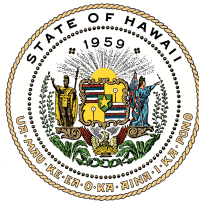


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



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 SENATE BILL 3040, SENATE DRAFT 1, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION**

**Before the House Committee on
FINANCE**

Wednesday, April 8, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

State Capitol Conference Room 308

Testifiers: Mike Lambert

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

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) supports Senate Bill 3040, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1. This bill replaces the Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission with the Office of Gun Violence Prevention, establishes the powers and duties of the new Office, and appropriates funds for its operation, effective July 1, 3000.

The DLE supports the establishment of the Office of Gun Violence Prevention as a dedicated, focused entity to address the serious and ongoing public safety threat posed by gun violence. The transition from the Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission to a standalone Office of Gun Violence Prevention reflects a meaningful commitment to elevating and institutionalizing the State's efforts to combat gun violence in a more structured, resourced, and accountable manner.

Gun violence remains one of the most pressing public safety challenges facing our communities. A dedicated Office with clearly defined powers and duties will allow for more coordinated, data-driven, and community-focused prevention strategies. This

restructuring aligns with the DLE's broader mission of centralizing and strengthening state public safety functions, as demonstrated by the DLE's formation under Act 278 of the 2022 Session Laws of Hawaii. Just as the consolidation of law enforcement agencies under the DLE improved accountability, decision-making, and the efficient use of resources, the creation of a dedicated Office of Gun Violence Prevention will similarly enhance the State's capacity to respond to and prevent gun violence.

The DLE believes that the appropriation of funds for the Office of Gun Violence Prevention's operations is critical to ensuring the Office has the necessary resources to fulfill its mandate. Adequate funding will enable the Office to develop and implement evidence-based prevention programs, coordinate with law enforcement and community partners, collect and analyze relevant data, and provide meaningful recommendations to the Legislature and the public.

The DLE looks forward to working collaboratively with the Office of Gun Violence Prevention to advance shared public safety goals and to ensure that the State's gun violence prevention efforts are as effective and impactful as possible.

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



Submitted via web portal

RE: SB 3040 (Lee): Relating to Gun Violence Prevention - SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Members of the House Finance Committee:

Everytown for Gun Safety, and the Hawai'i Chapters of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America are writing in support of SB 3040.

Everytown for Gun Safety is the nation's largest gun violence prevention organization, with nearly 11 million supporters, including moms, mayors, students, gun owners, faith leaders, educators, and more. We fight to advance gun safety policies at every level of government, including state legislatures. Moms Demand Action and Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America are grassroots movements working towards common-sense public safety measures. With an established chapter in every state, we campaign for effective solutions to dangerous loopholes that put communities at risk.

SB 3040 replaces the "Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission" with an Office of Gun Violence Prevention. The new office would be a hub of data gathering and analysis to inform programs and policy recommendations to the Governor and legislature which can prevent gun violence.

Strong gun laws require robust implementation infrastructure. It's critical to approach this crisis from every angle. From data collection that can inform policy making to implementation assessments of existing laws, a statewide office will support our state's public safety goals at multiple stages. A state Office of Gun Violence Prevention would also bring Hawai'i in line with over a dozen of its peer gun safety states, including Washington, Colorado, Michigan, California, Massachusetts, New York, and Illinois.

For these reasons listed above, Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action, and Students Demand Action strongly support SB 3040.

Sincerely,

Jay Franzone

Associate Director, Government Affairs

Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action & Students Demand Action

jfranzone@everytown.org

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 7:15:16 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

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

yvettekay_99@yahoo.com

96740

415-706-9638

SB3040

Replaces the Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission with the Office of Gun Violence Prevention. Appropriates funds.

- SB 3040 replaces the “Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission” with an Office of Gun Violence Prevention. The bill would task the new Office of Gun Violence Prevention with developing comprehensive strategies to prevent and minimize the risk of gun violence. The OGVP will be a hub of data gathering and analysis to inform gun violence programs and policy recommendations to the Governor and legislature.
- Strong gun laws require robust implementation infrastructure. A state Office of Gun Violence Prevention can serve as a centralized hub working towards the clear mission of ensuring Hawai'i's gun laws are reaching their maximum potential to reduce gun violence in the state. A statewide office can support the state's gun violence prevention goals at multiple stages - from gun violence data collection that can inform policy making to implementation assessments of existing laws.
- SB 3040 would establish an Office of Gun Violence prevention at the statewide level, bringing Hawai'i in line with its peer gun safety states. Statewide Offices of Gun Violence Prevention have been created in at least 13 states, including California, Washington, Massachusetts, New York, and Illinois.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 10:11:18 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee members,

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

I support legislation to create an Office of Gun Violence Prevention.

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

According to Giffords Gun Owners for Safety research,

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

I urge you to continue to keep our community safe.

Support SB 3040 Mahalo.

SB-3040-HD-1

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

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deborah G. Nehmad	Brady United, Hawaii Chapter	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I live in Hawaii Kai. I strongly support **SB 3040** which establishes an Office of Gun Violence Prevention. This Office is necessary to centralize data gathering and analysis to inform gun violence programs and policy recommendations for the Governor and legislature. Please pass this important bill.

Thanks you,

Deb Nehmad

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 5:20:29 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

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

I live here, and I urge you to support this bill. When I turn on the local news, it sounds like we have a gun violence problem - there's a shooting in a parking lot over here, there's a drive by over there. There was a domestic violence incident involving a firearm and now the victim is dead. There was an armed robbery nearby. There was a road rage incident with a gun. An argument at a party ended up with shots fired.

But what's the story behind these sound bites?

For a couple years now, we have had a group that was trying to work on this specifically- a Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission, but it didn't come with any of the funding necessary to conduct research. It met a couple times and at its last meeting voted to end itself and merge into another group. One important thing that we did learn from a 2022 meeting of this Commission was that in that meeting, police told them that *better data could help them better respond to crimes*.

How often is a person using a gun to commit a crime not the registered owner? Are there trends in how firearms are moving throughout the state? How many crimes were committed with licensed versus unlicensed firearms? How often are 3-D printed guns or ghost guns being used in crimes? Do we have a rise in youth firearms crimes? What can be done to prevent gun violence here? Can we increase community engagement about it? Can we involve public health voices?

Data is not a flashy or exciting thing. But an Office of Gun Violence Prevention can get the required data to our law enforcement in order to help keep us all safer - one that is funded and set up to succeed.

Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 2:49:17 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

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

I am writing in **strong support** of SB3040, which replaces the existing Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission with a fully resourced Office of Gun Violence Prevention. This bill recognizes a simple but critical truth: you cannot solve a problem you cannot measure. And right now, Hawai‘i lacks the centralized, timely, and actionable data needed to understand and address gun violence in our communities.

The Data Problem Is Real and Urgent

Data on gun violence in Hawai‘i is currently scattered, incomplete, and difficult to analyze. It is held by a variety of agencies—law enforcement, the judiciary, public health, and others—that do not always count things the same way or share information with each other. This fragmentation has real consequences for our ability to prevent harm.

Consider a basic question: how often is the person using a gun the registered owner? Or how many crimes are committed with licensed versus unlicensed firearms? Answering these questions currently requires police to comb through hundreds of individual records—a labor-intensive process that diverts resources from other priorities and still produces incomplete answers.

Even the most basic data on gun deaths lags significantly. By the time we have a clear picture of the scale of the problem, we are years behind, responding to trends that have already evolved. We cannot design effective prevention strategies if we are always looking in the rearview mirror.

What an Office of Gun Violence Prevention Can Do

SB3040 establishes a dedicated Office of Gun Violence Prevention with the resources and authority to address these data challenges. The office would:

- **Centralize data collection** from multiple agencies, ensuring that information is consistent, comparable, and accessible;
- **Improve timeliness** of data on gun deaths, injuries, and crime, allowing for real-time understanding of emerging trends;

- **Support research** into the root causes of gun violence in Hawai‘i and the effectiveness of prevention strategies;
- **Coordinate prevention efforts** across agencies, avoiding the fragmentation that currently characterizes our response; and
- **Provide guidance** to policymakers on evidence-based interventions tailored to Hawai‘i's unique context.

This is not about creating a new bureaucracy for its own sake. It is about giving our state the tools it needs to do what every other state with a functioning gun violence prevention infrastructure already does: understand the problem in order to solve it.

A National Model

States across the country have established offices of gun violence prevention with significant success. These offices serve as central hubs for data collection, research, and coordination. They do not duplicate work—they streamline it. They do not create barriers—they break them down.

Hawai‘i has an opportunity to join these states with a model tailored to our unique needs. SB3040 provides the framework to do exactly that.

Why This Matters for Hawai‘i

Gun violence is not just a mainland problem. While our rates may be lower than some states, the impact on our communities is no less devastating. And the data gaps that exist here are not abstract—they affect our ability to:

- Identify emerging threats before they escalate;
- Target prevention resources where they are most needed;
- Evaluate whether our laws and programs are actually working;
- Hold accountable the systems that are supposed to protect us.

Without good data, we cannot develop a clear, effective strategy. SB3040 gives us the tools to move forward with purpose.

The Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission was a good start, but it has never had the resources or authority to do what needs to be done. SB3040 replaces it with an Office of Gun Violence Prevention that is properly funded, properly staffed, and properly empowered to collect the data we desperately need.

I urge this committee to pass SB3040 and give Hawai‘i the tools to finally understand—and prevent—gun violence in our communities.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 4:37:33 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

i'm from the Diamond Head area. I strongly support **SB 3040** which establishes an Office of Gun Violence Prevention to centralize data gathering and analysis to inform gun violence programs and policy recommendations for the Governor and legislature. Please pass this important bill.”

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 4:52:35 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Hello and thank you for your work on this issue. I live in Kaneohe and am writing in support of creating an office of gun violence prevention. This office is yet another step in painting a full picture of the scope of gun violence here in Hawaii.

Mahalo.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 4:56:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am a resident of the State of Hawaii and support Bill SB3040.

I hope that you also support this Bill

Mahalo

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 5:57:51 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support **SB 3040** which establishes an Office of Gun Violence Prevention to centralize data gathering and analysis to inform gun violence programs and policy recommendations for the Governor and legislature. This is essential information that needs to be accumulated and analyzed to help decrease and prevent gun violence in Hawai'i. Please pass this important bill. Mahalo,

Beth Anderson

Kailua, Hawaii

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 6:01:54 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of this legislation to create a much-needed hub for state coordination on gun violence prevention.

Erica Yamauchi

Dennis M. Dunn
Kailua, Hawai'i 96734

TO: Representative Chris Todd, Chair

Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair

House Committee on Finance

RE: S.B. 3040, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, Relating to Gun Violence Prevention

Hearing: Wednesday, April 8, 2026

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Conference Room 308

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF S.B. 3040, S.D. 1, H.D. 1

Good afternoon Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the House Finance Committee. My name is Dennis Dunn, and I respectfully submit this testimony in **strong support of S.B. 3040, S.D. 1., H.D. 1**

Purpose of the Measure

S.B. 3040, S.D. 1, H.D. 1 is intended to replace the Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission with the Office of Gun Violence Prevention (OGVP) and to establish an appropriation for that purpose. The proposed Office would be placed within the Department of the Attorney General for administrative purposes.

Need for Action

Recent incidents of gun violence in Hawai'i have shaken our long-held sense of security as a state that has largely avoided the extremes of gun violence seen in the continental United States. As we confront this growing problem, Hawai'i must develop effective, proactive strategies to prevent gun violence before it occurs.

Such strategies require cross-disciplinary data collection, analysis, and informed policy development. The OGVP is envisioned as a central source for this work, providing the Governor, state departments, and the Legislature with the guidance necessary to

exercise leadership and enact meaningful legislation and policies to reduce and ultimately eliminate gun violence in our state.

Role of the Office of Gun Violence Prevention

The purpose of the proposed Office is the elimination of gun violence—not the elimination of guns. Through comprehensive data gathering and analysis, the OGVP can help shape evidence-based prevention efforts that address the root causes of gun violence and promote public safety. Gun violence is a plague on our communities, as devastating as any disease pandemic. Preventative measures to stop gun violence are just as critical to public health and safety as vaccines are to combating contagious diseases.

Personal Perspective

Throughout my fifty-year career in victim assistance, I have witnessed firsthand the trauma and suffering endured by families and communities torn apart by gun violence across Hawai'i. The pain inflicted by these incidents is profound and long-lasting, and it demands a thoughtful, coordinated, and proactive response.

Conclusion

S.B. 3040, S.D. 1, H.D. 1 provides an important new tool to help Hawai'i address and prevent gun violence through informed leadership, data-driven policy, and coordinated prevention efforts. I respectfully urge the Committee to vote in support of this measure.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 6:40:45 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 6:47:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha. I strongly support **SB 3040** which establishes an Office of Gun Violence Prevention to centralize data gathering and analysis to inform gun violence programs and policy recommendations for the Governor and legislature. Please pass this important bill.”

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 7:10:27 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I SUPPORT SB3040 - establish office of gun violence prevention

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 7:42:52 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joie Yonamine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am writing in strong support of SB3040 both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawai'i State Network (IHSN). This bill replaces the Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission with the Office of Gun Violence Prevention.

This bill will establish an Office of Gun Violence Prevention at the statewide level, which will bring Hawai'i in line with its peer gun safety states including California, Washington, Massachusetts, New York, and Illinois.

Addressing this issue will require an organized approach with tracking gun violence data, making data-driven legislative decisions for prevention, and assessing currently implemented laws and programs. This bill is a step in the right direction in working toward gun violence prevention.

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

Joie Yonamine, Manoa

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 8:33:25 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I stand in **OPPOSITION** to this bill, it goes to show this State's anti-gun stance. It literally strikes out all other types of violence from its stated goal of violence reduction. How often do we see all types of violence take place in the state and the common response is 'Well *at least* it wasn't a gun'?

Quite often non-gun violence leads to gun violence, we've seen that this year when a shooting had started as a mass brawl between two groups that had started over a fist fight which had started over an argument. Why are we ignoring all these root causes? Is it because we're actually fine with violence here as long as it doesn't involve a gun? Or is it because it's easier to go after guns than it is to actually address the behavior of the individuals that's the problem?

Recently there have been cases where anti-gun groups have submitted manipulated data to similar offices with the goal of promoting further infringements on the Second Amendment. One includes the often repeated, and **disproven** statement that guns are now the leading cause of death for children. Among other offenses, the data was manipulated to include people up to the age of 25 as 'children', included instances of gang on gang violence where the only victims were rival gang members, and included instances of justified police shootings. The mentioned study has been fact checked by several sources and found to be false despite it being touted by the former Presidential Administration. **Simply altering the study to only include persons under the age of 18 (the normal age range used for such studies) debunked the claim that firearms are the leading cause of death in children.**

Another instance resulted in the ending of a popular and successful program that was having positive effects on reducing gun violence. **Giffords Law Center**, who has the stated goal of wanting to reduce gun violence, did a study on a program known as '**Oakland Ceasefire**'. **In their findings it was discovered that the program reduced gun violence in Oakland by 50%**, and in 9 other cities that had similar programs reduced crime from 30% to 60%. The Oakland Ceasefire program relied upon Community Outreach and Mentorship programs for at-risk youth, as well as enforcement and prosecution of current laws.

Giffords has been accused of trying to hide the study from the public, and of using their influence to end the highly successful program because it undermined the message that the only way to reduce gun violence is to get rid of guns. **Even if these accusations are false, the reality is inconsistent with their stated goal as there is little to no fanfare regarding such a successful program.**

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 8:35:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I SUPPORT SB3040 - establish office of gun violence prevention

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 8:46:00 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support this bill that would bring Hawai'i in line with its peer gun safety states. Statewide Offices of Gun Violence Prevention have been created in at least 13 states, including California, Washington, Massachusetts, New York, and Illinois.

Mahalo, Tammy DeBernardi
Ocean View, Ka'u

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 8:43:51 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I'M from Honolulu. I strongly support SB 3040 which establishes an Office of Gun Violence Prevention to centralize data gathering and analysis to inform gun violence programs and policy recommendations for the Governor and legislature. Please pass this important bill.”

Please let me know if you have any questions.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 8:48:14 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

My name is Carol B. I live in Waikiki and I **support** this bill.
Mahalo

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:39:40 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I'm writing in support of SB3040 to establish and appropriate funds for an Office of Gun Violence Prevention. A statewide office will support Hawaii's gun violence prevention goals at multiple stages — from gun violence data collection that can inform policy making to implementation assessments of existing laws. This relatively small investment can help keep Hawaii safe and known for it's warm aloha -- not gun deaths, like the mainland.

Sincerely,

Allegra Giacchino, MSW

Honolulu 96816

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:43:10 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha, my name is April Ching, and I live in Manoa. Please support the creation of an office of gun violence prevention. It is critical to gather good data and have funding if we are to make a dent in preventing the increasing gun violence in HI. Mahalo.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:45:33 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

in support

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:51:32 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I'm writing in strong support. Thank you!

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:59:09 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

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

This bill would establish an office that will keep records of every incident in the state involving a firearm. Such information can help leaders come up with ideas of how to reduce gun violence based on accurate data.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 10:04:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

My name is Leah McRae, registered voter in Waipahu, HI 96797 and I support this bill.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 11:27:56 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 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

Waiialae-Kahala

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 5:54:13 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to support SB3040 SD1 HD1 which would appropriate funds to establish the office of gun violence prevention.

Younghee Overly, a member of Indivisible Hawaii

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 6:57:20 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 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 SB3040.

I'm originally from Hilo and I am a physician with a background in public health and healthcare quality improvement. Prior to returning to Hawai'i, I spent many years in Missouri, a state with high rates of gun violence, working to improve community health in collaboration with academic faculty, a regional hospital system, and community organizations.

From that experience, I can attest that when gun deaths occur, these deaths affect the whole community. Not just the immediate family and friends, but workplaces, schools, and anywhere people live, learn, worship, work, and play. In addition to the toll of grief and fear, there are economic costs as well, incurred as organizations try to prevent violence in their workplaces and as healthcare and mental health treatment needs grow.

I can also tell you that intervention efforts that are based in solid community-level data and that have a coordinating "backbone" agency are more effective and less wasteful than disparate, unfocused efforts.

Without data to determine what type of gun deaths—homicides, suicides, or unintentional shootings—are occurring in our communities and what factors contributed to these deaths, it is difficult to determine which interventions would be most effective and where they should be deployed.

Having an Office of Gun Violence Prevention would allow the collection of sufficient data to determine which types of gun violence are affecting Hawai'i's communities, allowing resources to be spent in the areas where they are most needed, and could support coordination of efforts to avoid duplication of services.

I urge you to support SB3040.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Elna Nagasako, MD, PhD, MPH
Makiki

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 7:05:12 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

- **SB 3040 replaces the “Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission” with an Office of Gun Violence Prevention. The bill would task the new Office of Gun Violence Prevention with developing comprehensive strategies to prevent and minimize the risk of gun violence. The OGVP will be a hub of data gathering and analysis to inform gun violence programs and policy recommendations to the Governor and legislature.**
- **Strong gun laws require robust implementation infrastructure. A state Office of Gun Violence Prevention can serve as a centralized hub working towards the clear mission of ensuring Hawai‘i’s gun laws are reaching their maximum potential to reduce gun violence in the state. A statewide office can support the state’s gun violence prevention goals at multiple stages - from gun violence data collection that can inform policy making to implementation assessments of existing laws.**
- **SB 3040 would establish an Office of Gun Violence prevention at the statewide level, bringing Hawai‘i in line with its peer gun safety states. Statewide Offices of Gun Violence Prevention have been created in at least 13 states, including California, Washington, Massachusetts, New York, and Illinois.**
- **Thank you, Jane Aquino**

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 7:06:02 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 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

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 7:57:40 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am in favor of passing SB3040. It takes data to inform policy making to implement, assess or modify existing laws and/or create new laws. Most people do not know that on the continental U.S. there are roughly 350 school shootings a year. With 180 school days, that's almost 2 a day, every day. There are also roughly 500 mass shootings a year (a mass shooting is when 4 or more people are shot and or killed), which again, is more than one a day, every day. Creating a better data collection office is a great idea and should be passed. I would be interested in being involved.

Monty Clark

Hawaii Kai

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 8:00:25 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

A one stop shop for data on gun violence is desperately needed here:

Data on gun violence in Hawai'i is often scattered, incomplete and difficult to analyze. It's held by a variety of agencies that don't always count things the same way or share information with each other. Figuring out, for example, how often the person using a gun was not the registered owner, or how many crimes were committed with licensed versus unlicensed firearms, would require police to comb through hundreds of individual records.

Data on the number of gun deaths also lags significantly making it hard to get an up-to-date sense of the scale of the problem here.

With the increase in gun crimes, on the west side and elsewhere, it is more important than ever.

Lynne Matusow

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 8:25:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Gabrielle Davidson, I live in Moloa'a, Kauai, and I strongly support this bill.

Thank you!

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 8:38:14 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

“i’m from Kailua, Oahu. I strongly support **SB 3040** which establishes an Office of Gun Violence Prevention to centralize data gathering and analysis to inform gun violence programs and policy recommendations for the Governor and legislature. Please pass this important bill.”

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 8:51:54 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha, I am testifying in support of SB3040. I believe it is a common sense policy to address public safety. Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:02:18 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thank you

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:21:31 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

My name is Kathy Thomas and I am a long time resident of Kaneohe. I urge you to support SB3040. Gun deaths in Hawaii have increased more than 80% since 2014, this is a sharper increase overall than the rest of the country. Creating an Office of Gun Violence Prevention would set up a process to develop comprehensive strategies to prevent and minimize the risk of gun violence. It would be a central hub to gather data and analyze to inform gun programs and policy recommendations. Keeping our communities safe from gun violence as well as preventing suicides from firearms must be a priority for our state. Please support SB3040.

Mahalo, Kathy Thomas

44-126 Puuohalai Pl. Kaneohe, Hawaii

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:29:16 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this bill as I am in favor of ensuring Hawai'i's gun laws are reaching their maximum potential to reduce gun violence in the state.

Mahalo, Gail Morrison, Honolulu

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:42:23 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I'm writing to you as a resident of Hawaii Kai and am in full support of SB3040. Given the increase of gun violence on our island, it is important that we establish an office of gun violence prevention. Please support this bill so that we may begin real work on gun violence prevention in our communities.

Mahalo,

Rachel Logan

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 10:09:44 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Addie Berliner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Strong Support of SB3040

Replaces the Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission with the Office of Gun Violence Prevention. Appropriates funds.

- SB 3040 replaces the “Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission” with an Office of Gun Violence Prevention. The bill would task the new Office of Gun Violence Prevention with developing comprehensive strategies to prevent and minimize the risk of gun violence. The OGVP will be a hub of data gathering and analysis to inform gun violence programs and policy recommendations to the Governor and legislature.
- Strong gun laws require robust implementation infrastructure. A state Office of Gun Violence Prevention can serve as a centralized hub working towards the clear mission of ensuring Hawai‘i’s gun laws are reaching their maximum potential to reduce gun violence in the state. A statewide office can support the state’s gun violence prevention goals at multiple stages - from gun violence data collection that can inform policy making to implementation assessments of existing laws.
- SB 3040 would establish an Office of Gun Violence prevention at the statewide level, bringing Hawai‘i in line with its peer gun safety states. Statewide Offices of Gun Violence Prevention have been created in at least 13 states, including California, Washington, Massachusetts, New York, and Illinois.
- Thank You for Supporting SB3040! Sincerely, Addie Berliner

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 10:22:33 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Sullivan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB3040.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 11:20:08 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

SB3040 SD1 HD1

Replaces the Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission with the Office of Gun Violence Prevention. Appropriates funds.

- SB 3040 SD1 HD1 replaces the “Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission” with an Office of Gun Violence Prevention. The bill would task the new Office of Gun Violence Prevention with developing comprehensive strategies to prevent and minimize the risk of gun violence. The OGVP will be a hub of data gathering and analysis to inform gun violence programs and policy recommendations to the Governor and legislature.
- Strong gun laws require robust implementation infrastructure. A state Office of Gun Violence Prevention can serve as a centralized hub working towards the clear mission of ensuring Hawai‘i’s gun laws are reaching their maximum potential to reduce gun violence in the state. A statewide office can support the state’s gun violence prevention goals at multiple stages - from gun violence data collection that can inform policy making to implementation assessments of existing laws.
- SB 3040 would establish an Office of Gun Violence prevention at the statewide level, bringing Hawai‘i in line with its peer gun safety states. Statewide Offices of Gun Violence Prevention have been created in at least 13 states, including California, Washington, Massachusetts, New York, and Illinois.

Thank you for taking my tesimony.

David Cuthbert, Pahoa

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 11:47:59 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support SB3040.
Niu Valley.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 11:59:20 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chris Marvin	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Chair, vicechair, members of the committee,

Hawai'i is in deperate need of an Office of Gun Violence Prevention. With the many overlapping federal and state laws, plus confusion from the poorly written Bruen decision at the Supreme Court, keeping up with gun laws and policies in a full time job for anyone. So we need a full time effort at the state level. Other states have shown that establishing this office is part of good policy, and if we hope to keep ourselve highly ranked for gun safety amongst other states, we'll need to keep up with the policy advancements.

Moreoever, on OGVP would go beyond educating legislators about policy nuance, it would also help educate the public about the functioning laws we have on the books, as well as cultural (non-policy) interventions that should be known to all.

Gun violence is increasing in Hawai'i because of federal infringement on our state laws. We need to take the power back to keep out citizens safe. That said, we failed to ban assault weapons last year, with Democats leading the way for what was ultimately seen as a national embarassment. This error has yet to cause major deaths in Hawai'i, but it will. And when it does, we'll want an OGVP to help sort it all out.

with Aloha,
Chris Marvin

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

HEARING:

Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 2:00 pm
Via Videoconference and Conference Room 308

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 3040, SD1, HD1 - RELATING TO GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION.

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

My name is Christine Andrews and I am a long-term resident of Wailuku, Maui. I am also an attorney licensed in the state of Hawaii for over 25 years. I am writing today in **strong support of SB 3040, SD1, HD1**, Relating to Gun Violence Prevention, which Replaces the Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission with the Office of Gun Violence Prevention.

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.

Senate Bill 3040, SD1, HD1 will create a new, statewide Office of Gun Violence Prevention, which will develop comprehensive strategies to prevent and minimize the risk of gun violence and serve as a hub of data gathering and analysis to inform gun violence programs and policy recommendations to the governor and the legislature. Thirteen gun safety states, including California, Washington, Massachusetts, New York, and Illinois have already created statewide Offices of Gun Violence Prevention. It is time for Hawai'i to join our peer states in creating a statewide Office that will help ensure reduction of gun violence.

Living in Wailuku, 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 3040, SD1, HD1 is designed to build upon. I want to see the Office provide policy leadership, ensuring our gun laws are enhanced to reduce gun violence as effectively as possible. I am encouraged that the proposed statewide Office can advance Hawai'i as a gun violence prevention leader for the next thirty years and help reduce gun related crime, morbidity and mortality. I respectfully request that you vote in **support of SB 3040, SD1, HD1**, and help Hawai'i re-emerge as a leader in gun safety and violence prevention.

Mahalo,

Christine Andrews, J.D.
Wailuku, Maui

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 1:54:06 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Waste of tax payer money due to the law itself being unconstitutional.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 4:09:42 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Rep. Chris Todd, Chair; Rep. Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Finance

I am writing as a resident of Kapolei and as a member of the Indivisible Hawai'i Statewide Network to provide late testimony in strong support of SB3040 SD1 HB1. This bill replaces the Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission with the Office of Gun Violence Prevention (OGVP). This new Office will be tasked with developing comprehensive strategies to prevent and minimize the risk of gun violence. The OGVP will also be a hub of data gathering and analysis to inform gun violence programs and policy recommendations to the Governor and legislature. The State's strong gun laws require a robust implementation infrastructure. Statewide Offices of Gun Violence Prevention have been created in at least 13 states, including California, Washington, Massachusetts, New York, and Illinois.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer this late testimony.

Respectfully,

Robert Justice, M.D.

SB-3040-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:21:16 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/8/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Guns are tools. Tools don't do violent things. We need to focus on each individual. Do not blame the rest of the people for an individuals crime.