

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

LATE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2575, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO FIREARMS

Before the Senate Committee on
JUDICIARY

Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 10:15 AM
State Capitol Conference Room 016

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) supports Senate Bill 2575 SD 1. This bill establishes mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment for certain class A felonies involving firearms. Additionally, it increases penalties from class B felonies to class A felonies for individuals who possess firearms or ammunition while being prosecuted for or convicted of various serious offenses. The bill also elevates several firearm-related misdemeanors to class A felonies, including possession of firearms by individuals under court restraining orders and carrying firearms while under the influence of controlled substances. Furthermore, it establishes possession of methamphetamine while carrying a firearm as a class A felony.

The DLE supports these enhanced penalties as they directly address the serious public safety concerns associated with firearms in the hands of individuals who pose a heightened risk to our communities. By imposing mandatory minimum sentences for certain firearms offenses and elevating the classification of other firearms violations, this bill sends a clear message that firearm misuse, especially by those already involved in

the criminal justice system or under court orders, will be met with serious consequences.

The combination of firearms and controlled substances, particularly methamphetamine, presents an exceptionally dangerous threat to public safety. This legislation appropriately recognizes this danger by establishing the most severe felony classification for such offenses. These proposed changes will provide law enforcement with stronger tools to combat gun violence and protect our communities, while also serving as a powerful deterrent to those who might otherwise illegally possess or misuse firearms.

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



JOHN PELLETIER
CHIEF OF POLICE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

COUNTY OF MAUI

55 MAHALANI STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
TELEPHONE: (808) 244-6400
FAX: (808) 244-6411



WADE M. MAEDA
DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

February 26, 2026

Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Honorable Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
and Members
Judiciary Committee
The Thirty-Third Legislature
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

SUBJECT: Testimony in support of S.B. 2575 SD1, Relating to Firearms

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I write to express my unequivocal support for SB 2575 SD1.

This bill draws a clear line, if you are already breaking the law, or under a court order, you should not be allowed to carry a firearm in Hawaii. By requiring mandatory prison sentences for the most serious firearm offenses, it sends a strong message that Hawaii will not accept reckless or violent behavior involving firearms. It puts the safety of victims and our communities first, showing that accountability and protection are essential.

From a law enforcement perspective, the risks are clear. Officers responding to domestic violence, traffic stops, or disturbances often face very dangerous situations. Tougher penalties for unlawful firearm possession by high-risk offender's help reduce the chance of armed resistance, calm tense situations, and lower the risk of officer-involved shootings. Preventing these incidents is the best way to ensure accountability.

These tragedies often share the same warning signs, such as individuals already engaged in serious criminal conduct, individuals subject to court orders, or impaired by drugs or alcohol, and individuals armed with firearms they should never have possessed. These are not unforeseeable acts; they are predictable and preventable circumstances that demand decisive intervention. SB 2575 SD1 addresses these high-risk factors directly, strengthening protections for our communities, our officers, and victims of violence.

SB 2575 SD1 honors not only Officer Suzanne O, but all law enforcement officers in Hawaii who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty, as well as the spouses, children, parents, and siblings whose lives have been forever changed by their loss. While we cannot undo past tragedies, we must take deliberate, concrete steps to prevent future ones.

Hawaii cannot afford another preventable officer-involved shooting. Hawaii cannot afford another grieving family, whether that family is of a community member or an officer who did not return home.

Every resident, every family that relies on the rule of law, and every officer deserves our full, unwavering dedication to keeping them safe, a duty we owe to them and must honor without compromise.

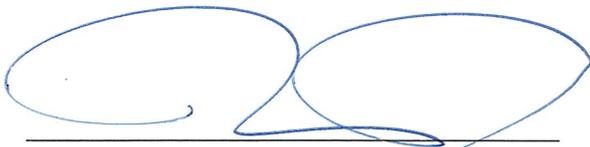
Public safety demands action. Our communities deserve both prevention and protection. For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to pass SB 2575 SD1 without hesitation.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



JOHN PELLETIER
Chief of Police



DEPUTY CHIEF WADE MAEDA

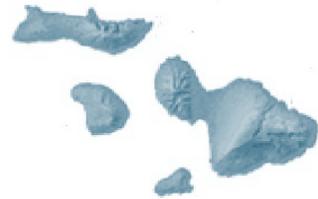


ASSISTANT CHIEF JOY MEDEIROS

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

ANDREW H. MARTIN
Prosecuting Attorney

SHELLY C. MIYASHIRO
First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney



DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
PHONE (808) 270-7777 • FAX (808) 270-7625

TESTIMONY ON
S.B. 2575 SD1
RELATING TO FIREARMS

March 1, 2026

The Honorable Karl Rhoads
Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard
Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Judiciary

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui respectfully submits the following comments **in support of S.B. 2575 SD1, Relating to Firearms**. This bill increases public safety by increasing the penalty for various firearm possession offenses to a class A felony with a mandatory minimum sentence of 20 years imprisonment.

We support this bill because it provides an appropriate sentence for offenders who possess, control or transfer firearms while a protective or restraining order is in effect. It also recognizes the danger posed by offenders who consume or are under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances while possessing a firearm, as well as those who possess methamphetamine while carrying a firearm. In these scenarios, it provides a significant deterrent for these offenses in the form of a mandatory minimum 20-year prison sentence.

For these reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui **supports S.B. 2575 SD1**. Please feel free to contact our office at (808) 270-7777 if you have any questions or inquiries. Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 9:25:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Bows N Bullets Ladies, we respectfully submit this testimony in opposition to S.B. No. 2575, S.D. 1, also known as “Officer O’s Crime Bill.”

First and foremost, we deeply respect and honor the memory of Officer Suzanne O. and recognize the risks law enforcement officers face in protecting our communities. We share the goal of reducing violent crime and improving public safety. However, we have serious concerns that the measures proposed in this bill may create unintended consequences that do not effectively address root causes of violence and may disproportionately impact otherwise lawful firearm owners, including women seeking personal protection.

Bows N Bullets Ladies is an organization dedicated to women’s safety, education, and responsible firearm ownership. We work directly with women across diverse backgrounds, including first-time firearm owners, mothers, and survivors of domestic violence, who seek education and lawful means to protect themselves and their families. Through education, training, and mentorship, we promote safe handling, secure storage, and compliance with all applicable laws.

S.B. No. 2575, S.D. 1 establishes a mandatory minimum sentence of twenty years without possibility of parole for certain firearm-related Class A felonies. While accountability for serious criminal conduct is essential, mandatory minimum sentencing removes judicial discretion and prevents judges from considering the full context of individual cases. This lack of flexibility can lead to disproportionate outcomes, particularly in situations where no violent act occurred but a technical violation is present.

Additionally, the bill significantly increases penalties for firearm possession violations associated with restraining orders and controlled substances, elevating certain offenses to Class A felonies with severe mandatory prison terms. While protecting victims of violence is critical, policies must also ensure due process, proportionality, and clarity, particularly in situations where lawful firearm owners may be navigating complex legal requirements or temporary court orders.

We are also concerned that measures such as this may have a chilling effect on women seeking firearm education and lawful ownership. Many women pursue training and ownership specifically for personal safety, especially those who have experienced threats, stalking, or abuse. Public safety is best served when firearm owners are educated, trained, and engaged with responsible ownership practices—not discouraged by fear of severe penalties for potential technical violations.

Importantly, research and real-world experience consistently demonstrate that education, early intervention, mental health support, and violence prevention programs are among the most effective ways to reduce violent crime. Organizations like ours play an important role in prevention by promoting responsible ownership, situational awareness, and safe handling.

We respectfully believe that policies aimed at improving safety should focus on preventing violent crime and addressing root causes, while maintaining judicial discretion and supporting responsible, law-abiding citizens.

For these reasons, Bows N Bullets Ladies respectfully urges the Committee to defer or reject S.B. No. 2575, S.D. 1, or substantially amend it to ensure proportionality, preserve judicial discretion, and support education-based approaches that enhance safety while respecting the rights of law-abiding citizens.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your continued service to the people of Hawai‘i.



IN OPPOSITION TO SB2575 SD1

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii **opposes SB2575 SD1** and utterly rejects the committee's paternalistic, fear-mongering rationale outlined in its report. This bill is not about "public safety", it's a brazen assault on individual liberties. The committee's claims crumble under scrutiny, revealing a dangerous philosophy: "for your safety, we must strip away your rights." This is the tyrant's playbook, where the government erodes freedoms under the guise of protection. This only leaves citizens more vulnerable to both criminals and the state, while draining taxpayer dollars on endless litigation.

The committee's assertion that individuals "*involved in serious criminal activity*" or "*under the influence of drugs or alcohol*" who possess firearms "*pose a severe threat*" and have "*demonstrated an unwillingness to consider the effects of their behavior*" is nothing but prejudicial stereotyping. This mindset still blatantly ignores fundamental principles of due process and the presumption of innocence. The committee assumes guilt by association, punishing people preemptively.

One of the most egregious provisions: upgrading penalties for possessing firearms or ammunition while **merely prosecuted (not convicted)**. What about false accusations, prosecutorial overreach, or dismissed charges? Millions of responsible gun owners consume substances responsibly without incident. Yet the bill upgrades carrying a firearm while "*under the influence of a controlled substance*" from a misdemeanor to a class A felony, with "*under the influence*" vaguely defined and open to arbitrary enforcement. It's prohibitionist nanny-statism, akin to banning cars because some drive drunk. Real threats come from violent acts, not lawful possession. Address those with targeted enforcement, never blanket disarmament.

The claim that "*removing firearms from volatile situations*" is "*one of the most effective mechanisms for preventing lethal outcomes and ensuring law enforcement officer safety*" is empirically bankrupt. Study after study shows that gun control laws like this do not reduce crime rates or homicides. They do however disarm law-abiding citizens while criminals ignore them. Hawaii already has some of the strictest gun laws in the nation, yet violence persists. Disarming people in "*volatile situations*" often means leaving victims defenseless against aggressors who will defy the law anyway. True safety comes from respecting armed citizens as deterrents to crime, not treating them as presumptive threats.

Even more egregious and outright unconstitutional is the committee's attack on those under protective or restraining orders: labeling them as unwilling to "*abide by and respect court authority*" and posing "*a severe risk to public safety*." This upgrades violations from misdemeanors to class A felonies, imposing mandatory minimum prison terms for certain class A felonies involving firearms (§706-659.5 new). But restraining orders are often issued *ex parte* without the accused's input and can be based on unproven allegations. They are frequently weaponized in divorces or disputes, before or without a trial.

The committee ignores that most domestic violence victims are women, and many rely on firearms for self-defense against abusers who defy orders anyway. "*Reinforcing court authority*" is code for expanding state power at the expense of due process.



The overarching argument "for your safety, we take away your rights" is the most pernicious lie of all. History is littered with regimes that disarmed populations "for safety," only to enable atrocities. Rights are inalienable, not conditional on government-approved behavior. Safety is maximized when individuals can defend themselves, not when the state monopolizes violence. This bill creates more felons out of peaceful people, clogs courts, and diverts resources from real threats. It won't stop criminals but will empower bureaucrats and erode trust in the rule of law.

Hawaii's aggressive Second Amendment restrictions are already facing serious challenges in the U.S. Supreme Court. Recent rulings and pending cases have struck down or questioned similar overreaches, emphasizing due process and the need for clear historical justification under Bruen. Passing SB2575 SD1 will only invite more lawsuits. Hawaii taxpayers will foot the bill for millions more in legal defense and potential settlements, as we've seen with past challenges draining state resources. Hawaii cannot afford to keep enacting policies that courts are likely to overturn.

Worse, the bill will create new victims of rights violations: innocent people caught in the justice system, deprived of tools for self-defense, and saddled with felony records for non-violent conduct.

Reject SB2575 SD1. Hawaii's people deserve liberty, not lectures from a committee that confuses control with care.

For freedom,

Abbra Green | LPHI Secretary | LibertarianHawaii.com | (808)824-LPHI

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 1:04:07 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jerry Yuen	Testifying for Pu'uloa Rifle and Pistol Club	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB 2575. This will violate the 4th and 5th amendments as well as infringe on the 2nd. Making this law will result in another costly challenge in court. There is no allowance for mitigating circumstance or judicial discretion. There should be consideration to actual impairment rather than just consumption of alcohol. Prescription drugs may be on the controlled substance list, but legally required for medical treatment. The right to remain silent is fundamental and you cannot criminalize non-disclosure or refusal to identify possession or locations of arms or ammunition.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 9:33:45 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jamie Detwiler	Testifying for Hawaiian Islands Republican Women	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in OPPOSITION of SB2575 related to firearms.

Please vote NO on SB2575.

Respectfully,

Jamie Detwiler

Hawaiian Islands Republican Women

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 5:48:09 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Namiki Roberts	Testifying for ha	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee Members,

The Hawaii Firearms Coalition respectfully submits testimony in **opposition to SB2575 SD1, unless amended.**

We support holding people accountable for violent or reckless behavior. However, SB2575 goes far beyond targeting dangerous conduct. Instead, it creates broad new penalties and firearm restrictions that are not proportional and, in some cases, may actually undermine enforcement.

Hawaii already has laws that make it illegal to use a firearm while intoxicated or to act recklessly. The focus should remain on punishing actual misconduct—not expanding penalties based on status or lawful behavior alone.

We are especially concerned about the provisions related to controlled substances. As written, this bill could effectively prohibit individuals with chronic medical conditions—who lawfully use prescribed medications—from carrying firearms for self-defense. Many residents rely on prescribed medications for legitimate medical reasons. They are not criminals, and they should not face firearm penalties simply for following their doctor’s orders unless there is actual impairment or unlawful behavior.

Concerns Regarding Penalty Enhancements

SB2575 also significantly increases criminal penalties related to individuals under restraining orders.

Currently, a person prohibited from possessing a firearm due to a restraining order already faces a **Class C felony** charge for violation. A Class C felony is a serious offense under Hawaii law.

This bill proposes upgrading certain violations to a **Class A felony** — the highest level of felony in Hawaii, typically reserved for the most heinous crimes such as murder and other extremely serious violent offenses. Elevating this type of violation to the same category as the most severe crimes in our penal system is far outside the norm of Hawaii’s judicial framework.

In addition, attaching a **mandatory 20-year sentence** removes judicial discretion and creates serious practical concerns. Mandatory minimum sentences of that magnitude can actually make cases harder to prosecute. When penalties are extreme, prosecutors may be less likely to charge the offense at the highest level, juries may hesitate to convict, and plea negotiations become more complicated. Over-penalizing conduct does not automatically increase public safety—it can reduce the likelihood of successful prosecution and conviction.

Penalties should be serious but proportionate. Overly harsh sentencing structures can backfire and weaken enforcement rather than strengthen it.

Recommended Amendments

If the Committee chooses to move this bill forward, we respectfully recommend:

1. **Remove language related to mere “consumption” of alcohol** and instead focus on demonstrable impairment.
 2. **If an alcohol standard remains, set a clear fixed BAC limit equivalent to Hawaii’s DUI standard (0.08%)** to ensure objectivity and fairness.
 3. **Exclude controlled substances lawfully prescribed by a licensed physician**, unless there is evidence of actual impairment or unlawful use.
 4. **Reconsider the upgrade to a Class A felony and the mandatory 20-year sentence**, and instead maintain penalties consistent with Hawaii’s existing felony structure and proportional sentencing principles.
-

Public safety is best served by focusing on violent offenders and reckless behavior, not by creating sweeping enhancements that are disproportionate and potentially counterproductive.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Committee to **defer SB2575 SD1, or substantially amend it** as outlined above.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully,
Hawaii Firearms Coalition
Andrew Namiki Roberts
President

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 5:49:25 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill. Mahalo.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 6:08:39 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

While I agree in part with this bill, I must stand in OPPOSITION to it as currently worded. The wording is highly confusing in some portions and even contradictory at times. Within the same sentence the same offence is listed as both a Felony and a Misdemeanor with no distinction between the two.

There is also the potential for a 5th Amendment violation within the bill by either ‘volunteering’ for a search or facing felony charges.

The Federal minimum for such firearms related offenses are typically 5 years, not 20.

Some of the offenses listed are fairly minor on their own and are Malum Prohibitum crimes, not Malum in se crimes. This would elevate something as simple as being drunk while having a firearm to an offense Akin to Murder in the State of Hawaii, even if no other harm is done. Certain prescription medications also fall under this bill as ‘controlled substances’.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 6:57:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Senators of the committee, I stand in strong opposition to sb2575, mahalo

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 7:07:28 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill on the grounds that there are a lot of arbitrary escalations of some crimes that are currently classified as lesser felonies only to prevent those people from possessing and owning firearms in the future.

It also deprives individuals who are charged not convicted of such crimes from their rights without allowing them due process.

Riddles with problematic language it should be scrapped, and re-written. It honestly should not have made it out of committee. What the heck are you guys trying to do?

Don't pass this bill. Do a better job writing one that is truly Pono.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 7:11:04 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB2575. This is an over reach. The mandatory 20'year prison term and changes certain crimes to class a felonies is extreme.

Also any persons with a TRO not able to transfer ownership of the firearms is a tremendous overreach. I ask that you oppose this bill

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 7:31:41 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in strong support of this bill to establish minimum terms of imprisonment for certain Class A felonies with a gun. At this point in history, we need stronger gun protections for our law abiding citizens. This will also encourage equal sentencing across the board.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 7:59:36 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

To whom it may concern.

This is a violation of our 2A amendment.

Over doing it, you guys are punishing the wrong people. Going after the wrong people. We are not criminals, thugs. We are law abiding citizens that want to protect ourselves and our families.

I oppose this bill and everything about it.

Thank you for your time.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 8:15:55 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

In support

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 9:09:26 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I very strongly support SB2575.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 8:38:37 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB2575! Overreaching and abusive of individual rights.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 9:54:27 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Why are we proposing a law that will make taking medication and having a gun a felony? 20 years is a bit harsh for a mandatory sentence especially if all the person is doing is carrying a gun while consuming alcohol. We need to have targeted justice and put away criminals. Stop fighting the law and uphold it.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 10:01:54 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicholas Zehr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I offer this testimony in respectful opposition to SB2575 as currently drafted, while acknowledging the sincere intent behind the bill and the tragic loss of Officer Suzanne O. Protecting the public and honoring fallen officers are legitimate and shared goals.

From a perspective grounded in public safety, civil liberties, and evidence-based criminal justice, this bill raises serious concerns.

First, the bill imposes blanket mandatory minimum sentences of twenty years without parole, regardless of individual circumstances, culpability, or demonstrated intent to harm. Decades of research and experience show that mandatory minimums do not deter violent crime more effectively than proportionate, discretionary sentencing, but they do increase incarceration costs, exacerbate racial and socioeconomic disparities, and reduce judicial ability to tailor punishment to the facts of a case. Even many progressive reformers and prosecutors have moved away from such rigid sentencing schemes for these reasons.

Second, the bill dramatically escalates penalties for non-violent conduct, including possession-based offenses, by converting misdemeanors into class A felonies that trigger decades-long imprisonment. This risks punishing status and proximity rather than actual violence, while diverting limited law-enforcement and correctional resources away from individuals who have demonstrably harmed others or pose a clear, imminent threat.

Third, the expansion of firearm seizure and search provisions tied to protective orders raises due process concerns, particularly where criminal liability attaches to failure to disclose firearm

location. Protective orders play an important role in preventing harm, but enforcement mechanisms must remain narrowly tailored, constitutionally sound, and focused on preventing violence; not creating new pathways to felony liability absent malicious intent.

If the Legislature wishes to meaningfully improve public safety while honoring Officer O's legacy, a more effective and just approach would be to:

- Focus enhanced penalties specifically on violent acts or credible threats, not mere possession.
- Preserve judicial discretion to distinguish between dangerous offenders and technical or non-violent violations.
- Invest in targeted intervention, mental health response, and enforcement against repeat violent offenders, which evidence shows reduces harm more reliably than mandatory minimums.

Public safety and civil liberties are not competing values. Hawaii can protect communities, respect constitutional boundaries, and avoid policies that unintentionally expand mass incarceration without measurable benefit.

For these reasons, I respectfully oppose SB2575 as written and urge the Committee to reconsider its scope and structure. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 10:09:39 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ty Robinson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senators:

I am writing as a concerned Hawaii resident who strongly supports tough, effective measures to punish reckless and violent criminal behavior and to keep our communities safe. Like all law-abiding citizens, I want criminals who misuse firearms to face serious consequences. However, Senate Bill 2575 is not the solution. It is legislative overreach that creates harsh, unnecessary penalties which will disproportionately harm law-abiding citizens without actually reducing crime.

SB2575 goes too far by dramatically expanding criminal liability for firearm owners based on status rather than dangerous conduct.

Specifically:

- It expands firearm penalties based on mere alcohol “consumption”—not actual impairment. A responsible adult who has a single drink with dinner while legally carrying a firearm could face new criminal penalties, even with zero evidence of intoxication or reckless behavior.
- It punishes individuals who use legally prescribed medications for chronic medical conditions. Many Hawaiians rely on doctor-prescribed controlled substances for pain, anxiety, or other legitimate health needs. Under this bill, simply taking one’s medication as directed while carrying a firearm for self-defense would trigger severe penalties.
- It upgrades numerous violations to Class A felonies—penalties typically reserved for the most serious crimes such as murder, rape, or large-scale drug trafficking.
- It attaches a mandatory 20-year sentence without possibility of parole for these upgraded offenses, stripping judges of all discretion. Mandatory minimums this extreme often make juries reluctant to convict, ultimately reducing convictions and weakening public safety.
- In short, the bill targets a person’s status (having consumed alcohol or taken prescribed medication) rather than any actual dangerous or reckless conduct.

I fully support punishing genuine reckless and violent behavior with firearms. But SB2575 does not do that. Instead, it creates disproportionate, one-size-fits-all penalties that will clog our

courts, deter law-abiding citizens from exercising their constitutional rights, and fail to focus resources on actual criminals. This is not smart-on-crime legislation—it is blunt overreach that will not make Hawaii safer.

I respectfully urge you to oppose SB2575 in its current form and to reject it when it comes before the Judiciary Committee on March 3. Please focus instead on targeted, evidence-based reforms that keep repeat offenders off of our streets, without punishing the many responsible, law-abiding residents and firearm owners. 99%+ of the crime in our state is not committed by law-abiding firearm owners. It is committed by criminals who are allowed to offend over and over again, preying on the innocent, with reduced bail and little to no jail time. Rather than new laws restricting and putting legal firearm owners at risk, maximal effort should be focused on reforming our existing legal system so that it is fair, efficient, and truly serves the people of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Ty Robinson

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2026 10:34:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Overreaching!

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 1:54:20 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. It is another overreach and abuse of power. What part of shall not be infringed do you not understand? Vote no on this bill.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 5:43:09 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose sb2575

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 5:51:53 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Thank you

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 7:01:24 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Thank you -- I am a member of Indivisible Windward.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 8:46:23 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

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

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

Stop accidental deaths, gun violence preemptively! Impose stricter penalties and keep our islands safe.

Thanks, Lisa Gollin

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 9:19:41 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. I feel that it is unnecessary to increase the penalties and will impact law abiding citizens.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 9:30:28 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Any and all RATIONAL laws that help protect the innocent against *irrational* gun owners is hugely needed in the U.S. Those who *claim* to be "pro-life" also tend to object to rational gun laws! Why?

We must consider that it is a 'right' to own a gun, but that right is not a blanket opportunity to do whatever we want with that gun. Eg.: It is our right to drive a car. But - We still pay fees for that right; We still must pass an exam for that right; and We still MUST obey RATIONAL laws for that right.

Those who chose to misuse their right to own a gun must be held to account with more than a 'slap on the wrist'. Especially since our laws are so lenient regarding gun ownership. I am not against owning a gun. I AM against the loose regulations surrounding that right!

Thank you for your consideration.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 9:33:30 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to support SB2575.

I'm a member of Indivisible Hawaii.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:00:13 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephen Medeiros	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill SB2575 goes against every Law Abiding Gun Owers. I OPPOSE this Bill. Giving all of those actions that makes a Legal Gun Owner a Criminal. Its like more Guilty until proven Innocent. So backwards.

This Bill goes too far and creates Harsh, Unnecessary Penalties that will Impact Law-abiding Citizens. You direct your attention to Law-abiding Citizens instead the actual Criminals.

Again I Oppose SB2585

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:14:37 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am writing to respectfully express my opposition to SB2575.

While I fully support holding individuals accountable for reckless or violent behavior, this bill goes too far and creates harsh, unnecessary penalties that will impact otherwise law-abiding citizens without meaningfully improving public safety.

SB2575 raises several serious concerns:

- It expands firearm penalties based on mere alcohol “consumption,” rather than actual impairment. Responsible adults should not face severe criminal consequences absent proof of dangerous conduct.
- It penalizes individuals who use legally prescribed medications for chronic medical conditions, placing compliant patients at risk of felony charges despite following their doctor’s guidance.
- It upgrades certain violations to a Class A felony — a classification typically reserved for the most serious and violent crimes.
- It imposes a mandatory 20-year sentence, removing judicial discretion and potentially discouraging reasonable plea agreements or fair case outcomes.
- It focuses on status and technical conditions rather than actual dangerous behavior.

Public safety is best served by targeting reckless and violent actions, not by imposing disproportionate penalties on individuals who have not caused harm. Overly broad and inflexible sentencing laws can undermine confidence in the justice system and create unintended consequences.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to vote NO on SB2575.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Wayne Asam

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:16:21 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

My name is Xander Asam, and I am 16 years old. I am writing to respectfully oppose SB2575.

I believe people should be held responsible for reckless or violent behavior. But this bill seems to go beyond that and creates extremely harsh penalties for situations that may not involve actual danger.

Expanding penalties based on simple alcohol “consumption” instead of impairment does not seem fair. There is a big difference between someone being reckless and someone who is not impaired. The bill also appears to punish people who take legally prescribed medications for medical conditions, even if they are following their doctor’s instructions. That does not seem just.

Upgrading violations to a Class A felony and attaching a mandatory 20-year sentence feels excessive, especially when there may not be any harm or violent act involved. Mandatory sentences also remove a judge’s ability to consider the full circumstances of a case.

I support laws that truly protect public safety. However, SB2575 appears to focus on status rather than actual dangerous conduct.

Please vote NO on SB2575.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,
Xander Asam

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:16:55 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

My name is Kai Asam, and I am writing in strong opposition to SB2575.

As written, this bill imposes disproportionate and inflexible penalties that do not appear to improve public safety. While I support firm consequences for reckless and violent conduct, SB2575 goes beyond targeting dangerous behavior.

The bill expands firearm penalties based on mere alcohol “consumption,” not actual impairment. It also risks criminalizing individuals who are using legally prescribed medications for chronic health conditions. Law-abiding citizens following medical advice should not be exposed to severe felony penalties.

The upgrade of certain violations to a Class A felony — along with a mandatory 20-year sentence — is particularly concerning. Mandatory minimums remove judicial discretion and prevent courts from weighing the specific facts of each case. Such extreme penalties are typically reserved for the most serious violent crimes.

Public safety policy should be focused, proportionate, and grounded in actual risk — not broad status-based prohibitions.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to vote NO on SB2575.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Kai Asam

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:37:15 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB2575.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:51:29 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB2575 SD1

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 11:29:44 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 12:08:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am submitting My response in opposition of this Bill.It creates unnecessary punishment for law abiding citizens.There is no Reason for this type of punishment for Laws that make no sense.Punishment for Alcohol consumption and not actually impaired makes no sense.Punishments for taking medication for certain conditions makes no sense.It is better to not pass this bill and come back the the table and talk about laws that make sense at later date.If this gets read please know I appreciate your time.Mahalo.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 3:09:43 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB2575

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 1:27:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Brian Ley county GMAC commishioner district 4. I strongly oppose SB 2575this Bill is overreaching with the penalties exceeding the crime .Its time to just starting to enforce the laws we have. Hawaii catch and release program needs to end. actually locking up our current criminals would drastically reduce the crime. we don;t need to make more criminals from overreaching laws

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 6:09:33 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Thank you!

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 8:29:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support SB2575 SD1

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 8:57:02 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicholas Landford	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I truly believe in the second amendment

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:24:38 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 11:07:55 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I submit this testimony in strong opposition to SB 2575, aligning closely with the concerns raised by the Hawaii Firearms Coalition (HIFICO), the leading organization defending gun rights in our state. The bill aims to enhance accountability for serious firearm-related crimes, it overreaches dramatically. SB 2575 goes too far by imposing harsh, unnecessary, and disproportionate penalties that will impact law-abiding citizens without meaningfully improving public safety. Key reasons for opposition:

- Expands penalties based on mere alcohol “consumption” — not actual impairment. The bill criminalizes firearm possession tied to any level of alcohol use, regardless of whether the individual is impaired or poses a danger. This punishes responsible behavior and ignores established standards for impairment (e.g., DUI thresholds).
- Punishes individuals using legally prescribed medications for chronic medical conditions. Many Hawaii residents rely on controlled substances for legitimate pain management, anxiety, or other health issues. This bill risks turning compliant medical treatment into a felony-level firearm offense, disproportionately affecting veterans, the elderly, and those with disabilities.
- Upgrades violations to Class A felonies — reserved for the most serious crimes. Reclassifying certain possession offenses elevates them to the same level as violent felonies like murder or sexual assault, diluting the meaning of severe penalties and overwhelming the justice system.
- Attaches mandatory 20-year sentences, removing judicial discretion. Mandatory minimums of this length strip judges of the ability to consider individual circumstances, potentially leading to unjust outcomes and making juries or prosecutors less likely to convict in borderline cases. This rigidity does not deter crime but creates inefficiencies and inequities.
- Targets status rather than actual dangerous conduct. The bill focuses on who a person is (e.g., under a TRO, prosecuted for an offense, or using certain substances) rather than proven reckless or violent actions. Existing laws already address dangerous behavior; this piles on status-based punishments that do little to prevent tragedies.

HIFICO rightly notes that we support strong punishment for reckless and violent firearm misuse. However, SB 2575 creates sweeping, one-size-fits-all enhancements that overreach, risk disproportionate impacts on non-violent individuals, and fail to target root causes of gun violence. Additionally, these changes would impose significant unfunded costs on Hawaii's already strained budget: longer mandatory sentences will increase prison populations and

corrections expenditures (with per-inmate costs exceeding \$60,000 annually), strain prosecutors and courts, and divert resources from proven prevention efforts like community policing or mental health services. In a time of revenue shortfalls and high living costs, this is fiscally irresponsible. I urge the Committee to reject SB 2575. It overreaches, creates unfair penalties, removes needed judicial flexibility, and does not effectively enhance safety. Focus instead on targeted, evidence-based measures that punish actual dangerous conduct without punishing law-abiding residents. Please vote NO on SB 2575.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2026 7:54:29 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

To whom this may concern, This bill is an overstep from our government. It will punish law abiding citizens more than the criminals it targets. Uphold our constitution and oppose this bill.
Mahalo

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2026 10:18:54 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

My name is Davin Asato and I am a resident of Kahului, Maui. I am writing to express my **strong opposition** to SB2575. While the intent may be public safety, the language of this bill creates a "status-based" criminal framework that is both overbroad and constitutionally fragile.

I specifically oppose this measure for the following reasons:

- **Consumption vs. Intoxication:** This bill replaces the objective standard of "intoxication" or "impairment" with mere "consumption." Under this language, a law-abiding citizen who has a single glass of wine with dinner while legally carrying could face a Class A felony and 20 years in prison. Punishing a status (having consumed a legal substance) rather than dangerous conduct (misuse or impairment) is a radical departure from established criminal law.
- **Targeting Prescribed Medication:** The bill unfairly penalizes individuals following the advice of their doctors. A person taking a prescribed medication—regardless of whether that medication actually impairs their motor skills or judgment—could be stripped of their rights and face life-altering prison time. This essentially forces Hawai'i residents to choose between their medical health and their Second Amendment rights.
- **Lack of Proportionality:** By making these "status" violations Class A felonies, this bill treats a person who has consumed a legal substance the same as, or more harshly than, those who commit violent crimes like kidnapping or arson. A 20-year mandatory minimum for non-violent, non-impairing behavior is the definition of "cruel and unusual."

The focus of our laws should be on **actual dangerous conduct**, not the mere presence of a legal substance or a medical prescription in a person's system. SB2575 fails this test of fairness.

I respectfully urge the committee to hold this bill. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Mahalo,

Davin Asato

136 West Hawaii Street

Kahului HI 96732

808-205-4616

davin.asato@gmail.com

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2026 11:16:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alex B.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2026 12:17:38 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly strongly oppose this bill

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2026 2:23:26 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Larry Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support.

Larry Smith

DH 27

808 286 2958

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2026 6:11:29 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2026 7:24:29 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB2575 as written

While I generally support increasing the penalties if a firearm is used in a crime, I oppose the sections of this bill that increase the penalties for possession of firearms and ammunition while under a Temporary Restraining Order or a Order of Protection. Under the current law, persons under a TRO or an Order of Protection must surrender their firearms and ammunition to the police. They don't have a choice, failure to comply is already a misdemeanor, and if convicted the Judge could sentence them to a year in jail. Which is longer than most Order of Protection. The use of a firearm while violating a order of protection is already a felony. If this bill passes this will increase the penalty for possessing a firearm and ammunition to 20 years In prison without the possibility of parole. This will subject someone who might possess a single round of ammunition to spend more time in prison than a murder, rapist, drug kingpin and arsonist, all of whom would be eligible for parole long before the 20 years are up.

If the bill were changed to increase the penalty to a class C felony on the 2nd offense, myself and many others would support.

Again I oppose this bill as written

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 11:22:30 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB2575.

The mandatory minimum sentencing is excessive, unreasonable and would be a very costly burden on Hawaii's taxpayers.

SB2575 would increase the penalties to the level of the most serious class A felony under Hawaii's Red Flag laws on individuals how have not been convicted of a crime or determined ot be mentally unfit based on third party claims.

In America we are supposed to be "innocent until proven guilty".

SB2575 could infringe our rights and punish individuals as "guilty of committing a Class A felony" because someone, such as an ex-girlfriend, filed a false accusation against them.

PLEASE OPPOSE SB2575.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 11:50:03 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB 2575. SB 2575 has the potential for unconstitutional overreach. SB 2575 creates disproportionate penalties, that will not improve public safety.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 1:24:23 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keola T. Keahiolalo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Completely oppose any more gun restrictions in Hawaii including red flag laws. Leave our constitutional rights alone already

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 2:05:04 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Fred Delosantos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

violates due process. violates 2nd amendment.

OPPOSE

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 2:54:02 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I'm in opposition to SB2575.

I'm for accountability, but this bill won't deliver what it's selling. It leans on harsh mandatory minimums—20 years, no parole—for certain firearm offenses. In the real world, research shows **sentence severity has, at best, a modest deterrent effect**, especially when penalties are already long; what matters more is the certainty of being caught. ([National Institute of Justice](#)) So this doesn't stop the next crime—it mostly guarantees expensive prison time after the fact.

And that cost is real. Mandatory minimums shift power from judges to charging decisions, push more cases to trial, and clog the system—more court time, more public defenders, more jail and prison beds. ([The Sentencing Project](#)) Hawai'i taxpayers end up paying for the longest, most expensive response, even when smarter options would reduce risk faster.

The bill also hardens protective-order enforcement by escalating penalties and driving more searches and process. That sounds tough, but it doesn't fix the core issue: violent offenders don't study statutes before they act, and addiction/impulse-driven behavior doesn't pause for a sentencing chart.

If we want safety, fund what cused enforcement on violent offenders, faster follow-up, and real treatment capacity. This bill spends big on punishment certainty for taxpayers, not prevention certainty for the public.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 3:56:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Howard Faria	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose AB2575.

The entire basis for this bill seems to be a knee-jerk reaction to a horrific tragedy relating to Officer O on Oahu. While action to prevent future incidences like that should be looked into, this bill is over- encompassing and lacks clarity that will ultimately infringes on the 2nd amendment rights of citizens.

Mandatory imprisonment for twenty years without the possibility of parole without giving any consideration to circumstances is barbaric. Plus, given the generalized list of the offences that would warrant this imprisonment, leaves too large a gap for entrapping individuals who wouldn't normally deserve such incarceration.

The changing of lesser class felonies to a class A felony just to impose your mandatory imprisonment is a clear attempt at revenge for what happened to Officer O. I don't think that's right and is clearly not what people perceive as justice.

TO: Chair and Members of the Committee
FROM: Breann Brewer, O'ahu, Hawai'i
DATE: March 3, 2026
RE: SB2575
POSITION: Support

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Breann Brewer, and I am a resident on the island of O'ahu. I respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of SB2575.

This measure represents an important step toward strengthening protections and promoting fairness within our community. Thoughtful policy development is essential to ensuring that Hawai'i's most vulnerable residents are not left behind. Legislation like SB2575 reflects a commitment to long-term stability, accountability, and community well-being.

From a social services perspective, policies do not exist in isolation. They shape access to resources, opportunity, and security. When systems are strengthened, families experience fewer crises, individuals face fewer barriers, and communities are better positioned to thrive. Preventative and supportive legislation ultimately reduces strain on emergency systems and promotes sustainable outcomes.

Hawai'i continues to face significant challenges related to cost of living, housing stability, and economic inequality. Measures that increase protections and support responsible governance are investments in our collective future. Strong public policy should prioritize people, especially those who may lack the resources or power to advocate effectively for themselves.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to pass SB2575.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your continued service to the people of Hawai'i.

Sincerely,
Breann Brewer
O'ahu, Hawai'i

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 5:23:29 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mr. & Mrs. O'Neill	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB 2575. This is very poor legislation and the constitutionality of it is very questionable.

Regards, Steve and Linda O'Neill

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 6:29:42 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charles Victor Scholz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony Opposing Hawai'i Senate Bill 2575: Elevating Violations of Gun Violence Protective Orders to Class A Felonies Chairperson and Members of the Committee, I am testifying today in strong opposition to Senate Bill 2575, which would elevate the offense of possessing, controlling, or transferring a firearm or ammunition while subject to a Gun Violence Protective Order (GVPO)—Hawai'i's version of a "red flag" order—from a misdemeanor to a Class A felony. Under Hawai'i law, this reclassification would impose a mandatory minimum sentence of 20 years imprisonment without the possibility of parole for such violations, while also permanently barring the individual from possessing firearms for life under both state and federal law. This bill transforms a civil protective order process into a direct conduit for severe criminal penalties, including decades-long incarceration, even for possessing a single round of ammunition. Critically, GVPOs are issued based on third-party accusations of potentially risky behavior, without requiring a criminal conviction or an adjudication of mental illness. This raises profound constitutional concerns under the Due Process Clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments, as well as the Second Amendment's right to keep and bear arms. Red flag laws like Hawai'i's GVPO statute already operate in a constitutionally precarious space by allowing the government to suspend a fundamental right through civil proceedings rather than criminal trials.

nraila.org

These orders can be issued ex parte—meaning without notice to the respondent or an opportunity to be heard in advance—based on a lower evidentiary standard, such as preponderance of the evidence or clear and convincing evidence, rather than the beyond-a-reasonable-doubt threshold required for criminal convictions.

virginialawreview.org

While some courts have upheld red flag laws as providing sufficient procedural safeguards for temporary firearm removal,

everytown.org

others have struck them down post-Bruen, emphasizing that such laws must align with historical traditions of firearm regulation and afford robust due process to avoid treating the Second Amendment as a "second-class right."

firearmslaw.duke.edu +1

SB 2575 exacerbates these issues by criminalizing mere possession under a GVPO as Hawai'i's most serious felony classification. This creates a "pipeline" where diminished civil due process leads directly to lifelong rights deprivation and extreme punishment. For instance, if a GVPO is granted based on an unsubstantiated accusation—perhaps from a disgruntled family member or neighbor—the respondent could face a Class A felony charge simply for failing to immediately surrender all firearms and ammunition. This violates procedural due process under the *Mathews v. Eldridge* framework, which requires balancing the private interest (here, the fundamental right to self-defense), the risk of erroneous deprivation through inadequate procedures, and the government's interest in public safety.

virginialawreview.org

The private interest at stake is immense: not just temporary disarmament, but a permanent felony record, loss of Second Amendment rights, and mandatory 20-year incarceration without parole. Yet the bill does nothing to heighten the due process protections in the underlying GVPO hearing, such as mandating appointed counsel, cross-examination of witnesses, or a higher burden of proof to ensure accuracy before such draconian consequences attach.

heritage.org +1

Furthermore, this bill likely runs afoul of the Second Amendment as interpreted in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022), which requires gun regulations to be consistent with the nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation. While the Supreme Court in *United States v. Rahimi* (2024) upheld a federal law temporarily disarming individuals under domestic violence restraining orders where a court finds a credible threat of physical harm—drawing on historical analogues like surety laws—it emphasized that such restrictions must be narrowly tailored and supported by findings of dangerousness.

csmonitor.com

Hawai'i's GVPOs, however, are broader, potentially encompassing non-violent or speculative risks without requiring proof of an imminent threat. Elevating violations to Class A felonies imposes permanent, not temporary, disarmament without historical precedent for such severe penalties arising from civil orders. Legal scholars and courts have noted that red flag laws risk unconstitutional overreach when they lack

rigorous due process, treating firearm rights with less deference than other constitutional protections, such as freedom from unreasonable seizures.

supremecourt.gov +1

In practice, this bill could chill the exercise of Second Amendment rights, as individuals might avoid contesting GVPOs out of fear of felony exposure, even if the orders are baseless. It also invites abuse, where petitioners could weaponize the civil process to trigger criminal sanctions.

While public safety is paramount, constitutional rights demand that deprivations—especially of this magnitude—occur only after full adversarial proceedings, not through a backdoor escalation of civil remedies. For these reasons, SB 2575 is unconstitutional and should be rejected. Thank you for considering this testimony.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 8:17:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear State of Hawai'i Senate Committee members,

The provisions put forth by this bill, SB2575 SD1, are an exercise in State government overreach by proposing to elevate possession, control, or transfer of a firearm or ammunition while subject to a red flag order (GVPO) from a MISDEMEANOR to a CLASS A FELONY. This is extremist and carries a high risk of abuse of power by attempting to side step American citizens residing in the State of Hawai'i's right to DUE PROCESS under the 5th and 14th Amendments of the CONSTITUTION. Hawai'i is a full fledged State of the United States of America and as such must fully abide by the CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and ALL of it's Amendments in ALL CASES. Furthermore, the penalties associated with existing red flag orders (GVPO's) in the the State of Hawai'i are already MORE THAN SUFFICIENT and questionably 2nd Amendment Civil Rights violating as it stands. Pushing these boundaries even further will no doubt draw yet more attention and scrutiny from the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division in particular Assistant Attorney General Harmeet Dhillon's Second Amendment Section which surely, we would assume, the Hawai'i State Legislature as a whole DOES NOT WANT.

In the case that it is unknown to any in attendance it must be reminded that under **TITLE 18, U.S.C., SECTION 242, DEPRIVATION OF RIGHTS UNDER COLOR OF LAW**, which can be confirmed at the official United States Department of Justice website, it a crime for a person acting under color of any law to willfully deprive a person of a right or privilege protected by the Constitution or laws of the United States.

For the purpose of Section 242, acts under "color of law" include acts not only done by federal, state, or local officials within their lawful authority, but also acts done beyond the bounds of that official's lawful authority, if the acts are done while the official is purporting to or pretending to act in the performance of his/her official duties.

My sincerest thanks for taking the time to read and recognize this testimony before the Committee as well as respecting my Constitutional 1st Amendment right to the freedom of speech and the press. I do greatly appreciate it and trust that you will make the correct decision to forgo advancing SB2575 SD1.

Letter in Support of SB2575

February 27, 2026

To: Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
Hawaii State Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Strong Support for SB2575 – Officer O's Crime Bill – Enhanced Penalties for Firearm Offenses

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Ryan K Gomes, and I am a resident of Honolulu. I write to you today as a concerned private citizen in strong support of SB2575, also known as Officer O's Crime Bill, which establishes mandatory minimum prison terms for certain class A felony firearms offenses and elevates specific firearm-related conduct to class A felonies.

Honoring Officer Suzanne O

This bill honors the memory and sacrifice of Officer Suzanne O and all law enforcement officers who have put their lives on the line to protect our communities. Officer O's death is a stark reminder that firearm violence—particularly when combined with illegal drugs and violations of court-ordered protections—poses a deadly threat to both officers and the public.

SB2575 sends a clear, unambiguous message: Hawai'i will not tolerate the dangerous combination of firearms with methamphetamine trafficking, nor will we allow individuals who have been deemed dangerous enough to be subject to Gun Violence Protective Orders to possess weapons with impunity.

Why SB2575 is Necessary

Hawai'i has some of the strongest gun safety laws in the nation, and those laws have contributed to our state having one of the lowest rates of gun violence in the country. However, laws are only effective when they are enforced with meaningful consequences. SB2575 strengthens enforcement by ensuring that those who commit the most serious firearm offenses face appropriately severe penalties.

This bill addresses critical public safety gaps by:

- **Establishing mandatory minimum sentences** for class A felony firearms offenses, ensuring that the most dangerous offenders cannot receive inappropriately lenient sentences that fail to reflect the severity of their conduct.
- **Elevating to class A felonies** the possession of methamphetamine while carrying a firearm, recognizing the extreme danger posed by the intersection of drug trafficking and armed conduct.
- **Imposing serious consequences for violating Gun Violence Protective Orders (GVPO)**, which are issued by courts after a finding that an individual poses

a significant danger of causing bodily injury to themselves or others. When someone subject to a GVPO defies that order by possessing firearms or ammunition, they are demonstrating disregard for judicial authority and public safety.

Addressing Due Process Concerns

Some critics have raised concerns about the severity of penalties for GVPO violations, arguing that these orders are civil in nature and that harsh criminal penalties may be disproportionate. I respectfully disagree.

Gun Violence Protective Orders are not issued lightly. They require a judicial finding, based on clear and convincing evidence, that an individual presents a significant danger. The process includes notice, an opportunity to be heard, and the right to legal representation. These are meaningful due process protections.

When someone violates a GVPO by possessing firearms or ammunition, they are not simply violating a technicality—they are defying a court order specifically designed to prevent gun violence. That conduct warrants serious consequences, particularly when the order was put in place because a judge determined the individual poses a danger to themselves or others.

Protecting Officers and the Public

Law enforcement officers in Hawai'i face increasing risks, and we owe them every possible protection. SB2575 recognizes that individuals who combine firearms with methamphetamine—or who violate court orders meant to keep guns out of dangerous hands—pose an unacceptable threat to officers responding to calls, conducting investigations, and serving our communities.

This bill also protects the broader public. Domestic violence victims who have obtained protective orders, families concerned about a loved one in crisis, and communities plagued by drug-related violence all benefit when the state takes a strong, uncompromising stance against illegal firearm possession and use.

Balancing Deterrence and Justice

Mandatory minimum sentences are a tool that must be used carefully, but they are appropriate in cases where the conduct is so serious and the risk to public safety is so high that judicial discretion should be constrained to ensure consistency and deterrence.

SB2575 applies mandatory minimums to a narrow category of offenses: class A felonies involving firearms, methamphetamine, and violations of protective orders. These are not minor infractions or technical violations—they are serious crimes that justify serious consequences.

Conclusion

SB2575 is a necessary and appropriate response to the ongoing threat of firearm violence in Hawai'i. It honors the sacrifice of Officer Suzanne O and reinforces our state's commitment to officer safety, public protection, and the enforcement of gun safety laws.

The bill does not criminalize lawful gun ownership or target responsible firearm owners. It targets dangerous individuals who mix guns with drugs, who defy court orders, and who pose a clear threat to our communities.

I respectfully urge the Committee to pass SB2575.

Mahalo nui for your dedication to public safety and for honoring the legacy of those who have given their lives in service to our community.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Ryan K Gomes
Honolulu, Hawaii

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2026 9:13:30 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

No individual should lose basic constitutional rights without due process. Red flag laws bypass due process and compounding the negation of rights by elevating the punishment to a felony is abhorrent and, again, unconstitutional.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2026 5:04:25 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I wish to oppose the passage of SB2575 As currently written, the proposed legislation elevates possession, control, or transfer of a firearm or ammunition while subject to a GVPO from a misdemeanor to a Class A felony, Hawaii's most serious felony classification, barring individuals from possessing firearms for life and establishing a mandatory minimum sentence of 20 years without parole. It's important to note that persons subject to a "red flag" order have not been convicted of a crime or adjudicated mentally ill, instead the orders are based on third party accusations of qualifying conduct.

Red flag laws have long raised serious due process concerns because they allow government to suspend a fundamental constitutional right through a civil proceeding, not a criminal conviction. SB 2575 turns a civil red flag proceeding into a direct pipeline to felony conviction, where diminished due process can mean the permanent loss of individual rights and decades behind bars for merely possessing a single round of ammunition.

This bill is overreach and will do more harm than good. I do not want you to support this proposed legislation.

Thank your for the opportunity to oppose.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2026 11:20:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Rzonca	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2575. This bill is government overreach.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 7:33:54 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear lawmakers,

Please oppose this bill! ALL of the State of Hawaii's previously created gun control laws have not reduced crime involving a firearm but just the opposite is happening. I see weekly HPD reports on crime happening in my neighborhood where the criminals are using guns. Where are they getting them? Where are the arrests and convictions? Please use common sense to see that your efforts in making harsher penalties that affect lawful gun owners are not going to work FOR THE PEOPLE! This bill creates anxiety for those legal firearm owners because it is infringing on the purpose of the second amendment basis. Please read the Declaration in independence and refresh your memory about why you should be holding up your constitutional duties as part of the governing authorities. Stop this mainland "democrat" madness in creating stupid laws that go against common sense in preventing crime. We need better enforcement of the laws currently on the books and please hire more Law enforcers to keep our communities safe. Do not vote for this bill.

Mahalo,

Jennifer

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 1:22:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha, I am offering comments on SB2575 SD1. I believe the premise behind this bill is well-intentioned, but statutes such as the mandatory 20 year sentencing, especially with no possibility of parole, are too static and do not allow for judicial discretion. Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 7:40:42 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ray J Dion	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill goes too far and creates harsh, unnecessary penalties that will impact law-abiding citizens.

Why I oppose SB2575:

- Expands firearm penalties based on mere alcohol “consumption” — not actual impairment.
- Punishes individuals who use legally prescribed medications for chronic medical conditions.
- Upgrades some violations to a Class A felony — typically reserved for the most serious crimes.
- Attaches a mandatory 20-year sentence, removing judicial discretion and potentially making convictions less likely.
- Targets status rather than actual dangerous conduct.

I support punishing reckless and violent behavior — but this bill overreaches and creates disproportionate penalties that do not improve public safety.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

HEARING:

Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 10:15 am
Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2575, SD1 - RELATING TO FIREARMS.

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

My name is Christine Andrews and I am a long-term resident of Wailuku, Maui. I am also an attorney licensed in the state of Hawaii for over 25 years. I am writing today in **strong support of SB 2575, SD1**, Relating to Firearms, which establishes mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment for certain class A felonies involving firearms; changes from a class B felony to a class A felony the penalty for owning, possessing, or controlling any firearm or ammunition while being prosecuted for or having been convicted of committing a felony, a crime of violence, a criminal offense relating to firearms, or an illegal sale or distribution of any drug; changes from a misdemeanor to a class A felony the penalty for ownership, possession, control, or transfer of ownership of any firearms or ammunition by a person who a court order has restrained from contacting, threatening, or physically abusing any person, changes from a misdemeanor to a class A felony the penalty for carrying a firearm while under the influence of a controlled substance; and establishes unlawful possession of methamphetamine while carrying a firearm as a class A felony.

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

Unfortunately, the use of firearms in domestic violence continues to be a threat for victims of domestic abuse. In the US, **more than 25 million adults have been threatened or nonfatally injured by an intimate partner with a firearm and access to a gun makes it five times more likely that a woman will be killed by an abusive intimate partner.**

Living in Wailuku, Maui, I have seen the increased presence of guns and how they impact our community. When I owned and operated a small family business in the Happy Valley neighborhood in the early 2000's, we never had concerns about violent crime. Gun-related violence or even the presence of guns was unheard of, and Happy Valley has a reputation as a rough neighborhood. Things have changed over the past twenty years. Now we witness people carrying guns and we see gun violence. **At my family business, there was even an armed robbery where staff were robbed at gunpoint.** This would have been unthinkable just a few years ago. My daughter lives and works at the family business in Happy Valley now. I am concerned for her safety if the presence of guns and gun violence continues to escalate.

We must take action now to stem the rising tide of gun violence on Maui, where we are seeing a criminal element that has access to guns and is willing to use them. The successes of the firearms control coalition more than thirty years ago laid a foundation that SB 2575, SD1 builds upon and I respectfully request that you vote in support.

Mahalo,

Christine Andrews, JD
Wailuku, Maui

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

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

RE: **S.B. 2575, S.D. 1 Relating to Firearms**

HEARING: **Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 10:15 a.m.**

Conference Room 016

Testimony in Support of S.B. 2575, S.D. 1, with Amendments

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in **strong support of S.B. 2575, S.D. 1, with amendments.**

Measures such as S.B. 2575, S.D. 1 address a critical and ongoing threat to public safety: the misuse and unlawful possession of firearms. Individuals who intentionally use firearms to threaten or harm others, who possess firearms illegally, or who combine firearms with illegal drug activity create an unacceptable risk to our communities. These behaviors endanger not only intended victims, but also families, bystanders, and first responders.

Equally concerning are individuals who possess firearms while subject to a court-issued restraining or protective order. Such circumstances present an immediate and well-documented danger to the person protected by the order, as well as to their family members, friends, and co-workers. Strong criminal sanctions in these situations are both appropriate and necessary to uphold the authority of the courts and to prevent tragic outcomes before they occur.

S.B. 2575, S.D. 1 appropriately recognizes that these categories of conduct warrant enhanced penalties under criminal law. I fully support the Legislature's intent to deter dangerous behavior, hold offenders accountable, and prioritize community safety.

That said, I respectfully urge the Committee to consider **modifying the degree of penalty enhancements** proposed in the bill. While increased penalties are justified, the currently proposed structure may be overly severe in certain applications. A more measured increase—one that remains firm yet proportionate—would better balance deterrence, fairness, and effective administration of justice.

In summary, I strongly support the objectives of S.B. 2575, S.D. 1 and encourage the Committee to advance the bill with amendments that ensure penalties are **targeted, proportional, and effective** in reducing firearm-related harm across our state.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued commitment to public safety.

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 8:11:57 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha I am writing today to express my concerns regarding SB2575 as it is written and will be asking for a no vote as a result. I think the intentions of the bill have mostly decent points in order to prevent dangerous and those with bad intentions from using firearms in a harmful or unlawful way. Unfortunately I am opposed to legislation that takes away judicial power and hands a sentence down that could be far overreaching regarding the circumstances. A person who simply consumes alcohol even one sup would not be the same as someone who is blatantly intoxicated. Also when is the person then clearer to posses and control that firearm again? If someone is sober the next morning but has drank alcohol the day before then would the technically be guilty still as written? Also people take various medication that has varying affects for people and may not hinder their ability to safely control and carry their firearm. I think this bill will affect law abiding citizens who have no bad intentions. I see criminals walk away with the current laws as is and no one bats an eye. I think we should use the current laws, which control these issues already and actually hold criminals accountable.

Please vote no on SB2575

Mahalo,

Chase Cavitt

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 9:54:27 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha JDC Committee,

I strongly Oppose SB 2527. Per the description of the SB the due process is violated. Such vague information allows for interpretation, not following the US Constitution.

Thank you,

Normand A Cote

Law Abiding Citizen

LATE

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 6:53:25 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peter carroll	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I feel this bill is unnecessary & we should be focusing on more important issues.

Thank you

LATE

SB-2575-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 9:13:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/3/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. It is poorly written and without due process is ridiculous and is just wrong.

Paul Fukuda