

FAX

To: Senate Sergeant-At-Arms
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From: Teresa J. Ward, LPN
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February 13, 2006

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RE: SB2531 Relating to Firearms
Testimony for Committee IGA hearing at 3:00pm on Tuesday 2/14/06, Room 225
(Please issue 35 copies of this testimony)

Position:

I support SB2531.

- SB2531 creates strict and objective measures for issuing a concealed weapons permit.
- A concealed weapons permit will allow me to legally carry a weapon, reducing my chances of becoming a helpless victim.

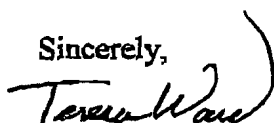
Testimony:

I am writing to voice my support of SB2531. This bill establishes strict criteria for issuing concealed weapons permits. Replacing the term "may" with "shall" creates a consistent statewide policy with objective measures for issuing a permit, rather than ambiguous reasons.

Women are often the victims of violent crime, many of which are often initiated in parking lots (such as at the mall or grocery store). Almost everyday in the Honolulu Advertiser, the "police beat" column shows numerous crimes where the victims are accosted in parking lots. I am afraid to go to any mall or grocery store at night. A concealed weapons permit will allow me to legally carry a weapon for protection, enabling me to live my life with less fear of being victimized.

Thank you for considering this bill.

Sincerely,



Teresa J. Ward, LPN