

TO: Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs
Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

DATE: February 13, 2006

HEARING DATE: Tuesday, February 14, 2006
HEARING TIME: 3:00 pm
LOCATION: Room 225

RE: SB 2531 Relating to Firearms
Concealed Carry

I would like to provide this testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB 2531 relating to a "Shall Issue" Concealed Carry system.

The current system of "May Issue" gives the Chief of Police, an appointed position, the ultimate power to decide on whether an individual person's safety and defense as provided for under the US Constitution, Second Amendment, shall be allowed or infringed. Without exception, the Chief of Police has chosen to infringe this right.

With 38 states allowing for concealed carry, there has been a "turning of the tides" in regard to crime. Every state, without exception, which has allowed for law-abiding citizens to carry a firearm for self-defense, has shown a marked decrease in crime.

Why are the citizens of Hawaii treated with less respect? Why is our safety restricted? Why do we get treated as being less responsible?

It's time to own up to the truth that allowing for lawful concealed carry of firearms will reduce crime, allow citizens to defend themselves against criminals, and help us provide a safe and wholesome environment to raise our children.

Again, I would like to urge that you vote **IN FAVOR** of SB 2531.

Sincerely,



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