of H.B. 2062, H.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 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 this Committee to support H.B 2062, H.D. 1 as a concrete contribution to reducing gun violence in our state. Thank you for your time and consideration.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:37:28 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this bill because it is one impactful and low-cost thing we can do 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 for your thoughtful consideration of HB2062 and the profound impact it could have.

Sincerely,

Allegra Giacchino, MSW

96816

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:39:45 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandon Allen Kainoa Leong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB2062. Stop wasting tax payer money.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:53:55 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support HB2062 in order for Hawaii's red flag law to be more effective by increasing awareness especially among law enforcement officers that fire arms can be removed temporarily when there is a risk of potential gun violence. Most incidences of gun violence is suicide by gun. Many lives in Hawaii could be saved by enacting this law.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:58:29 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha mai kakou,

I strongly oppose HB 2062! Hawai'i already has tools in place to disarm genuinely dangerous individuals — including criminal statutes and protective orders — that contain established due process protections. Expanding and promoting an additional system that has not shown public demand is unnecessary and wasteful.

At a time when our state faces serious budget priorities, spending more taxpayer money on something that is unwanted and redundant is not responsible governance.

Work towards ending redundant red tape, it is imperative for YOU, the Hawaii State Legislators, to reduce red tape!!!

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 11:06:59 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doris Segal Matsunaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a grandmother living in Waimea on Hawaii Island, I support this measure

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 11:37:57 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Craig Kashiwai	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 12:20:52 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha I am in opposition of this bill and I would like you to consider opposing this Bill as well.Hawaii already has laws in place to disarm dangerous individuals including criminal statutes and protective orders that contain due process protection orders.Expanding and promoting an additional system that has shown no public demand is unnecessary and wasteful.Hawaii already has serious budget priorities.spending taxpayers money on something that is unwanted and redundant is not responsible governance.I have the utmost respect for our current legislation and hope that we make better choices in the future.Mahalo for reading my testimony.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 12:22:40 PM

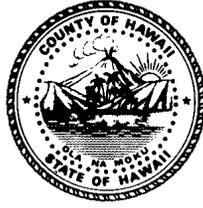
Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eric Schiff	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support 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: February 25, 2026
TO: House Committee on Finance
FROM: Jennifer Kagiwada, Council Member
Council District 2
SUBJECT: HB 2062

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, 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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Chris Todd, Chair
Rep. Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair

HEARING:
Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 2:00 pm
Conference Room 308 and Via Videoconference
State Capitol

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2062, HD1, RELATING TO GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION.

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, my Rep. Miyake for Wailuku, Rep. Yamashita of Maui, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Christine Andrews and I am a long-term resident of Wailuku, Maui. I am also an attorney licensed in the state of Hawaii for over 25 years. I am writing today in **strong support of HB 2062, HD1**, Relating to Gun Violence Prevention, which appropriates funds to the Judiciary for the efficient processing of temporary restraining orders and gun violence protective orders, and appropriates funds to the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct public awareness campaigns on gun violence protective orders.

In the mid-1990's, I was involved with the Hawai'i Firearms Control Coalition and the Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition which were lead organizations in working to address gun violence as a public health crisis. I am proud that the efforts of the coalitions succeeded in passing substantive gun violence prevention measures at that time that have continued to place Hawai'i amongst the leaders nationwide in the effort to minimize the morbidity and mortality associated with guns.

Unfortunately, the use of firearms in domestic violence continues to be a threat for victims of domestic abuse. In the US, **more than 25 million adults have been threatened or nonfatally injured by an intimate partner with a firearm and access to a gun makes it five times more likely that a woman will be killed by an abusive intimate partner.** House Bill 2062, HD1 is common sense legislation to improve processing of temporary restraining orders and gun violence protective orders that has the potential to save lives and prevent harm.

I respectfully request that you vote in **support of HB 2062, HD1** and help protect victims of domestic violence.

Mahalo,

Christine Andrews, J.D.
Wailuku, Maui

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 1:45:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in favor of HB2062 HD1. I believe funding a program like this is good for public safety. Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 2:08:48 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am a resident of the state of Hawaii ans I support this Bill.

Hope that the Legislature approves the Bill

LATE

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 3:35:15 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
TERI SAVAIINAEA	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Strong Opposition to HB2062
Chair Todd and Members of the Committee,**

Aloha,

My name is Teri Kia Savaiinaea, and I respectfully submit testimony in strong opposition to HB2062.

While public safety is important, this bill continues the pattern of expanding government programs and spending taxpayer dollars without addressing the root issues. We should not be appropriating more funds to promote and process gun violence protective orders when serious due process concerns already exist.

Red flag-style laws can remove constitutional rights before a full hearing takes place. That should concern every citizen who values due process and the presumption of innocence. Instead of allocating additional taxpayer money toward awareness campaigns and expanding enforcement mechanisms, we should focus on enforcing existing laws, strengthening mental health resources, and ensuring timely and fair judicial review.

Hawai'i families are already struggling with the high cost of living. Fiscal responsibility matters. We must stop growing government bureaucracy and spending money on programs that expand authority without clear safeguards.

There are better tools available that protect both public safety and constitutional rights.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to vote NO on HB2062.

Mahalo,

Teri Kia Savaiinaea

Wai'anae resident

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 4:41:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose HB 20262. Thank you.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 5:17:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strongly Oppose.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 6:06:40 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thank you!

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 6:39:57 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scott Sweet	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a waste of my taxes and I strongly oppose this bill.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 6:42:36 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is not needed, save the taxpayer's money.

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 7:18:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support HB2062 HD1

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2026 6:58:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose HB2062 HD1

HB-2062-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2026 10:24:11 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
davin asato	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Davin Asato and I am a resident of Kahului, Maui. I am writing to express my **opposition** to HB2062.

While the title of the bill suggests a focus on safety, the actual mechanism of the bill is the appropriation of significant taxpayer funds to expand the reach of "Red Flag" laws (Act 150). I oppose this allocation of resources for the following reasons:

1. **Prioritization of Funds:** At a time when Hawai'i faces a critical shortage of affordable housing and high costs of living, the legislature should not be prioritizing the creation of a "new court officer unit" dedicated solely to the expedited removal of Second Amendment rights.
2. **Due Process Infrastructure:** This bill funds a system designed to "efficiently process" the seizure of private property. In the context of Gun Violence Protective Orders—which are often issued *ex parte* (without the accused present)—efficiency should not be the primary goal; justice and due process should be. We should not be funding a "fast track" for the suspension of constitutional rights.
3. **Concerns Over Awareness Campaigns:** I am concerned that the "public awareness campaigns" funded by this bill will encourage civil litigation and reporting based on subjective fears rather than objective criminal conduct. This risks clogging our court system with frivolous petitions while further polarizing our communities.

The state should focus its limited financial resources on mental health services and community safety programs that do not rely on the erosion of due process.

I respectfully request that the Committee **hold** this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Davin Asato

136 West Hawaii Street

Kahului, HI 96732

808-205-4616

davin.asato@gmail.com