

February 13, 2006

Testimony, **IN SUPPORT, SB 2531**  
Rm. 225, 3pm, February 14, IGA Committee  
Sgt. at Arms, please provide 35 copies  
Fax: 586-6659

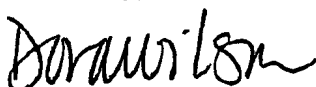
Dear Intergovernmental Affairs Committee:

I am submitting testimony in support of SB 2531. I am a woman with a family, a profession, a mortgage, and a concern for my personal safety. It does not take an expert in criminal statistics to know that rape or assault is a sadly normal occurrence in our society. One simply has to read the newspaper. Women in Hawaii have been assaulted in their homes, while walking to campus, or in the parking lot of the shopping mall. Age is not a factor. Nor is appearance or lifestyle. Women in Hawaii are sexually assaulted while going about their daily lives. I believe women are more often victimized because we are smaller in stature and less able to ward off an attacker. Criminals know they have an edge when attacking a woman. I have heard that one in six women are victims of sexual assault. In my mind, it is simply a question of time and odds for any woman. I do not like gambling.

I believe that if responsible citizens were allowed to carry concealed firearms, it would tip the odds in women's favor. Criminals would not be certain if a woman had a firearm and I feel that they would be reluctant to attack. The police cannot be everywhere protecting us. Let us have the ability to protect ourselves.

I ask for your support in passing this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2531.

Sincerely,



Dora Wilson