

February 13, 2006

Testimony, **IN SUPPORT, SB2531**

Rm. 225, 3pm, Feb. 14, 2006, IGA Committee

Sgt. At Arms, please provide 35 copies

Fax: 586-6659

Dear Intergovernmental Affairs Committee:

I am a retired grandmother who loves to hunt and enjoys the peace and solitude of hunting areas on Oahu, Molokai, Lanai and the Big Island. I normally hunt with my husband or a small group of hunters but we assign ourselves individual areas to hunt within the hunting area in so we spend a good deal of time by ourselves looking or waiting for animals. It is not uncommon to encounter other individuals or roaming dogs when you are hunting. If you are hunting with bow or muzzleloader, which I do, you are armed with probably one chance to protect yourself should the stranger or wild dog prove to be a threat to yourself. That is why I support SB2531, and the right to carry a sidearm. I do not want to become a victim and being female, alone in the countryside, using a weapon that has to be reloaded for each shot, makes me vulnerable.

I also support our United States Constitution and 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment rights and ask for your support in passing this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB2531.

Sincerely,

Ardath Cooper