



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 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair
Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 5, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.
Hawai‘i State Capitol, Conference Room 325

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, 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 and agrees with the Legislature’s findings that “sensible gun violence protection requires collaboration among all levels of government.” However, as the branch of government tasked with interpreting laws, the Judiciary does not have the authority to enforce laws. For this reason, we respectfully recommend that Section 2 of House Bill No. 2062, at page 4, lines 4 through 10, be amended to read as follows:

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



House Bill No. HB2062, Relating to Gun Violence Prevention
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
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much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for staffing and administrative costs, including the hiring of personnel in each Circuit, to effectuate ~~enforcement~~ efficient processing of temporary restraining orders and gun violence protective orders in accordance with part IV of chapter 134, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

We believe this amendment is both consistent with the spirit of this measure and preserves the separation of powers between the judicial and executive branches of government.

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
RELATING TO GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION**

Before the House Committee on
JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Thursday, February 5, 2026, 2:00 PM
State Capitol Conference Room 325

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) strongly supports House Bill 2062. This bill appropriates funds to the Judiciary for the enforcement of gun violence protective orders and to the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct public awareness campaigns on gun violence protective orders.

Gun violence protective orders are critical tools that allow for the temporary removal of firearms from individuals who pose a significant danger to themselves or others. The enforcement of these protective orders by the Judiciary is essential to their effectiveness in preventing gun violence and protecting our communities.

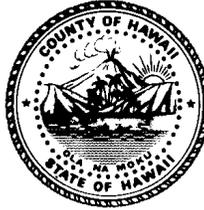
The public awareness component of this bill is equally important. For gun violence protective orders to be utilized effectively, the public must understand when and how to seek them, the legal process involved, and the protections they provide. The DLE is well positioned to develop and implement public awareness campaigns to educate community members, law enforcement agencies, and other stakeholders about these

important safety measures.

This legislation represents a comprehensive approach to gun violence prevention by not only strengthening enforcement mechanisms but also ensuring that the public is informed about available protective measures. The DLE views both components as necessary investments in public safety.

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

HEATHER L. KIMBALL
COUNCIL DISTRICT 1
(North Hilo, Hāmākua, and portion of
Waimea)



Phone: (808) 961-8828
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Email: Heather.Kimball@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAII COUNTY COUNCIL
25 Aupuni Street, Ste. 1402, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

February 4, 2026

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Honorable Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair
Honorable Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
Submission via online testimony only

RE: Support of HB 2062 – Relating to Gun Violence Prevention (GVPO)

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit **testimony in strong SUPPORT of HB 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, I see firsthand the essential role counties play in translating public safety policy into effective action. 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.

Critical, preventative investments as provided in HB 2062, help families and law enforcement act quickly during crisis situations to temporarily limit access to firearms while connecting individuals to appropriate support opportunities. In rural districts like Hāmākua, where access to services may be limited, education and early intervention are especially vital. This measure supports responsible gun ownership while enhancing community safety through prevention.

As an officer of the Hawai'i State Association of Counties, I also appreciate that this bill is part of the HSAC legislative package that reflects strong state-county collaboration. Gun violence prevention requires coordination across all levels of government, and this measure provides the operational capacity needed for that coordination to succeed.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your consideration and support to pass H.B. 2062. If you would like to discuss my knowledge of this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

HEATHER L. KIMBALL

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:55:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
carol bodnar	Moms Demand Action	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I respectfully urge you to vote to appropriate funds to the Judiciary for the enforcement of gun violence protective orders. And to also appropriate funds to the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct public awareness campaigns on gun violence protective orders. Kkeep Hawaii safe.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 7:18:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wayne Asam	Mid Pacific Pistol League	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mid Pacific Pistol League respectfully submits testimony in opposition to HB 2062.

HB 2062 allocates public funds to promote red flag laws that lack meaningful due process protections. Unlike other legal remedies, these orders can result in the removal of fundamental rights without a criminal conviction or adequate opportunity for defense.

Using taxpayer dollars to promote a legally flawed process undermines public trust and constitutional principles. Public safety policies must balance safety with due process and accountability.

For these reasons, Mid Pacific Pistol League urges the committee to oppose HB 2062.

Respectfully,
Mid Pacific Pistol League

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 11:11:03 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

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 Gifford's 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

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 8:18:04 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mery Ann Luna	SDM Training Group/Bows N Bullets	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

On behalf of SDM Training Group/Bows N Bullets, I respectfully oppose this bill.

Hawaii already has some of the strictest firearm laws in the nation and consistently ranks among the lowest states for gun-related deaths. Expanding funding for gun violence protective orders and promotional campaigns does not address the primary drivers of violent crime and lacks evidence of meaningful long-term impact.

Gun violence protective orders allow firearms to be removed based on allegations prior to any criminal conviction, raising serious due process concerns. Increasing their use without stronger safeguards risks misuse, false claims, and the erosion of constitutional rights for law-abiding citizens.

Public resources would be far more effective if directed toward mental health services, crisis intervention, and targeted enforcement against violent offenders—approaches shown to reduce harm without broadly restricting civil liberties.

Preventing violence should focus on criminals and behavioral risk factors, not expanding systems that burden responsible gun owners and courts.

For these reasons, I urge you to oppose this bill.

Respectfully,

Mery Ann Luna

Owner, SDM Training Group/Bows N Bullets

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 11:53:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jerry Yuen	Pu'uloa Rifle and Pistol Club	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I oppose this bill on that it specifically singles out firearms rather than a comprehensive use of funding to prevent violent crimes in general. Firearms use represent a small percentage of violent crimes in general. If public funds are used for targeting firearms, then it should be public education with the focus on safety, history, and and responsible use. I regard to Act 150, there should be an actual analysis of the effectiveness of the law in relation to what has been spent. If it is not effective, then pumping more money into it is not a solution.



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Thirty-Third Legislature, State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 5, 2026

H.B. 2062 – RELATING TO GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

The Hawai'i Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO, submits comments on H.B. 2062. As a preliminary matter, we wish to be clear that HGEA does not oppose gun violence prevention initiatives, public awareness efforts, or the enforcement of gun violence protective orders. We recognize the importance of keeping our communities and court facilities safe and support policies that meaningfully advance public safety.

Our concern is narrow and specific, the bill's appropriation to the Judiciary for the creation of a new court officer unit. While the bill references the creation of a new court officer unit, reviewing and processing of petitions, and facilitating court hearings, it does not clearly define whether this unit is intended to perform administrative, clerical, or security related functions. The title "court officer unit," however, reasonably suggests a role connected to courthouse operations and security, raising questions about potential overlap with existing responsibilities. Currently, Deputy Sheriffs are responsible for providing security at courthouses statewide, including courthouse and courtroom security, screening, prisoner transport, and emergency response. If the intent of this bill is to address administrative or case processing needs, those functions should be clearly defined and clearly separated from security roles. If the intent is to enhance courthouse security, that responsibility already lies with Deputy Sheriffs.

The creation of a new court officer unit raises concerns about the potential outsourcing or circumvention of civil service positions and risks setting a precedent that would negatively impact existing public employees. Rather than creating a new officer unit with unclear functions and potential overlap, the Legislature should focus on retaining and recruiting Deputy Sheriffs by addressing pay and staffing levels. Strengthening the existing workforce already charged with courthouse security is a more direct, accountable, and effective use of public funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments of H.B. 2062.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 12:16:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terriann Mohideen	Hawai'i Chapter Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee~

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 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 on O'ahu, 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 on this island), 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.

Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 1:18:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Finley Gonzales	Students Demand Action	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Good morning. My name is Finley Gonzales and I am a 19-year-old volunteer with Students Demand Action and a survivor of gun violence. I strongly support passing HB 2062.

Studies show that states with gun violence protection orders see lower rates of gun violence. Indiana saw a 7.5 percent reduction in its firearm suicide rate in the 10 years after passing its Extreme Risk law. But these laws are most effective when thoughtfully implemented—that’s what passing HB 2062 would help ensure.

This bill is extremely important to me and other college students in Hawaii. We know what it’s like to be afraid at school. A Secret Service study of school violence incidents from 2008 to 2017 found that 100 percent of the perpetrators showed concerning behaviors, and that 77 percent of the time, at least one person, most often a peer, knew about their plan. HB 2062 could help make sure more people know that there’s a tool available for getting firearms out of the hands of similar high risk individuals. With school shootings plaguing our society, it is so common to think, “not my state. Not my school. Not me.” That is what I believed when I was young. However, I am proof that it can be your state. It can be your school. And it can be you.

Unfortunately, this realization came while I was still in elementary school. If we do the right work early, we can prevent firearms from being misused and protect our neighbors in Hawaii. I give full support for HB 2062. Thank you for your time.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 2:15:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Margaret ST Vesnefski	For Liberty and Justice Hawaii	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We oppose HB2062 because it expands government authority in ways that threaten due process and the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens. The bill relies on taxpayer-funded enforcement mechanisms that fail to address the underlying causes of violence while increasing the risk of government overreach. We urge legislators to reject HB2062 and instead invest in solutions that strengthen community safety, protect civil liberties, and respect individual rights.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 8:31:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Namiki Roberts	Hawaii Firearms Coalition	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Opposition to HB2062

Hawai‘i Firearms Coalition respectfully submits testimony in opposition to HB2062.

While we support legitimate efforts to prevent violence and protect individuals in crisis, HB2062 expands funding and promotion of gun violence protective orders, commonly referred to as “red flag” laws, despite significant unresolved concerns regarding due process and effectiveness.

Gun violence protective orders allow for the removal of firearms based on ex parte proceedings, often without prior notice to the individual affected and without the procedural safeguards typically required when a fundamental constitutional right is restricted. Firearms may be seized before the individual has an opportunity to be heard, confront evidence, or meaningfully contest the allegations. This lack of due process is not hypothetical. Similar laws are currently being challenged in multiple states on constitutional grounds, and expanding reliance on this framework exposes Hawai‘i to increased legal risk.

It is also important to note that Act 150 has been in place for several years, yet there has been little long-term interest in using the red flag process. This low utilization rate suggests that the law has not become a trusted or effective tool for families, professionals, or law enforcement. Expanding funding for public awareness campaigns does not address the core issue: a process that lacks due process protections will not gain widespread confidence or voluntary use.

Hawai‘i already has a well-established Temporary Restraining Order process that is far more familiar to the public, routinely used, and demonstrably effective. TROs include clearer procedural safeguards, judicial oversight, and established mechanisms for removing firearms

when there is credible evidence of danger. In practice, TROs have been far more successful at achieving the stated goal of temporarily removing firearms in situations involving real risk, while respecting due process.

Rather than investing additional public funds into promoting a parallel system that lacks comparable constitutional protections and has seen limited adoption, the State should focus on improving and supporting existing processes that are already understood, trusted, and effective.

Public safety is best served by laws that target dangerous behavior, provide meaningful due process, and inspire public confidence. HB2062 fails to meet those standards.

For these reasons, Hawai'i Firearms Coalition respectfully urges the Legislature to reject HB2062

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 2:56:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 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.

I am thus asking that this bill be deferred.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 2:58:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I respectfully **oppose HB2062**, which appropriates unspecified funds from the general revenues of the State of Hawaii to the Judiciary for enforcement of gun violence protective orders (GVPOs) and to the Department of Law Enforcement for public awareness campaigns on these orders.

While I support efforts to address genuine risks of gun violence and suicide, HB2062 would allocate taxpayer dollars to expand a system that raises serious constitutional, practical, and fiscal concerns without sufficient justification or safeguards.

1. Due Process and Constitutional Risks Hawaii's existing GVPO law (Act 150, SLH 2019) already allows ex parte temporary orders—meaning firearms can be seized based on one-sided allegations without the respondent's prior notice, presence, or opportunity to respond. This risks violating the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms and the Fourteenth Amendment's due process protections. Even for longer-term orders, the standard is often lower than in criminal proceedings (the preponderance of the evidence rather than clear and convincing). Funding more enforcement and awareness efforts could lead to increased use of these orders, potentially temporarily—or longer—disarming law-abiding citizens based on unproven claims, with limited recourse for wrongful petitions. Critics, including gun rights organizations and legal analysts, have highlighted how such laws can be misused in personal disputes, divorces, or vendettas, causing undue hardship without adequate remedies.

2. Potential for Abuse and Lack of Accountability The broad class of petitioners in Hawaii's law—including colleagues, educators, and medical professionals—expands who can initiate firearm restrictions. Without stronger penalties for false or malicious petitions, this invites abuse. Funding campaigns to promote GVPOs may encourage more filings, even when less restrictive alternatives (e.g., voluntary mental health intervention or existing criminal laws) could suffice. There is little evidence that Hawaii's GVPOs have been widely or effectively used to date, raising questions about whether additional funding will yield measurable results or expand government overreach.

3. Fiscal Priorities and Effectiveness Hawaii faces ongoing budget constraints, court backlogs, and pressing needs in mental health services, violent crime enforcement, and other Judiciary priorities. Appropriating funds (amounts left blank in the bill as " \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary") for GVPO enforcement and awareness campaigns diverts resources from proven programs. National data on "red flag" laws shows mixed results, with limited proof of broad

impact in preventing gun violence or suicides in states with similar laws. In Hawaii, where gun violence rates are already among the lowest nationally due to existing strict laws and cultural factors, this funding may not be the most effective use of limited dollars.

4. Second Amendment Considerations: Temporary firearm removal via civil orders bypasses traditional criminal due process. Expanding enforcement through appropriations could set precedents for broader restrictions on law-abiding gun owners in a state with some of the nation's strictest gun regulations already in place.

For these reasons, I urge the committee to **vote "do not pass"** on HB2062 and not advance it further. Instead, focus resources on voluntary mental health support, suicide prevention education, and addressing root causes of violence through evidence-based means that respect constitutional rights and due process.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:00:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frank Barber Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Focus on actual criminals.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:01:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christian A	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:05:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kent Kurihara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to OPPOSE HB2062 and any and all bills worded similarly. I cannot support any legislation or funding of such, that undermines basic legal rights in America. Red Flag laws are a perfect example of laws that deny an accused of "possible" wrongdoing and strip away Constitutionally PROTECTED FREEDOMS without due process. The Red Flag laws are ripe for abuse and mismanagement, and punitive action.

Do not allow this bill to go forward.

Mahalo,

Kent Kurihara

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:08:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeffrey Duquez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly disagree, all gun and red flag laws are infringements to our 2nd amendments.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:12:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
jason moore	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha All,

I understand this is a work in progress.

1) I don't see a need to create an entirely new "Court Officer Unit" to handle what can already be handled at the time of a Hearing/Trial or Sentencing... example, Judge says "Defendant must relinquish all firearms. Officer will appear at your residence tomorrow to take your firearms into evidence"... Done.

2) I'm not a big fan of having these BILL FOR AN ACT with blank spaces for monetary amount to be filled in later. Times are tough, we gotta tighten our belts. We can't make an educated decision without those monetary numbers. I can't imagine how much it would cost to create an entire "Court Officer Unit"

I'm all for gun-buy-backs... fund that until there is no longer a need.

I'm all for public awareness campaigns.

I'm all for education, crime prevention...these should be funded.

They should also be factual and not sensational... the beginning of this BILL FOR AN ACT HB20262 it states "among the leading causes of premature and preventable death"... how about looking at the May 2024 CDC Report, "poisoning including drug overdose, motor vehicle traffic crash, drowning, fall, any of the Health related issues related to using tobacco, obesity, physical inactivity, and drinking alcohol or drinking in excess" all are mentioned and highlighted by the CDC... not Firearm related deaths.

I think this bill should be pared down and remove or separate the "Court Officer Unit" for its own issue.

Thank you and have a great day,

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:18:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jerry Ilo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose!

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:30:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I'm writing to you in strong support of HB2062 as I believe it could be a tool to help with suicide prevention. Our state needs help in this area and I believe this could be a valuable support.

Mahalo,

Rachel Logan

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:32:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose, this will only be used as revenge for angry individuals. Also, the concept of this is unconstitutional as no due process for the person is afforded.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:40:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peter J Long III	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I submit this testimony in OPPOSITION to SB2062.

I oppose the implementation of this proposal because of the much lower level of due process protections afforded to generally law abiding citizens. This Red Flag law will also use public funds to advertise & promote their use. Unlike Temporary Restraining Orders, which require judicial oversight, the indefinite removal of the ability to keep and bear arms is more likely to be abused by a state government that is bent on THEMSELVES being the only party armed in Hawaii.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:44:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I do not support HB2062

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:56:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard Domingo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB 2062.

Focus on educating the public because seems like accountability is nonexistent. STOP letting criminals loose with a slap on the wrist.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:56:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kimo galon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB2062, this would appropriate our taxpayer funds for enforcement of gun violence protective orders and for state-led public awareness campaigns related to gun violence.

Hawai'i has the most strictest gun laws and they still don't do anything to curb violence. This bill lacks clear benefits and its intentions with how the money will be used. We are already paying so much taxes to the state we cant afford any more going to nothing.

This bill is so broad and generalized that it redundant with current laws that are in place. How about legislating something useful rather than wasteful

Hawai'i already has Gun Violence Protective Order laws (Act 150) that allow courts to temporarily restrict access to firearms for individuals shown to pose a danger. HB2062 focuses on funding enforcement for nothing and does not do anything to curb violence itself.

We need to put money into something that's going to help the state and its people. It should not be used for political ideology and satisfaction.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:05:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this bill. The law to help prevent gun violence is already on the books. Let's use all the tools we have to prevent injury and loss of life.

Mahalo.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:13:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jen Ching	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB 2062 – Relating to Gun Violence Prevention

This bill appropriates public funds for advertising and promoting red flag laws and encourages their use.

I strongly oppose red flag laws. Unlike Temporary Restraining Orders, red flag orders lack meaningful due process protections and can result in the indefinite removal of the right to keep and bear arms without a criminal conviction.

Using taxpayer money to promote a process that bypasses due process is unacceptable.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:19:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am in support of the passage of HB2062. I am a volunteer with Moms Demand Action on the Big Island of Hawai'i. Funding is needed to educate citizens and law enforcement about Hawaii's GVPO law so that it can be better utilized.

Mahalo, Julie Henig

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:21:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chester Barayuga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:32:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Written Testimony in Opposition to HB2062

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Members of the Committees,

I submit this written testimony in opposition to HB2062. The bill allocates additional taxpayer funds for enforcement and public awareness of gun violence protective orders without clear evidence of effectiveness or necessity, raising concerns about fiscal responsibility, accountability, and due process. I respectfully oppose this measure.

Mahalo,
Teri Kia Savaiinaea

Wai'anae resident

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:35:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB2062

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:35:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Deitz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB2062 in order to keep our community and law enforcement officers safe.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:36:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kanoë Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB2062

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:37:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kealakai Hammond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support this bill, which would help reduce gun violence by ensuring law enforcement and the public are better aware of the gun violence protective order laws and ensuring firearms are taken away from those posing a harm to themselves or others.

Mahalo,

Kealakai Hammond

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:37:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mikhael Kobayashi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support and defend the constitution. Do not infringe on my rights.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:41:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:45:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pearson Ahuna	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose, no due process for the accused

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:53:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim Huycke	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I very strongly support HB2062.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 5:00:09 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Luke Reiss	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This program will negatively affect law abiding civilian gun owners because it is a tool used to disarm people and take away their guns. Not just that but it can be a tool used wrongly by liars. Liars can lie and will use this tool to wrongly take away the victims guns to self defense. This is a horrible idea and will not do any good to prevent mass shootings/gang violence. ICE has a better chance at stopping gang violence, mass shootings and gun crime. Becasue the United States Immigration Customs Enforcement actually gets bad criminals unlike gun control that only disarms good American citizens that just wanna protect their family, freinds, and communités with their guns.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 5:00:49 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Samuel Webb	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill, because we shouldn't be spending money on Red Flag laws, that bypass due process.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 5:07:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bronson Teixeira	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Representatives of the committee, I stand in strong opposition to hb2062, mahalo

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 5:34:49 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB 2062. Brian Ley GMAC district 4 commissioner. Please stop with the red flag laws and trying to flood the court sytem with bogus allegations, and violating due process. just another step in legally harassing people. the court system are already filled with people filling unstanable TRO, as a way to get even with someone.how about trying to remove the criminals off the streets, since they are the ones creating most of the gun violence and deaths

WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HB 2062

Relating to Gun Violence Prevention

To: Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee

From: Kamuela Kojima

Position: Strong Opposition

Date: 02/05/2026

Introduction

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on **HB 2062**. I appreciate the Legislature's intent to promote public safety and reduce violence in our communities. However, for the reasons outlined below, I respectfully **oppose HB 2062** as currently drafted, due to concerns regarding effectiveness, fiscal responsibility, due process protections, and policy prioritization.

Good intentions alone do not ensure good public policy. HB 2062 risks expanding costly and intrusive mechanisms without sufficient evidence that the proposed approach will meaningfully reduce gun violence in Hawaii.

1. Limited Evidence of Effectiveness

HB 2062 proposes additional funding for public awareness efforts and expanded enforcement capacity related to gun violence protective orders (GVPOs). However, there is **limited empirical evidence** that increased spending on awareness campaigns or administrative expansion of GVPO processes—standing alone—results in measurable reductions in violent crime.

Hawaii already maintains one of the **lowest firearm death rates in the nation**, largely due to its existing licensing, permitting, and firearm regulation framework. Without demonstrating a clear gap in current law or enforcement outcomes, HB 2062 risks duplicating efforts rather than addressing unmet needs.

Public funds should be directed toward interventions with **demonstrated outcomes**, not assumed benefits.

2. Hawaii Already Has Robust Firearm Laws

Hawaii is consistently cited as having some of the **strictest and most comprehensive firearm regulations** in the United States. Before allocating additional general fund resources, the

Legislature should first assess whether existing laws are being *effectively implemented and enforced*.

Expanding programs without a clear showing that current systems are insufficient creates the appearance of action without addressing root causes. Policy refinement and targeted evaluation of existing statutes would be a more responsible first step than broad expansion.

3. Due Process and Civil Liberties Concerns

HB 2062 further entrenches reliance on civil protective orders that can result in the temporary deprivation of constitutional rights. While GVPOs may be appropriate in narrowly defined, high-risk situations, expanding their use and enforcement raises **serious due process considerations**, including:

- Orders issued based on limited or unverified evidence
- Potential misuse in personal or domestic disputes
- Lack of adequate procedural safeguards prior to rights restriction

Any policy that increases state authority over individual rights must meet the highest threshold of necessity, proportionality, and evidentiary rigor. HB 2062 does not sufficiently address these concerns.

4. Fiscal Responsibility and Opportunity Cost

HB 2062 proposes additional appropriations from the general fund without clearly articulating **measurable performance metrics or cost-benefit analysis**. Every dollar allocated to this bill is a dollar not invested in:

- Mental health treatment and crisis intervention
- Substance use disorder services
- Community-based violence prevention
- Youth engagement and early intervention programs

These areas have stronger evidence supporting their role in reducing violent behavior over time. In a constrained fiscal environment, policy choices must be grounded in **comparative effectiveness**, not political signaling.

5. Risk of Expanding Government Without Clear Public Safety Gains

HB 2062 emphasizes administrative growth—additional staffing, campaigns, and system expansion—rather than structural solutions. Expanding government infrastructure without clear outcome benchmarks risks creating permanent programs that are difficult to unwind, even if they fail to demonstrate success.

Public safety policy should be **data-driven, targeted, and accountable**, not broad, indefinite, and assumption-based.

Conclusion

While the goal of reducing violence is shared, **HB 2062 does not present a compelling case that its approach will improve public safety in Hawaii.** The bill raises concerns about effectiveness, due process, fiscal stewardship, and policy prioritization.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to **defer or reject HB 2062** and instead pursue strategies that strengthen existing systems, protect civil liberties, and invest in interventions with proven impact.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,
Kamuela Kojima

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 5:50:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 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, MPH
Makiki

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 6:32:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
KELVIN AWAYA	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB2062. Reason being is that any red flag laws are unconstitutional. All American citizens are entitled to due process. This law would circumvent that and open the door for gross misuse and abuse as anyone could allege/accuse a person without cause/just. That causing them to lose their right without warrant/justification.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 6:39:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joelle Seashell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

If you are trying to infringe on law abiding citizens 2nd amendment rights by writing restrictive laws, then you are in violation of the oath you took to uphold the constitution and are not a viable representative.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 6:43:03 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing as a concerned resident of Hawaii to respectfully express my opposition to House Bill 2062. While I support efforts to reduce violence and protect our communities, I believe that this bill is not the right approach and raises significant concerns.

My main reasons for opposing HB 2062 are:

1. **Unclear Impact on Rights:** The bill’s language could be interpreted in ways that unintentionally restrict the lawful rights of responsible gun owners without clear evidence that it will effectively reduce violence.
2. **Focus on Funding Rather than Solutions:** The proposed appropriations for public awareness campaigns and enforcement do not address the root causes of violence or propose proven, evidence-based measures that respect individual rights and promote safety.
3. **Potential for Unintended Consequences:** Broad language around enforcement and protective orders could lead to confusion or uneven implementation across our islands, potentially affecting law-abiding residents more than those who would misuse weapons.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 7:03:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Martha Nakajima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. Thank you. Martha Nakajima, Honolulu, member of Indivisible

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 7:07:17 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Good afternoon: I am writing you opposing HB2062. The really basic issue i have is that fact that there is NO DUE PROCESS, I thought that we all have rights and part of that rights is having a formal process to plead a case. Yet the heart of this bill finds the person's rights being "ignored". Isn't there two sides to a situation? Please shelf this bill until someone can come up with something fair. That is all im asking. Thank you for your time! Aloha!

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 7:15:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

My name is Wayne Asam, and I respectfully submit testimony in opposition to HB 2062.

HB 2062 would appropriate taxpayer funds to advertise and promote the use of red flag laws. While public safety is important, this bill raises serious due process concerns. Red flag orders lack the procedural protections found in other legal remedies and can result in the removal of constitutional rights without a criminal conviction.

Using public funds to promote a process that bypasses fundamental due process protections is inappropriate. Public safety efforts should prioritize enforcement of existing laws and respect for constitutional rights, not promotion of legally questionable mechanisms.

For these reasons, I urge the committee to oppose HB 2062.

Respectfully,
Wayne Asam

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 7:16:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

My name is Kai Asam, and I am submitting testimony in opposition to HB 2062.

As a wife and mother, I strongly value both public safety and civil liberties. HB 2062 promotes the use of red flag laws while failing to address their lack of meaningful due process protections. These orders can strip individuals of their rights without a criminal conviction and with limited opportunity to defend themselves.

Promoting such measures with taxpayer dollars is concerning. Protecting families and communities should not come at the expense of constitutional rights.

I respectfully ask the committee to oppose HB 2062.

Sincerely,
Kai Asam

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 7:17:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Muneoka-Nagy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because using tax payer money to promote a process that bypasses due process and could potentially strip a law abiding citizen of their second amendment right is unacceptable.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 7:17:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 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 a high school student submitting testimony in opposition to HB 2062.

I have learned the importance of due process and constitutional rights in school, and HB 2062 concerns me because it promotes red flag laws that lack adequate protections. Taking away someone's rights without a criminal conviction or proper legal safeguards is unfair and dangerous.

I believe public safety laws should be balanced, effective, and respect basic rights. I respectfully ask the committee to oppose HB 2062.

Thank you for listening to young voices like mine.

Sincerely,
Xander Asam

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 7:47:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jarrod Goode	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is a waste of money. We do not need a bill to tell people guns are dangerous. Even we as law abiding citizens that jump through your hoops to own guns know this. This is common sense. Bit again no matter what bill you enforce on firearms no criminal will abide by them as they dont care about your laws or the aftermath that happens when they possess them

Please strike this bill down and dont waste tax payers dollars on what is already common sense

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 8:01:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Protective orders prevent gun violence; the data is clear. But public awareness and education is lacking, as well as funds for enforcement. Please pass this measure that can save lives.

Judith White, Psy.D.

Member, Kauai Indivisible and Moms Demand Action

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 8:26:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thank you for hearing HB2062, a gun violence prevention bill.

Younghee Overly, a member of Indivisible Hawaii

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 8:34:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lee Uchiyama	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 8:34:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne Kamau	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB 2062. Using taxpayer money to promote a process that bypasses due process is unacceptable. Mahalo.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 8:38:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support the passing of HB2062. This bill would provide funding to educate law enforcement and the public about the existing GVPO (Gun Violence Protection Order). Law enforcement members, family members and other members of the community have the potential to help those struggling with mental health issues before a tragedy occurs. The GVPO is meant to protect gun owners and those around them. It is important that HB2062 is passed.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 8:51:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Honorable Members of the House Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee,

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 immediate 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.

For some students, school meals are the only source of reliable nutrition available. For others, they may not fall within the parameters to qualify for free meals. Yet for these children, parents may not be afford to provide them with breakfast. These students go the entire day without eating. They are expected to learn while not having nutrition and meals to fuel them. Many teachers have students going to them asking for food. 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 worthy 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. Ensuring that children do not live with food uncertainty needs to be prioritized.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 9:02:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose the increasing of funds for gun violence protective orders. These court orders do not allow for due process, the alleged subject of the order has no idea of the order until served, this incentivizes people to lie. This process should be repealed. No new money should be spent.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 9:28:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to express my concerns with HB2062. I am opposed to HB2062. This bill is fraught with abilities for some to misuse and take away citizens right to due process. I understand the sentiment to enact such a law but it would be no different as something that removes a right to a driver losing their right to drive a vehicle if someone close to them claimed that a person was a danger. The beautiful thing about this country is our legal system. Yet we all know this has been used against good people and that fact should not be ignored.

The truth of this bill is that it is going to use tax payer dollars to promote what is known as a red flag law. Imagine if we used this bill in a different matter. Imagine if this law promoted the ability to take away the first amendment right from those who had opposing political speech. It would be wrong even if it saved a few people from making decisions that hurt others. The truth is law abiding citizens are not using firearms to cause harm, unlike those who don't follow laws to begin with and usually not acquire their firearm legally. The truth is a couple outliers don't call for a law to strip away rights over feelings over those that are not a part of this group. I have witnessed a woman claim lies to be truth in order to harm a man who had only tried to stop her from committing suicide. At first he was arrested. He was later released and she was found guilty of lying to police and in courts and she barely got in any trouble. His life was greatly negatively affected by her actions and he felt there was no way to prove he was right. Imagine how many others never got that clarity and were left in the shadows as a result. He would have lost his rights if he couldn't have proved otherwise. Thankfully he was able but this shows the flaws in the system.

I also went and got a TRO for someone who was mentally ill and was a threat to my safety. The current laws would have made it so this individual wouldn't be able to legally own a firearm. This happened in college and was about 16 years ago. My point is this law would make me any safer then and I argue it will make all less safe now. One persons opinion doesn't take away a right. The individual in question in every case deserves Due Process and this bill promotes the opposite.

Due process is paramount for a free and law abiding society. I ask you to please think beyond feelings and consider law when you place your vote. This does not even require a TRO which

has some due process involved and is far worse when actually judging a situation. A disgruntled neighbor should be able to ruin someone's life. The promotion of this type of thinking destroys the fabric of America and should be stopped now.

Please Vote NO on HB 2062.

- Chase Cavitt

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 9:28:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thank you

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 9:52:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vincent Tibbles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is extremely unconstitutional. This strips away all the protections of having due process and puts law abiding gun owners at risk for anyone even a mentally ill person to make a false claim and have your rights stripped away. This violates the second amendment and is completely not ok. I do NOT support this bill.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 10:13:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tanya Dean	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this measure as part of a robust effort to keep gun safety a priority across Hawai'i. We need all efforts to minimize gun violence fully funded and expanded. Mahalo!

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 10:38:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jordan Au	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I strongly oppose HB 2062 because it promotes and wants to use tax payer money for so called "gun violence protective orders". Gun violence protective orders violate due process because the person who is having their constitutionally protected items taken away does not have a chance to defend themselves in court before the confiscation happens and they don't need to break any laws for their stuff to be confiscated. Also, everything is based on one sided suspicion and is ripe for abuse because someone dislikes another person. Other things that kill people every year are car accidents and alcohol. If we use the same logic in HB 2062 for alcohol and vehicles, someone could call the police to confiscate someone's vehicle if they see them buying alcohol because they think they could be a danger to themselves or others. But in that scenario the person who bought alcohol has not broken any laws. Due to gun violence protective orders violating due process and having a high potential for abuse I oppose HB 2062 because I believe that the gun violence protective order law should not exist and should not be funded by anyone.

Thank you

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 11:02:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I'm a Hawaii resident, and a taxpayer who's deeply concerned about our rights and how our government spends money. I'm submitting this testimony to strongly oppose HB 2062, which pours more taxpayer dollars into enforcing and promoting "gun violence protective orders"—what many call red flag laws—and runs public awareness campaigns to encourage their use. These orders allow someone to petition a court to temporarily take away a person's firearms based on claims of potential danger, often without the gun owner even being present or able to defend themselves at the initial hearing. Hawaii already has one of the strictest versions in the country, and this bill just funds more enforcement and propaganda to push it harder. While the intent might sound good—preventing violence—no one disputes that we all want safer communities. But good intentions don't make bad policy constitutional or effective. Red flag laws are ripe for abuse. They bypass due process in the most basic way: ex parte orders (meaning one-sided, no notice to the accused) can strip someone of their constitutional rights overnight based on an allegation, not proof. The gun owner might not even know about it until police show up to confiscate their property. Then they have to fight in court—often at great expense—to get their rights and guns back, even if the claims were false, exaggerated, or motivated by personal grudges like divorce or neighbor disputes. This isn't justice; it's a shortcut that flips "innocent until proven guilty" on its head. Studies on these laws are mixed at best, with little solid evidence they reduce gun violence overall. Criminals intent on harm don't go through legal channels to get flagged—they just act. Meanwhile, law-abiding people get caught in the crossfire of misuse. And funding "awareness campaigns" with our tax dollars? That's just government propaganda to normalize taking guns without full due process. We don't need more ads telling people how to disarm their neighbors or family members—we need real mental health support, better enforcement of existing laws against violent felons, and actual crime prevention. As a taxpayer in a state with sky-high living costs, crumbling infrastructure, and real public safety issues like drug trafficking and property crime, I'm outraged that we're prioritizing funding for more red flag enforcement over those priorities. Our Judiciary is backlogged, our police need resources, and families need help with housing and healthcare—not more ways to erode Second Amendment rights under the guise of "prevention." HB 2062 does nothing to address root causes of violence and instead expands a system that's already questionable constitutionally (especially after recent Supreme Court rulings emphasizing due process and history/tradition tests for gun laws). I urge you to reject HB 2062 outright. Stop wasting our money on programs that risk innocent people's rights and focus on evidence-based solutions that actually make us safer without punishing the law-abiding. Thank you for listening to constituents like me who value both safety and liberty.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 11:48:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alvin Rodrigues	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose bill HB2062 as it is written it is not specific enough to be considered for instance what specifically will the money be used for and how much money will this cost the state. is this going to end up being some politicians slush fund. I would rather the state use this funds to expand our health care facilities for mental health and hire more mental health professionals and to provide gun safety classes in all schools.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 1:31:36 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strong support.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 1:46:43 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dave Patrick	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an individual citizen and as a member of Indivisible West Oahu, I support HB 2062 which does the following:

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. This will help reduce gun violence and gun suicides.

Firearms remain a leading cause of death for children and teens in the United States.

It doesn't have to be this way.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 1:47:55 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
RICHARD HOLIBAUGH	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello, thank you for reading my testimony. I urge you to oppose HB2062. With the revolving door in our criminal justice system, I feel appropriations would be better spent on the enforcement and prosecution of existing laws.

Thank you.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 3:15:45 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose HB 2062.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 4:31:15 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lori Nelson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose red flag laws as these orders lack meaningful due process to law abiding gun owners.

Using taxpayer money to promote a process that bypasses due process is completely unacceptable.

Using public funds for advertising and promoting red flag laws is abuse & wasteful of our government. Hawai'i has enough gun restrictions & I vehemently oppose any more government overreach on 2A Rights than you have already taken from your constituents. Stop making gun ownership more difficult than you do already. Suggesting more bills on gun rights wastes your time and my hard earned taxpayer money!

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 5:19:34 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
steven a kumasaka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

waste of money and time

please oppose...

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 5:33:03 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Bonk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 5:50:39 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chester Holt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Red flag laws are wholly unconstitutional. Rights cannot be denied based on claims not convictions.

It is also well known that abusers have the right to file red flag orders against their victims. This makes sure that the person they intend to abuse, or worse... is disarmed and vulnerable.

This law has the potential to endanger victims and disarm innocent citizens who have false claims against them.

If it is deemed necessary to disarm someone should they really be out in public.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 6:01:34 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gena Whitten	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the need for education regarding all forms of gun violence prevention. Hawaii has been one of the safer states in the country. Let's keep Hawaii safe from gun violence we see nation wide.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 6:12:21 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose hb2062

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 6:46:57 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steve Robertson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is well meaning but misguided. Without any due process, it becomes a doxing tool for your angry ex.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 7:14:50 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth Pascarelli	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a concerned law abiding citizen and resident I strongly urge you to oppose this bill. This lacks due process protection and can lead to law abiding citizens to lose their right to keep and bear arms without conviction.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 7:40:28 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jon Abbott	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE HB2062

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 7:57:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Hello,

As a person affected by gun violence (my best friend Kristine Cass and her 13 year old daughter Sandra were murdered in Makiki in 2010 and the shooter then shot and killed himself) and as a trained crisis counselor working with suicidal people with The Crisis Text Line, I strongly support this bill.

Dedicating resources to improve awareness and add training make good sense and is money well-spent.

Lives will be saved by removing lethal means, facts strongly supported by research, and we can spare family and friends the trauma of loss through gun violence, whether it's murder or suicide, which can last a lifetime and impact communities deeply.

I urge you to support this bill.

Respectfully,

Linda White

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 7:57:36 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose this bill. These red flag laws give no due process to those that may become victims of gun hating lunatics, who will lie about anything to get people they don't agree with in trouble with the law. Due process is decimated with these types of laws. Do not pass this bill please.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 8:08:56 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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 in Waipahu, HI 96797. I support HB2026 which will provide funding to teach our law enforcement and the public about our existing Gun Violence Protection Order (GVPO) law. Mahalo to the state of Hawaii for keeping its citizens safe by having some of the nation’s strongest firearm laws. Evidence has shown that temporarily removing guns from people in crisis can reduce the risk of firearm suicide: a multi-state study found that one suicide was averted for every 17 Extreme Risk Protection Order issued. Other states have used these laws to avert violence to others. 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. Please vote “Yes” on HB2026.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 8:12:20 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mitchell H. Weber	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE HB2062!

Redflag laws do not require burden of proof to seize personal property and should not be promoted with taxpayers money.

Mitchell Weber

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 8:17:01 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill would help educate the public and law enforcement regarding the very valuable gun violence protective order that is not widely known about in Hawaii. Thank you for supporting this measure which could prevent tragic injuries and deaths.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 8:28:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
scott shimoda	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this measure. This is a violation of due process where you are not innocent until proven guilty. It also ingringes on the Second and Fourth Amend ment rights with the seizure of personal property.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 8:34:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
NOAH DRAZKOWSKI	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is giving more unjustified power to law enforcement and other people over our second amendment right. We are still part of the United States and every citizen according to our justice system is Innocent until proven guilty. This bill automatically gives officers, family members, etc the right to remove my second amendment right with zero proof of guilt or having proven of committed any crime. This is very unacceptable and should be denied. I have copied the section of this bill that is the very violation I'm speaking to.

"...establishes a preventative gun violence protective order law that authorizes a law enforcement officer, family or household member, medical professional, educator, or colleague to petition a court to temporarily prevent or remove an individual's access to firearms if the individual poses a danger to themselves or others..."

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 8:50:40 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stanley Mendes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB2062

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 9:05:57 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

This bil circumvents the 4th and 5th Amendment. We are innocent until proven guilty, the fact any with relationship with the accused could request that they be deprived of their property before a hearing goes agasint everything our nation stands for.

Possing a risk and be interpeted as anything somone deems as dangerous, there needs to better articulation of what it means to be "a danger" that way we do not strip anyone of their fundemental rights before their day in court.

Thank you,

Craig

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 9:19:27 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frank DeJesus III	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB2062 because it infringes on our 5th & 5th ammendment rights

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 9:27:25 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vernelle Oku	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this legislation.

Please do not infringe on our 2nd amendment rights.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 9:30:41 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nico Cartagena	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair/Inouye, Vice Chair Say, and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in opposition to HB 2062, which would appropriate taxpayer dollars to expand enforcement of gun violence protective orders and fund related outreach and education expenditures.

I oppose this bill for the following reasons:

1. The Bill Expands Funding for a Policy Without Evidence of Effectiveness

HB 2062 directs general fund appropriations to law enforcement and the judiciary to implement expanded gun violence protective order enforcement and community campaigns. However, there is limited independent, peer-reviewed evidence that similar programs demonstrably reduce gun violence over existing law in a fiscally responsible way. Mandating increased enforcement and statewide outreach should be based on data that clearly shows positive outcomes for public safety — which this bill does not provide.

2. Risk of Eroding Due Process and Individual Rights

Protective orders affecting firearm access involve temporary removal of fundamental rights. While the intent is to reduce violence, broad enforcement funding without safeguards disproportionately risks impacting law-abiding gun owners based on allegations alone, not convictions. Expending public funds to expand such enforcement without strict due-process assurances undermines civil liberties.

3. Increased Mandates on Law Enforcement and Courts Without Clear Resource Plan

Appropriating funds without a transparent plan for staffing, training, and accountability diverts limited judicial and law enforcement resources from other critical community safety needs — including violent crime response, drug-related offenses, and emergency services. In many rural Hawaii communities, agencies already operate near capacity.

4. Public Awareness Campaigns May Promote Fear Rather Than Safety

Funding awareness campaigns can be valuable if appropriately targeted and evidence-based, but broad gun violence messaging risks amplifying fear rather than encouraging responsible behavior. Community outreach should be rooted in data — this bill’s educational programs lack measurable objectives and oversight mechanisms.

5. State Priorities Should Focus on Mental Health and Crisis Services

Gun violence — especially suicide involving firearms — is often correlated with unmet mental health needs. A better use of state funds would be evidence-based mental health crisis interventions, crisis hotlines, and community-level support services that address root causes of violence.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to oppose HB 2062. Mahalo for your time and consideration of my testimony.

Respectfully,

Nico Cartagena

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 9:34:04 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Harper	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

why is it necessary for this bill ? again it will solve nothing or prevent anything it just makes for more stupid law where it is not needed & unconstitutional.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 10:04:05 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sean J deMello	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i am opposing this bill because red flag laws infringe upon our right to due process.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 10:06:23 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Terry	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

Opposition to HB 2062

I appreciate the intent behind red flag laws and recognize that they are often proposed as tools to prevent harm and intervene when someone may be in crisis. I also understand the desire to ensure the public is aware of existing laws. However, I respectfully oppose HB 2062 because it allocates public funds to actively advertise, promote, and encourage the use of red flag laws, rather than prioritizing prevention, treatment, and support.

Due Process, Civil Liberties, and Judicial Oversight

My primary concern is due process. Red flag orders may be issued ex parte, without the respondent present, resulting in the temporary suspension of a fundamental right based on allegations rather than adjudicated facts. While this may be intended as a precautionary measure, using public funds to promote this process risks normalizing the idea that rights may be removed first and addressed later. The state should exercise caution before encouraging broader use of any mechanism that bypasses traditional adversarial safeguards.

The Risk of Overuse and Strain on the Judicial System

I am also concerned about the potential for overuse or misuse. Advertising and promotional campaigns may unintentionally encourage red flag petitions in situations for which they were not intended, including personal disputes, family conflicts, or workplace disagreements. Increased use driven by fear-based or urgency-focused messaging risks transforming a tool meant to be a last resort into a first response.

Mental Health, Public Safety, and the Appropriate Legal Response

It is also important to clearly understand how mental health and violence are actually linked in Hawai'i. Serious mental illness alone is not a strong predictor of violent behavior. Most individuals experiencing mental health challenges are far more likely to be victims of violence than perpetrators. When violence does intersect with mental health in our state, it is most often during acute crises involving untreated or under-treated conditions, substance abuse, or significant life stressors — not diagnosis alone.

From a public health perspective, the most significant connection between mental health and violence in Hawai'i is self-directed harm. Suicide accounts for the majority of firearm-related deaths in the state. Many individuals at risk have no criminal history but do experience untreated mental health distress, substance abuse, or social isolation. Policies that emphasize reporting and legal intervention, rather than access to care, risk missing the population most in need of help.

Substance abuse, particularly alcohol and methamphetamine use, is a major compounding factor in incidents involving violence or crisis in Hawai‘i. Combined with housing instability, overcrowding, and limited access to timely mental health services — especially in rural areas — these factors often escalate situations that could have been addressed earlier through treatment and support.

Effectiveness and Use of Public Funds

I am further concerned by the lack of clear evidence supporting the effectiveness of promoting red flag laws as a violence-reduction strategy. While these laws are frequently described as preventative, empirical evidence regarding their impact on overall violence reduction remains mixed. Allocating public funds to promote their use without robust, Hawai‘i-specific outcome data raises concerns that this policy may be driven more by visibility and optics than by demonstrated results.

For these reasons, I am concerned that publicly promoting the use of red flag laws may also create a chilling effect on help-seeking behavior. Individuals may avoid counseling or crisis services out of fear that seeking help could trigger legal consequences rather than support. Families and friends may hesitate to intervene early, delaying assistance until a crisis escalates.

I also question whether allocating public funds for advertising and promotion is the best use of limited public safety resources. Funds dedicated to promotion could instead support mental health treatment, crisis intervention teams, substance abuse programs, culturally competent services, and voluntary prevention efforts that address the root causes of violence and self-harm.

Finally, I believe there is an important distinction between neutral public education and government advocacy. Informing residents about the existence of a law and its safeguards is appropriate. Actively encouraging citizens to initiate a coercive legal process against others — particularly one that temporarily deprives individuals of constitutional rights — raises serious concerns about balance, fairness, and trust in public institutions.

For these reasons, while I support efforts to prevent harm and assist individuals in crisis, I respectfully oppose HB 2062. I believe public funds would be better directed toward prevention, treatment, and support services that strengthen families and communities, reduce suicide, and address violence at its roots without expanding reliance on coercive legal mechanisms.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony on this measure.

John Terry

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 10:12:09 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah-Lyn Lokelani Jacobson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it goes against my 2nd ammendment right.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 10:19:11 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lekeli Watanabe	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB 2062. This bill would do nothing for gun violence prevention. The criminals who commit these crimes do it willingly.

Also no one should have the ability to remove one's firearms without due process.

I ask that you vote to oppose this Bill

Public Comment Opposing HB2062 (2026)

State of Hawai'i Legislature

Re: HB2062 – Relating to Gun Violence Prevention

Aloha kākou,

I submit this testimony in strong opposition to **HB2062 (2026)**. While well-intended and framed as a public safety measure, this bill raises serious constitutional concerns and fails to demonstrate that it meaningfully enhances public safety. Expanding funding and enforcement mechanisms tied to gun violence protective orders, without strengthening due-process protections, puts at risk fundamental civil liberties guaranteed and protected by the United States Constitution. My reasons are listed below.

This bill lacks due process in violation of the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Amendments. HB2062 supports the continued enforcement and expansion of gun violence protective orders (GVPOs), which allow the temporary deprivation of firearms and ammunition based on civil proceedings that may be initiated **without prior notice or an adversarial hearing**. As a responsible, law-abiding citizen, this troubles me deeply as hypothetically speaking, my wife and I could have a simple verbal disagreement, and it be misunderstood by our neighbors and construed as domestic violence. This may very well lead to law enforcement arriving at my residence and confiscating my lawfully purchased and lawfully owned firearms without any sort of due process thus forcing me to prove my innocence before a court of law (when I should be considered innocent until proven guilty of a crime). This leave me and my household defenseless and deprived of my constitutionally protected right to self-defense and self-preservation on top of the enormous financial burden this will cause me and my family.

Next, the Second Amendment protects an individual right to keep and bear arms, as recognized by the U.S. Supreme Court in *District of Columbia v. Heller*. Any government action that deprives a person of this right—even temporarily—must be accompanied by robust procedural safeguards (**due process**). GVPOs authorized under Hawai'i law allow for firearm confiscation and prohibition even with no criminal conviction, placing my constitutionally protected conduct at risk without the protections traditionally afforded to those during criminal proceedings.

The Fourth Amendment protects citizens against unreasonable searches and seizures. GVPO enforcement typically requires the surrender and seizure of firearms and ammunition from an individual who has never been convicted of or charged with a crime. When such seizures occur due to ex parte orders, the lack of prior notice of and opportunity to contest any allegations raises substantial constitutional concerns regarding such reasonableness.

The Fifth Amendment guarantees that **no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process** of law. Fundamental due process requires reasonable **notice and a meaningful opportunity to be heard before such deprivation occurs**, except in the narrowest of emergency circumstances. HB2062 increases funding for a system that permits rights deprivation first and adjudication later, shifting the burden onto the accused to prove their innocence after constitutional rights have already been curtailed. This completely disregards the

Bruen methodology established by the Supreme Court wherein any time the plain text of the Second Amendment is implicated (“the right of the people to keep and bear arms”), the burden of proof **must** shift to the government that any such deprivations that arise against an individual **must** be analogous with history and tradition of firearms regulation **at the time of the founding**.

HB2062 does not meaningfully enhance public safety. Studies evaluating extreme risk or gun violence protective orders show mixed results, with no solid evidence that such orders alone significantly reduce violent crime. Increased funding for enforcement does not inherently translate into measurable improvements in public safety. Additionally, GVPO petitions may be based on subjective allegations and predictive judgments rather than concrete criminal conduct. Without heightened evidentiary standards and immediate adversarial hearings, lawful gun owners may be unjustly deprived of their rights based on untested claims. Public safety is better served by investing in mental-health treatment, crisis response teams, and targeted violence-intervention programs. HB2062 prioritizes enforcement mechanisms over preventative solutions that address the root causes of violence without infringing constitutional freedoms.

In closing, HB2062, though well-intended, pushes forth a framework that weakens due-process protections while offering no clear proof of improved public safety outcomes. Laws that burden enumerated constitutional rights must be narrowly tailored, supported by solid, compelling evidence, and accompanied by rigorous procedural safeguards (**due process**).

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Legislature to **reject HB2062** or substantially amend it to ensure full compliance with the Second, Fourth, and Fifth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Tysen K. Burdett

Sources

1. Hawai‘i House Bill 2062 (2026), “Relating to Gun Violence Prevention”:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2026/bills/HB2062_.HTM
2. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, *Due Process Protections in Extreme Risk Protection Orders* (March 2023):
<https://publichealth.jhu.edu/sites/default/files/2023-04/erpo-due-process-march-2023-final.pdf>
3. Johns Hopkins American Health Initiative, *Hawai‘i Gun Violence Protective Orders Fact Sheet*:
https://americanhealth.jhu.edu/sites/default/files/website-media/high-impact/ERPO/state-resources/ERPO_Hawaii_GVPOvsDV_FactSheet.pdf
4. *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S. 570 (2008):
<https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/554/570/>
5. *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen*, 597 U.S. ____ (2022):
<https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/597/20-843/>

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 11:00:39 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 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

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 11:08:47 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tina Lia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill violates my constitutionally protected rights.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 11:12:23 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Benel Piros	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose due to the fact a Law ABIDING Citizen is prevented from having due process and will be stripped of any rights to keep and bear arms without any criminal conviction. Along with using taxpayer money to conduct such a process is suboptimal.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 11:29:42 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Margery Ziffrin Marlowe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Gun violence in the United States is clearly at epidemic proportions. This must stop. One way to combat it is through education of the public. I support this bill.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 11:40:12 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose HB2062 as written.

in this time of shrinking tax collection and reduced federal money coming into the state.

I oppose any increased spending by the state that does not met the basic function of government.

thank you

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 11:45:18 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Lono	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,
I submit this testimony in *strong opposition* to **HB2062**.

While the intent of **HB2062** may be well-meaning, the bill proposes broad changes without sufficient evidence that it will effectively address the issues it seeks to remedy. The measure lacks clear justification, defined outcomes, and adequate analysis of its long-term impacts. As written, **HB2062** risks creating additional administrative burdens and costs while offering limited assurance of meaningful benefit to the public.

The bill also raises concerns regarding transparency, accountability, and implementation. Stakeholders who would be directly affected do not appear to have been adequately consulted, and the absence of clear safeguards increases the likelihood of unintended consequences. Legislation developed without robust community input often fails to reflect real-world conditions and may disproportionately impact individuals and small businesses already facing significant economic pressure.

At a time when Hawai'i residents continue to struggle with rising costs of living, housing insecurity, and economic uncertainty, the Legislature should prioritize targeted, practical, and well-defined solutions. HB2062 does not clearly demonstrate that its potential benefits outweigh its risks, nor does it sufficiently address funding, enforcement, or evaluation of effectiveness. For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to defer or reject **HB2062** and to instead pursue more narrowly tailored approaches that incorporate stakeholder input, protect individual rights, and deliver measurable benefits to the people of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 11:51:28 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose red flag laws. Unlike Temporary Restraining Orders, red flag orders lack meaningful due process protections and can result in the indefinite removal of the right to keep and bear arms without a criminal conviction.

Using taxpayer money to promote a process that bypasses due process is unacceptable.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 11:52:46 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Bellamy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. I am a member of Indivisible Hawaii.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 11:53:49 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathan roldan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Nathan Roldan. I am a taxpayer and lifelong resident of hawaii. I **oppose** this bill. It seeks to appropriate funding for a job that the courts are already doing. Hawaii already has a history of wasting taxpayer monies. In thd opening statement of the bill, it is stated that gun crimes in hawaii is the lowest in the nation. Why do we need to appropriate money to do a job that the courts are already doing.

Redflag laws have been found unconstitutional in many courts. These redflag campaigns have been shown to encourage people to call in to have law encorcement to take away peoples guns just because the dont like them. Its a farce.

In Summary, I **oppose** this bill. Please dont waste any more of the taxpayers money.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 12:03:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support HB2062 because firearm suicides and homicides in Hawaii could be significantly reduced if our Gun Violence Protective Order (GVPO) law was better supported and utilized. Evidence shows that temporarily removing guns from people in crisis can reduce the risk of firearm suicide and homicide. A recent article in Honolulu Civil Beat states that since Hawaii's GVPO law took effect in 2020, around 200 people have died by firearm suicide in Hawaii and according to court records, only 10 gun violence protective petitions were filed across the state since 2020.

People can't utilize this potentially life-saving law if they don't know about it. After Connecticut increased its enforcement of their similar law, firearm suicides dropped by about 14%. Please pass this bill to dedicate resources to ensure law enforcement and the public know about the GVPO law and have the training to use it effectively, as originally intended.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Allegra Giacchino, MSW

Honolulu, 96816

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 12:17:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kamakani de dely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!!

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 12:18:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carolina Carreira	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I appose this bill for the following reasons:

- There is not enough evidence to prove that red flag laws actually reduce gun violence

“The evidence,” *The New York Times* recently [reported](#), “for whether extreme risk protection orders work to prevent gun violence [is inconclusive](#), according to [a study by the RAND Corporation](#) on the effectiveness of gun safety measures.”

The *Washington Post* [reports](#) that California’s red flag went basically unused for two years after its passage in 2016. Washington, D.C.’s law has gone entirely unused. Other states, such as Florida and Maryland, have gone the other direction, seizing hundreds of firearms from gun-owners. Yet it’s unclear if these actions stopped a shooting.

- The Constitution mandates that no one shall be “deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. Seizing the property of individuals who have been convicted of no crime violates this provision.
- Hawai‘i police resources are stretched thin as it is. They need to be prioritized to stopping actual violent crimes, no perceived, unfounded threats.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 12:18:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Beverley Brand	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Mr. Tarnas et al,

I strongly support HB 2062

Beverley Brand

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 12:19:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mallory De Dely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!!

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 12:22:03 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Dedely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!!

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 12:25:49 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marlon Calventas	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose this bill.

I'm all in for prevention that actually moves the needle. But this bill, as written, feels like funding motion without direction. It puts money into staffing and "public awareness" without defining what success looks like—no hard targets, no timelines, no required results. When there's no scoreboard, taxpayers don't get proof—just a bigger bill.

And those awareness campaigns? They can get weird fast. Ads, consultants, PR... lots of noise, not much change. If the message drives more filings, the courts get heavier, costs go up, hearings slow down—yet the bill doesn't solve the real choke point: treatment access, crisis follow-up, and the support that prevents repeat risk.

Here's the other reality: a lot of gun violence comes from people already breaking the rules—folks not licensed to own, carry, or handle firearms. This won't stop criminals from doing criminal acts. It risks piling process on the law-abiding while the worst actors ignore it.

Open-ended funding and new units can quietly become permanent. If we spend public money, tie it to measurable outcomes, audits, spending limits, and a sunset clause. Otherwise, it's a blank check.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 12:49:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 12:58:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Philip Tong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB2062 on the grounds it could violate an individuals second amendment rights

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 1:17:48 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
nahoa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members,

I am writing as a Hawai‘i resident, parent, and taxpayer to respectfully oppose this measure as currently drafted.

I agree that gun violence is a serious issue and that Hawai‘i should continue to pursue strategies that prevent harm while protecting public safety. However, I have concerns that this bill expands funding and institutional reliance on gun violence protective orders (GVPOs) without sufficient safeguards, outcome metrics, or attention to due process impacts.

Act 150 already authorizes the temporary removal of firearms and ammunition based on ex parte petitions, prior to a full evidentiary hearing. While this authority may be appropriate in narrowly defined circumstances, expanding public awareness campaigns and enforcement capacity without corresponding investments in procedural protections risks normalizing GVPOs as a default response rather than a carefully applied preventive tool.

The bill emphasizes education and outreach on the use of GVPOs, but does not establish clear standards for training on evidentiary thresholds, referral alternatives, or protections against misuse or over-application—particularly in emotionally charged contexts such as family disputes, workplace conflicts, or mental health crises. Increased funding without balanced guardrails may unintentionally increase the number of petitions while placing additional strain on the judiciary and affected families.

Additionally, the bill does not identify measurable performance indicators demonstrating that expanded GVPO awareness campaigns reduce gun violence, suicides, or accidental injuries, as distinct from increasing petition volume. Public funds should be tied to evidence-based outcomes, not solely to program expansion.

I respectfully urge the Legislature to reconsider this approach or amend the bill to ensure that any appropriations include clear due process protections, defined training standards, outcome-based evaluation metrics, and meaningful emphasis on voluntary mental health and community-based interventions.

Mahalo for your time, thoughtful consideration, and service to the people of Hawai‘i.

Respectfully,
Nahoa

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 1:27:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ken	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

FEBURARY 4,2026

HOUSE BILL 2062

RELATING TO GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION.

Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is KEN MATSUI, and I am submitting testimony in strong opposition to HB 2062, relating to firearms.

HB 2062 proposes additional restrictions on lawful firearm owners under the stated goal of enhancing public safety. While that goal is shared by all of us, this bill does not meaningfully address criminal misuse of firearms. Instead, it imposes new burdens on individuals who are already vetted, trained, and compliant with some of the most stringent firearm regulations in the nation.

1. The bill targets lawful conduct, not criminal behavior

Criminal offenders—those responsible for the overwhelming majority of firearm-related violence—do not obtain firearms through legal channels, do not comply with registration requirements, and do not follow storage or transport laws. HB 2062 adds layers of regulation that will be followed only by those who are already responsible and law-abiding.

Public safety is not improved by increasing penalties or restrictions on people who are not the source of the problem.

2. Hawaii already has extensive firearm regulations

Hawaii maintains some of the strictest firearm laws in the United States, including:

- Mandatory registration of every firearm
- Mandatory permits to acquire
- Mandatory background checks

- Mandatory waiting periods
- Mandatory training requirements
- Mandatory reporting of transfers
- Mandatory safe-storage requirements

HB 2062 adds complexity without demonstrating a measurable benefit. Before imposing new restrictions, the Legislature should require clear evidence that existing laws are insufficient or that the proposed changes will reduce crime. HB 2062 does not meet that standard.

3. The bill risks creating legal traps for responsible owners

Poorly defined terms, unclear enforcement standards, and new administrative requirements increase the likelihood of unintentional violations. This is especially concerning in a state where firearm owners must already navigate a highly technical regulatory framework.

Legislation that creates confusion or ambiguity does not enhance safety — it increases the risk of inconsistent enforcement and unnecessary criminalization of otherwise compliant citizens.

4. Public safety policy must be evidence-based

Effective firearm policy focuses on:

- Violent offenders
- Illegal possession
- Illegal trafficking
- Repeat criminal behavior
- Mental health intervention- In 2022 President Joe Biden Amended U.S.C 18-922d in relation to firearms prohibition, quoting “Although federal law does not prohibit gun access by people who were adjudicated as juveniles for crimes that would have been felonies if the juvenile were an adult when they committed the crime, in 2022, President Biden signed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, which amends the Gun Control Act of 1968 taking into account juvenile records in the prohibition of sales of firearms to persons pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922(d).¹⁸ The law also clarifies that the prohibition on the sale of a firearm to a person who has been adjudicated as a “mental defective” or committed to a mental institution applies to an adjudication or commitment at *age 16 or older.*”

Source <https://giffords.org/lawcenter/gun-laws/policy-areas/who-can-have-a-gun/firearm-prohibitions/>

- Community-based violence prevention

HB 2062 does not meaningfully address any of these areas. Instead, it diverts attention and resources away from strategies that have proven impact.

5. Constitutional and civil-liberty concerns

The U.S. Supreme Court has reaffirmed that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to keep and bear arms. Any legislation restricting that right must be:

- Narrowly tailored
- Supported by historical tradition
- Justified by clear evidence

HB 2062 risks overreaching beyond what is constitutionally permissible, exposing the state to legal challenges and unnecessary litigation costs.

Conclusion

HB 2062 does not improve public safety, does not address criminal misuse of firearms, and places additional burdens on responsible, vetted, law-abiding citizens. Hawaii's firearm owners already comply with some of the most restrictive laws in the country. Adding further restrictions without clear justification is neither effective nor fair.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to hold HB 2062.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

KEN MATSUI

Kenmatsui31@gmail.com

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 1:30:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB2062.

It just just promotes Red Flag laws and there is no due process.

You should stop trying to create more laws that have no effect on crime. Start supporting existing laws to prevent crimes and repeat criminals. Enforce the laws that already exist. This is not the way to do it.

vote no on HB 2062

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 1:45:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support HB 2062 to appropriate funds to enforce gun violence protective orders. These funds will help Hawaii to maintain its status as a state with low gun violence rates, and educate all community members on how to support the community to remain safe. It will also support the safe being of law enforcement who interact with individuals who are not in condition to safely have a gun in their possession.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 1:48:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ihilani Buffett	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I respectfully submit testimony in opposition to HB2062.

While I support efforts to reduce violence and keep communities safe, this bill expands funding and promotion of gun violence protective orders without addressing serious concerns about due process, accountability, and effectiveness. Protective orders that restrict constitutional rights should require the highest standard of evidence and procedural safe guards, yet this bill focuses on expansion and outreach rather than strengthening protection against misuse or error.

HB2062 risks normalizing firearm removal based on allegations rather than convictions, potentially impacting lawful gun owners who have committed no crime. Increased public awareness campaigns may also encourage overuse of these orders without sufficient judicial scrutiny, which can undermine trust in the legal system.

Resources would be better directed toward mental health services, crisis intervention, and voluntary support programs that address root causes of violence without compromising civil liberties.

For these reasons, I urge the legislature to oppose HB2062

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 1:59:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeffrey King	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This red flag law is nothing more than a despicable unconstitutionalsal trick to take away guns without due process. Any legislator or judiciary who proposes or supports such garbage should be considered unfit for office.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 2:01:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel Covert	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am opposed to this law because it supports a mechanism that does not promote due process. Due process is either important in all circumstances or not important at all. This support promotes less due process and I am opposed.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 2:27:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Bryant	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

After reading this bill it is obvious that the bill looks to provide nebulous amounts of funds on a one sided anti-gun effort. I strongly oppose this bill and the funding of anymore witch hunts against firearms and right to self defense. Hawaii has a crime problem and we focus on more red tape for law abiding citizens.

This kind of stuff is past ridiculous.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 2:48:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gabriel Kekauoha	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 2:58:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew J. Vioria	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha! I am a born and raised Maui County resident. I am a firearms owner out of genuine interest and in memory of my older step-brother who passed away from colon cancer back in 2023. He's the one who really pushed me into learning more about firearms and who got me interested in collecting firearms. When he passed away in 2023. I was devastated not just from his death, but the fact that I couldn't inherit any of his firearms to remember him by. In part due to the strict firearms rules and stigma against firearm ownership here that discouraged any normal citizen into going through the firearm acquisition process, me included at the time. I don't know the fate of his guns and things after he passed as his family have since distanced themselves, his things were likely sold off to pay for his hospital bills, or at worst, turned in to being destroyed for gift cards that were hardly worth what they were, in appraised value and value to myself. I would pay almost anything to own a firearm that was once his. No one has ever really stopped to think about how hard this death really hit me, even if he was only a step-brother of mine related only in blood he took time out of his life to spend his day with me over a shared interest, and that alone is why he was as important in my life as his own family was to him. And without anything tangible to hold and remember him by I no longer have a connection to that life. I'll never have the opportunity ever again to go to the range and spend the afternoon with him talking about the things he loved. All because of the suffocating rules that are piled onto gun ownership and the overall stigma against gun ownership. Something that's just as important and a part of their lives as any hobby. All of this out of a misplaced sense of good intentions at best against an umbrella term of "gun violence." Guns do not hurt people, people do. Bad people will always find a way to do bad things with or without a firearm. Putting time and effort into punishing the law abiding you do nothing to solve the root problem of gun violence. Criminals and mental health.

HB2062 is another such case to me, the flowery language doesn't take away from the fact that these are red flag laws. Red flag laws bypass due process and can be abused by malicious third parties. They work off an assumption and accusation regardless of merit or factual weight. Moreso they can lead to violent misunderstandings and confrontations, getting people hurt in situations they should have never put in to begin with.

I oppose HB2062 completely, I urge you to not pass this bill, and in fact, don't ever bring it back. As a firearm owner and long time resident, this is not something we need our resources wasted on. Red flag laws are dangerous and can get innocent people killed no matter how good your intentions may be. They bypass due process and subjects' innocent people into being treated like criminals unless being treated otherwise. This funding would be better put into

programs that address mental health and even educate the public of firearms and firearms ownership.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 4:17:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Will Buttler	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 2062. While the stated intent of this bill is to enhance public safety, the mechanism it uses—Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs)—undermines fundamental constitutional protections, lacks essential due process, and risks stigmatizing individuals without providing actual mental health intervention.

Key Concerns

1. Violation of Due Process (The "Ex Parte" Problem)

Under HB 2062, a court can issue a temporary order to seize a citizen's property and suspend their Second Amendment rights ex parte. This means the accused is not present, is not represented by counsel, and is not even aware of the proceedings until the police arrive at their door.

The Issue: Suspending a fundamental right before a person has the opportunity to defend themselves in court is a reversal of the "innocent until proven guilty" principle that anchors our legal system.

2. Low Evidentiary Standards

This bill allows for the seizure of firearms based on a "preponderance of the evidence" or, in some cases, even lower initial thresholds.

The Issue: Constitutional rights should not be stripped away based on a standard of proof typically reserved for simple civil disputes (like a car accident). Removing a fundamental right should require, at minimum, "clear and convincing" evidence.

3. Lack of Mental Health Support

HB 2062 focuses almost entirely on the removal of property rather than the treatment of the person.

The Issue: If an individual is truly a "danger to themselves or others," simply removing a firearm does not remove the danger. This bill fails to mandate immediate mental health evaluations or

provide the necessary resources to help a person in crisis, potentially leaving them in a dangerous state with access to other means of harm.

4. Potential for Abuse and False Reporting

By expanding the list of people who can petition for an order—including colleagues or former household members—the bill opens the door for "swatting" or malicious filings stemming from personal vendettas or workplace disputes.

The Issue: There are insufficient penalties in this bill for those who knowingly file false or frivolous petitions, creating a lopsided system where the victim of a false report bears the entire legal and financial burden to restore their reputation and rights.

Conclusion

Public safety is a priority we all share. However, we cannot trade away the Fourth, Fifth, and Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens for a system that bypasses the judicial safeguards intended to protect us all. HB 2062 is a "solution" that ignores the root causes of violence while eroding the very due process that defines our democracy.

I respectfully urge the Committee to hold HB 2062.

Sincerely,

William Buttler

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 4:28:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Justice, M.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My apologies for missing the testimony deadline. However, as a retired physician and a member of Indivisible Hawaii, I strongly support this bill. There must be adequate funding for the enforcement of protective orders to prevent gun violence and related public education on these protective orders.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 4:46:32 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. It only further encouraged disarming the country, and removes gun owners ability to sell or transfer their firearms. More erosion of the 2nd Amendment. As a taxpayer, I do not consent to more wasteful spending. Kill this bill.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 4:48:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
james	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB2062. This promotes Red Flag laws is simply communism. The person who writes these bill must be communist. But than again, who in the capitol is not communist?

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 5:37:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support this legislation.

David Ball

Waiālae-Kahala

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 6:17:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Krystal Barnett	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Prevent senseless gun deaths

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 6:42:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Domenick Taylan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB2062 is a concerning bill because this bill raises red flag law and it violates our 4th and 5th amendments. This bill could be potentially misused against a responsible owner, expanding enforcement of protective orders can result firearms taken away based on perceived future risk, not criminal conviction.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 8:01:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Soleil Dolyn	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I respectfully oppose this proposed red flag law because it threatens fundamental constitutional rights while offering uncertain public safety benefits. These kinds of laws rely on ex parte hearings, allowing firearms to be seized without the accused present to respond to allegations. This process undermines the Fifth Amendment’s guarantee of due process and reverses the presumption of innocence by punishing individuals before any crime has been committed. Red flag laws also raise serious Second and Fourth Amendment concerns. Confiscating legally owned property without a criminal conviction or full judicial process amounts to an unreasonable seizure and infringes on the right to self-defense. The potential for abuse is significant—false or malicious claims in the context of personal disputes can result in life-altering consequences, often without meaningful penalties for those who make false accusations. There is also limited evidence that red flag laws reduce mass shootings or overall murder rates, while documented cases show that serving confiscation orders can place both law enforcement officers and gun owners in dangerous, sometimes fatal, situations. Additionally, the cost of contesting these orders disproportionately harms low-income individuals, effectively denying them access to justice. Finally, these laws promote a troubling “pre-crime” model of governance and risk further stigmatizing mental illness, despite clear evidence that mental health conditions are not strong predictors of violence. For these reasons, I urge lawmakers to reject this bill and pursue solutions that protect civil liberties while addressing public safety through proven, constitutional means.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 8:13:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janie Bryan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thanks to the Committee Chairs and Members for this chance to submit testimony in favor of HB2062.

It has been a while since the Extreme Risk Protection Order was passed into law in Hawaii, and it apparently is underutilized currently. Without proper public awareness of the law and how and when it is appropriate to be utilized, then the purpose of the law is stifled.

The more people/families in the public and helping organizations in the community that know about the law and its purpose the better. This bill will improve public awareness on gun violence protective orders and procedures and that will be beneficial to many in the community. Lives may be saved actually with more awareness and hopefully more usage in times of need. Please vote in support of this bill.

Thanks for listening!

**Janie Bryan
since 1988, on Oahu since 2003 in District 21**

resident of Hawaii

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 9:10:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shyla Moon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

strongly oppose

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 9:11:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isaac Moon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 9:33:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
RYAN TINAJERO	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I express my opposition to HB2062 (Relating to Gun Violence Prevention).

Gun Violence Protection Orders (GVPOs) disproportionately utilize a lesser degree of evidentiary basis upon which Second Amendment rights may be extinguished by the State of Hawaii. HB2062 alludes to a supposed data set that constituents are presumptively asked to accept. Lacking an evidentiary or otherwise empirical basis, it is imprudent to attempt passage of any legislation that can effectively curtail Constitutional Rights of constituents in the State of Hawaii.

In HB2062, there is a call for more gun violence prevention education. A more effective solution to ensure gun violence can be mitigated is by providing public safety education courses that incorporate the safe handling of firearms. Currently, the State does not provide a State-specific program to educate the public on safe firearm handling and operating procedures. This is a sad discovery since there are publicly funded driver safety programs for motor vehicles, but nothing for firearms. Motor vehicles can cause great harm since adults, children, and animals may be run over by high-speed, two-ton vehicles, so it's relieving to know that the State sponsors driver safety education courses. It's strange for me to hear the State Legislature tout that safety education are an express necessity for firearm ownership, however, when it comes to actually providing firearm education, the State provides no true mechanism to achieve this goal. Sounds like a contradiction that counteracts all public safety arguments to me.

All current firearm safety education resources are maintained by private sector institutions, thereby contradicting the State's very claim that public firearm education awareness is an express concern and contradicts the State's supposed interest in public safety. Publicly funded firearm safety education would meet the intent of public safety parameters. This education program can also be implemented at all levels of government, specifically, at the state and city/county levels of government, as HB2062 advocates. Failure to finance such bare minimum firearm education program on a broad scale would serve an indicator that punitive action against firearm owners is the ultimate goal of HB2062, not the enhancement of public safety.

If the members of the committee find it too difficult to revise this measure to finance firearm safety education and protect the public, then I invite the committee to vote no on HB2062. The legislation, as currently written, does not fulfill the baseline parameters of public safety by providing any true pathway to enhanced firearm safety education.

Thank you for taking the time to review this testimony.

Respectfully,

Ryan C. Tinajero

Voting Constituent of **House District 48**

Dennis M. Dunn

Kailua, HI 96734

dennismdunn47@gmail.com

TO: Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawai'ian Affairs

RE: H.B. 2062 Relating to Gun Violence Prevention

HEARING: Thursday, February 5, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

Conference Room 325

Good afternoon, Chair Tarnas and Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawai'an Affairs. I am providing testimony in **Support of H.B. 2062**. 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 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 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 as a concrete contribution to reducing gun violence in our state. Thank you for your time and consideration.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/5/2026 7:36:16 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tony Kawaguchi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill only prevents law abiding citizens from keeping and exercising their 2nd amendment rights, while giving unilateral unchecked power to the government to take away those rights without due process.

This bill obviously attacks the 4th amendment, which protects individuals against unreasonable searches and seizures by the government... and requires that warrants be issued by a judge only upon probable cause.

This bill does nothing to protect people from criminals, who do not obey gun laws, and obtain weapons illegally, regardless of any gun laws. .

The main question is - who exactly determines when a person is a danger, and what is the standard? This vague language will cause confusion and the infringement of individual rights.

The government's abuse of power was demonstrated during the covid era, when individuals were prevented from walking in parks and forced to sit indoors, even as being outdoors was the safest place to be.

How many people died because medical professionals and government officials told the public to remain inside retirement homes?

The State should not be given more power over individuals, especially with regard to personal safety. Individuals should be allowed as much freedom and power to protect themselves as possible.

HB-2062

Submitted on: 2/5/2026 1:49:03 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

- 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.

Thank you!