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THE HONORABLE DAVID IGE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
Twenty-third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

February 14, 2006

RE: S.B. 2531; RELATING TO FIREARMS.

Chair Ige and members of the Senate Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney submits the following testimony in opposition to S.B. 2531.

The purpose of this bill is to repeal the current provisions regarding the discretionary authority of county police chiefs to grant licenses to carry and replace it with provision mandating the issuance of licenses to carry concealed firearms upon certain criteria being met.

We oppose this bill because we do not believe that the carrying of concealed weapons will result in greater public safety. Instead, we believe that the carrying of concealed weapons will simply increase the number of tragic injuries and deaths; confrontations or arguments which would otherwise be less serious, will have the potential to be deadly when firearms or other such concealed weapons are involved.

For this reason, we respectfully request that you hold S.B. 2531 and thank you for this opportunity to testify.