

BILL057(22)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 113

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Mar 15, 2023 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 14

Oppose: 66

I wish to comment: 2

Name: Markos Cabaong	Email: mcabaong@gmail.com	Zip: 96819
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 9, 2023 @ 09:57 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I strongly oppose this bill.</p> <p>Once again, it does not stop the problem of a bad person committing a crime wherever they choose to. Criminals will not heed this or any law to carry out their bad intentions. It will only hamper and inconvenience the law-abiding citizens from lawfully carrying per our constitutional right to self-defense or protection of family, friends or someone in need... anywhere there is a threat! This law is unenforceable. Enforce the laws that are already on the books, restrict the people that need to be restricted and stop the violation of our Second Amendment Rights!</p> <p>Please let me know that the system works... What is the point of testimony if the voice of the people is not heard? Results of the majority should be honored.</p> <p>Sincerely and respectfully, Markos Cabaong</p>		
Name: Ryan Arakawa	Email: ryana@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 9, 2023 @ 10:44 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>The restricted places in the bill are overly broad and unconstitutional. Other States & municipalities have passed similar laws only to lose in court. You are wasting our tax dollars</p>		
Name: Bernardo Soriano	Email: bern.soriano@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 10, 2023 @ 07:58 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I oppose Bill 57. As law abiding citizens who have undergone the high scrutiny/screening of acquiring a firearm and licensing to carry a firearm, this bill aims to turn us into criminals. We have a constitutional right to protect ourselves and our loved ones from potentially violent crimes and that can occur anywhere at anytime. increased law enforcement will not be present at all stated sensitive places and so our own safety and the safety of our loved ones will not be increased; in fact, we will be more susceptible to potentially violent crimes since criminals will not follow the law. There is no data to support increasing sensitive places increases public safety. This bill is based on emotions more than facts. It also goes against the US Constitution and will open up potential lawsuits which will take away valuable resources from much more needed areas of focus for our state. Thanks for your consideration</p>		
Name: Marcus Tanaka	Email: changemyoil66@yahoo.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 10, 2023 @ 08:53 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>It is obvious that those who voted for this so far have not listened to a word of logic, statistics, or legal precedent. Nothing more can be stated that wasn't already stated. You who vote for his are doing so based on feelings and to violate peoples right. So this means you who vote for this are either not smart enough to use logic, statistics, or law and/or choose to willingly violate peoples right, which means corruption/unethical decision making.</p> <p>We will see you in court and thanks for costing tax payers probably over \$100,000. This is the plaintiffs attorney fees plus damages, and the amount of hours it takes the defense to defend this. Even if they are on salary, it still cost time and effort. And if this goes to the higher courts, this number will increase just because those who voted yes have not listened at all in all the hearings.</p>		

Also criminals and those who want to do active shootings or evil acts thank you for passing this bill because they now will be safe knowing that they can do what ever they want until they hear the police sirens.

Name: Robert Hechtman	Email: hechtman@gmail.com	Zip: 96706
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 10, 2023 @ 10:40 AM

Testimony:
I strongly oppose bill 57!
It is obviously designed to discourage/ prevent law abiding citizens from concealed carry of a fire arm for self defense. It is intact a de facto ban and in direct contradiction of both the 2nd amendment and the recent Bruen decision. It will not hinder criminals or deter them from carrying illegally as they don't follow the laws anyway. This bill will not make our communities safer. In fact it will have the opposite effect. Decent people will not be allowed a means to protect themselves and be easy prey to criminals. Look at the recent rise in violent crimes the past few years. Please vote against this bill.

Aloha, Robert Hechtman

Name: Trevor Abarzua	Email: tabarzua@cochawaii.org	Zip: 96813
Representing: Chamber of Commerce Hawaii	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 10, 2023 @ 12:55 PM

Name: Michael Rice	Email: michaelirice@outlook.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 10, 2023 @ 01:01 PM

Testimony:
Bill 57 Testimony

My name is Michael Rice and I stand in Opposition to this Bill.

This bill as it stands is blatantly unconstitutional and will not survive a legal challenge. Similar bills have already been struck down on the mainland or have had injunctions against them showing that they will lose on merit. I will be among those suing the city should this law come to pass.

First and foremost this will not prevent any shootings or other acts of violence. Nothing stops someone from going into one of these Sensitive Places except for Respect or Fear of the Rule of Law. The only people it stops from carrying in these locations are the ones who would not be a problem in the first place. Although quite frankly in recent years I have seen little to no reason to fear or even respect the Rule of Law in Honolulu, much less the rest of the state.

If you feel the absolute need to pass this bill, pass Andrea Tupola's CD1. It will be the most likely to survive a lawsuit.

Many of the prohibited places mentioned the City has no jurisdiction over, such as State and Federal property, as well as private property, and there are some vague definitions of the prohibited places. And should the State pass its version of this bill, this bill will be rendered moot anyway.

The outright prohibition on public transport would also prevent many who rely on the bus and eventually the rail to get to work. For those who have the option of private transport, that will lower ridership for public transport, for those who have no option it denies them their rights.

I myself extensively use public transport on Oahu, driving causes me stress and anxiety. Not only that but I enjoy riding The Bus and hope to ride The Rail when it begins operations. I live all the way out in Makaha, on a few occasions I've missed the last Express bus of the day and have had to use the 40, which stops about a mile from my home, or the other option of waiting for an hour for a special bus to come along and drop me off closer to my home. I'm a large, rather intimidating guy myself and I've felt

afraid walking home and waiting at certain bus stops. This isn't even accounting for incidents that take place on the bus itself.

The City, much less the State, does not have the resources to reasonably make all these proposed Sensitive Places secure. The very nature of Concealed Carry means you are doing it in secret and not advertising that you are doing so. Unless each and every private business is now going to buy metal detectors and hire security guards, the businesses will likely never know that someone is carrying a firearm, legally or illegally.

Private Businesses already have the right to deny people on their premises for any reason. Right now they can put up a sign that says 'No Concealed Carry allowed', and those that respect or fear the rule of law will comply. Again, those who do not fear or respect the law will not be stopped by it.

Someone intent on doing bad things will not be stopped by a law or sign. No mass shooter has been stopped by a 'no guns allowed' sign. Just this past month we've had a man run over and kill two students in a crosswalk. He was not supposed to be driving in the first place and had over 150 traffic related violations against him. He not only still somehow got a hold of a car, but drove without a valid license. Once he turned himself in he was immediately released again. How is anyone supposed to fear or respect the rule of law when those who clearly break the law face almost no or lessened repercussions? Under this bill I would be treated far more harshly for having my gun on me in a business than a convicted felon caught with multiple firearms in his possession.

The incident I speak of is when a convicted felon was apprehended by HPD, had 5 firearms in his possession and when prosecuted only received 2 years probation instead of what should have been 25 years in prison (5 years is supposed to be the minimum sentence for the Felon in Possession charge, every other law this man broke should have added to that).

Parks are by their very nature widely open to the public. Unless you have guards actively patrolling and searching people who might potentially have firearms, this law will only stop those who fear the consequences of law. And given recent events and proposed changes to laws, those consequences become less and less of something to fear, and more and more of a joke.

We already have students walking around school campuses with firearms and other weapons with impunity, and I shouldn't have to remind you that it is already illegal for them to do so on many levels. And in most cases not only is nothing done about it but security are actively advised not to engage these shouldn't should they be found.

The City shouldn't even be taking this up at all with the exception of the 5 sensitive places spelled out in the Bruen Decision that are under their control.

Public Schools

Polling Places

Courthouses and Legislative bodies (not simply City/Government property)

Prisons

Jails

Name: Tod Gushiken	Email: tod.gushiken@gmail.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 10, 2023 @ 01:45 PM
Name: Samuel Aquino Jr	Email: samuelaq@gmail.com	Zip: 96797
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 10, 2023 @ 02:46 PM
Testimony: I oppose Bill 57 as "sensitive places" is a violation to the SCOTUS' decision in the Bruen case and does not deter criminals from committing crimes. This is just another infringement on our 2nd amendment right.		
Name: Brendon Heal	Email: heaviescc@gmail.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 10, 2023 @ 03:49 PM

Testimony:

These proposed restrictions have already been challenged around the country and have already had enjoining rulings against them. I cannot see Hawaii fairing any better in court if the legislature decides to further infringe on the rights of every law-abiding citizen of this city, county, and state.

The SCOTUS has already been clear in many rulings.

This is the right of "THE PEOPLE", not the city or state.

The right to keep and BEAR arms is a protected RIGHT

It is the burden of the city or state to PROVE the restrictions are backed by historical precedent (up to 1791) if it wishes to restrict such rights.

Please remember your oaths of office, to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.

To do the opposite, with complete knowledge, is a violation of every citizen's civil rights.

Below is quote from a recent decision for similar ordinances.

Oppose this bill

Thank you.

Brendon Heal

"Surely, Defendants had or should have had-the historical materials and analyses the State relied upon when it began its legislative response to Bruen.

After all, the Supreme Court was clear that in order for any gun control legislation to pass constitutional muster under the Second Amendment, such legislation must be consistent with historical tradition. The State has had six months since Bruen to identify well-established and representative historical analogues."

"the Presiding Officers must keep the litigation progressing on the right track. All agree that violent crimes involving firearms are tragic. But the dictate of Bruen is clear: "legislative interest balancing is understandable--and, elsewhere, appropriate - [but] it is not deference that the Constitution demands here." While the Legislature may disagree with Bruen, it may not disobey it."

Renee Bumb

United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey

Name: Casey Nakama	Email: casey_nakama@hotmail.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 10, 2023 @ 05:39 PM

Testimony: I oppose this bill.		
Name: Kimo Galon	Email: kimogalon@yahoo.com	Zip: 96826
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 11, 2023 @ 12:22 AM
Testimony: I oppose Bill 57. Bill 57 will restrict my constitutional rights to protect myself and family. Twenty some odd years ago I lived in Waikiki with my mother and sister. My girlfriend(currently my wife) and I were sleeping in my room and my mother and sister sleeping in their room. A Caucasian male 6ft 2" tall about 210 pounds entered our apartment from the balcony of our 4th floor apartment. He went in my mom and sisters room while we were all sleeping. Fortunately we were all fine. If you want to hear how it spanned out, you may contact me. A year later my wife and I moved out together. The traumatizing event had its affect on us for a while. We took precautions to keep us safe at night. What if the outcome was different. What if this man decided to kill us in our sleep. what if I was not able to handle him the way I did and was brutally beaten and or shot or stabbed. Lets move this outside of the home and into a public area like the park or the mall on private property?. What if this encounter that I experienced happened to me and my family outside the home and he had a firearm? And I was left stranded with nothing to fight back with because "YOUR" law/ YOUR ordinance says I cant carry a firearms. I followed the rules while the man with the firearm willing to cause harm to me and my family has no care in the world for YOUR laws/ ordinance? You tell me who is going to protect us? especially if your police force is short positions. If you can say you were once a victim or can empathize with me, then you would not move forward with bill 57. Its ironic how we all speak out against this bill and others like it and you as council members "THINK" you know better when you may have never been in my mothers, sisters, wife's or my shoes in this situation. You as our servants should be voting against this bill because the majority testified "OPPOSE" yet as corrupt as you are will vote for this bill. If you vote yes to bill 57 you should step away from your seat and go find a job where you can tell people how and what to do because you are not serving your purpose to the people of Hawaii.		
Name: Edgardo Gutierrez	Email: edgartrujillo55@yahoo.com	Zip: 96706
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 11, 2023 @ 07:53 AM
Testimony: Oppose		
Name: Cheryl Tanaka	Email: localaznchick05@aol.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 11, 2023 @ 10:27 AM
Testimony: All those who vote for this are CORRUPT! Thanks for disarming women and making us easy prey to bad guys. Even after the Supreme Court ruled, you still vote to support this bill that violates that ruling. Hence why I state CORRUPT because I know you who vote yes know how to read what the 2nd amendment states and have been told by many about the Bruen ruling.		
Name: Justin H	Email: erootaku123@yahoo.com	Zip: 96782
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 11, 2023 @ 12:14 PM
Testimony: This is unlawful and unconstitutional		
Name: Ryan Fuller	Email: ryanisfuller1808@gmail.com	Zip: 96786
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 11, 2023 @ 09:38 PM

<p>Testimony: I oppose this bill because it is unconstitutional. Mass shootings happen in gun free zones! Criminals conduct crime in gun free zones and this bill gives the upper hand to criminals cause they know law abiding citizens will not have a firearm for self defense. A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed. And this bill infringes on out 2A rights.</p>		
<p>Name: Ed Au</p>	<p>Email: edau@live.com</p>	<p>Zip: 96701</p>
<p>Representing: Self</p>	<p>Position: Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted: Mar 11, 2023 @ 10:07 PM</p>
<p>Testimony: Oppose this. Vote No. Taking away individuals rights to protect themselves. 2nd Amendment permits our rights to protect family, friends, and ourselves.</p>		
<p>Name: Bruce Shimoda</p>	<p>Email: shimodab@gmail.com</p>	<p>Zip: 96816</p>
<p>Representing: Self</p>	<p>Position: Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted: Mar 12, 2023 @ 07:28 AM</p>
<p>Testimony: Please vote no. Oppose this bill. Unconstitutional. Wasting our time and taxpayer dollars. It's is a knee jerk reaction to the Bruen case. Let's wait till the issues r settled in the courts.</p>		
<p>Name: tony lee</p>	<p>Email: ling0821@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Zip: 96789</p>
<p>Representing: Self</p>	<p>Position: Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted: Mar 12, 2023 @ 08:00 AM</p>
<p>Testimony: OPPOSE!!</p>		
<p>Name: Jericho Cruz</p>	<p>Email: iloveeebabinka808@gmail.com</p>	<p>Zip: 96782</p>
<p>Representing: Self</p>	<p>Position: Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted: Mar 12, 2023 @ 08:21 AM</p>
<p>Testimony: The laws being passed are very unconstitutional and is not compliant with the current bruen case. Criminals will now bring guns to places where law abiding citizens are not able to bring their gun. I am unable to protect my life and my family if they ever come into danger. Please consider on changing the rules and making better revised rules.</p>		
<p>Name: Kevin Kacatin</p>	<p>Email: ukazzh@gmail.com</p>	<p>Zip: 96782</p>
<p>Representing: Self</p>	<p>Position: Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted: Mar 12, 2023 @ 11:13 AM</p>
<p>Testimony: I wish to express my gratitude to Councilmembers Andria Tupola, Augie Tulba, and Val Aquino Okimoto for remaining steadfast in this process to uphold the rights of individuals to protect themselves in public. I also wish to say that the rest of the City Council are absolutely reprehensible individuals who have clearly made up their minds, based off their POLITICAL BIASES, to continue to side with criminals by handcuffing everyday citizens from being able to defend themselves and their loved ones out in public.</p> <p>Its truly astounding that the majority of the city council and the Mayor of this county would prefer to expose the city to a lawsuit that the city WILL lose thus costing taxpayers all just to make their POLITICALLY-DRIVEN PONTS known under the guise of "public safety".</p> <p>Im sure the criminals in this county that ALREADY ignore current laws and basic human decency are grateful to Mayor Blangiardi and the majority of this council for their efforts in preventing basic self defense to citizens out in public.</p>		

Name: Glenn Arakawa	Email: thenewriters@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 12, 2023 @ 11:55 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>To our elected leaders and representatives,</p> <p>There are all kinds of problems with this bill</p> <p>The biggest problem I see right off the bat is it is applying what is known as "ends-means" scrutiny. According to NYSRPA v Bruen when it comes to issuances of CCWs, the requirements need to be objective and few. Otherwise, it will should be considered an infringement. If a person is considered a legally permitted individual then they shall be issued a CCW. Trying to introduce subjective standards like checking out ones social media or trying to get family members or friends to suggest reasons why this person may be of unfit character is totally subjective, intrusive and simply an attempt to introduce a "minority report" type of scheme which is simply unacceptable. How can you make a judgement on someone who may commit a crime in the future. That is not how justice works in our country.</p> <p>There has been a gentleman representing the HPD Records Division who has been at all of the gun law related hearings who has consistently objected on the grounds that this bill if made into law would be unenforceable. They simply lack the man power and the ability to trully fulfill what they will be required to do.</p> <p>As far as defining specific locations as sensitive locations they according the NYSRPA v Bruen ruling need to be limited and narrow. The ruling defines 4 places that "can" be considered: polling places, prisons and jails, government buildings but only those places were laws are made and court houses. Schools may be another place but only to restrict students (which are already prohibited from CCW as if they are under age, but teachers, faculty and other staff should not be restricted.</p> <p>Thus far what is being listed in this bill as a sensitive places is far too broad. The biggest problems with all these other places is that they lack the required historical and traditional analogues of similar types of laws which were present in 1791 until the early 1800s which is the founding period of the Bill of Rights (including the 2nd Amendment and 14th Amendment) and the US Constitution. The evidence simply is not there. There the closest thing that defendants in other jurisdictions have tried to apply are so called surety laws or the racist laws which were proposed only to limit freed black slaves from possessing firearms for protection of themselves, their families and property after the civil war. I hope you would not consider trying to stretch these types of rulings in this case.</p> <p>The other problem with sensitive places also known as gun free zones is that they would only serve to attract criminals or simply the "bad element" in society cause it would embolden them to target such places cause they don't care about laws and are going to take advantage of this type of situation which will swing things in their favor.</p> <p>Let's say you are able to pass such a bill and have all these designated gun free zones, what are you going to do to ensure the safety of the public. Are you gonna put metal detectors at every entrance in all the malls and or have heightened armed security in all of the malls as well. Are you going to place armed security on every bus and every mass transit station to react to potential threats to follow through with the need to public safety in all there so called gun free zones? Are you gonna have metal detectors in all school building and have armed security on every campus? What about public parks how are you gonna insure the safety of the general public in all these places after you make it easier for criminals and mass shooters to target? Can you see why there is so much push back from the HPD? You are creating a scenario that is simply unenforcible?</p> <p>Like it or not, NYSRPA v Bruen has forever, changed the landscape for public carry of firearms in our state. The court simply made right something that was always a God given Right of the People.</p> <p>Instead, create a cooperative relationship with the law abiding firearms community, provide gun safety classes or seminars for school aged kids and their parents. Those who don't want to have guns for their own protection can choose to do so and not be compelled to do anything they are not comfortable with. But they should not be allowed to hinder the progress of individuals who choose to exercise their right.</p> <p>Work with the community to open up more shooting ranges on the island where actual gun safety classes can be taught helping anyone who wants to exercise this right to be more safe. Create more opportunities for education and awareness of proper and</p>		

safe use of firearms. Create more opportunities for people to know and understand what lethal force is and when it is appropriate to use lethal force in public areas and on private property.

Pass laws, like a more robust stand your ground law which would empower people to stand up to violent criminals who what to steal, kill and harm others. This is a real deterrent to crime because it is a stance for the law abiding community and against criminals.

Don't allow activist judges or DAs to let violent criminals who have past offenses go when they are caught again. Folks like this have proven they are a real danger to society and don't need to be given free reign to commit crime again. Keep them locked up until they face trial, that's true justice.

Hire more judges and prosecutors and DAs so that these individuals can be given a timely access to due process. Make the justice system work.

Hire more ethical police officers and encourage the profession as the honorable profession it is meant to be. It is sad when you have a ton of veteran police officers who don't encourage their kids to follow them into public service. Support our men in blue, have high standards for conduct and accountability but keep the bad guys locked up when they are caught. It is actually pretty simple. Weak men and women who have been placed in authority have unfortunately make the system broken and weak. Restore the honorableness and righteousness to the justice system and truly make it something that works for all people. Take your oath of office seriously, defend and uphold the Constitution of Hawaii and Constitution of the United States. Don't be clouded by competing ideological views. Do what is pono. That's why you are there. Please strike this bill down and never bring it back. Enact laws that will work for the people, the law abiding citizens who elected you. Not laws that empower criminals.

Thanks for hearing us.

Glenn

Name: Joel Berg	Email: d2bergler@hotmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 12, 2023 @ 11:58 AM

Testimony:
I'm embarrassed on all of your behalf. These rules are an obvious tantrum.

Name: Mark Woodward	Email: markawoodwardmd@yahoo.com	Zip: 96818
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 12, 2023 @ 03:03 PM

Testimony:
I strongly oppose City Council Bill 57.

This bill is overly restrictive and limits the locations where a concealed firearm can be carried to essentially the Koko Head Shooting Complex.

This circumvents the constitutional rights of the citizens of the City and County of Honolulu, under the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

The right of the people to keep and BEAR Arms, shall not be infringed.

This bill continues to preserve safe areas for criminal /felons to carry out their activities without fear of interference by an armed law-abiding citizen.

Name: David Lau	Email: vicness151@yahoo.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 12, 2023 @ 03:08 PM

Testimony:

I oppose Bill057(22). This bill does not include the text, history and tradition needed for it to become law. Simply put, it is unconstitutional. Law makers can disagree with the Bruen case but they simply can not ignore it. We are seeing similar actions from states such as New York, New Jersey, and California, all of which have identical verbiage stripping it's citizens of it's constitutionally protected right to keep and bear arms. All of these attempts have been struck down.

2005 Castle Rock vs. Gonzales. The Supreme Court ruled that the police does not have a duty to protect citizens. Most recently, the 11th Circuit upheld a lower court ruling that police could not be held liable for failing to protect students in the 2018 Parkland shooting. The courts have determined that the police do not have a duty to protect it's citizens, yet, we are lead to believe that we do not have a right to self defense. Leaders and law makers in Hawaii are treating our second amendment right is a privelege.

Bill057(22) is blatantly unconstitutional and I strongly oppose.

Name: Reid Oya	Email: oyathebaldguy@gmail.com	Zip: 96782
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 12, 2023 @ 03:16 PM

Testimony:
I strongly oppose bill 057. There are law suits in New York, & New Jersey challenging these laws and being struck down as unconstitutional. There is no historical evidence of these "sensitive places" that I could find around the time the 2nd Amendment was signed except for polling places, government buildings, courthouses & some schools . The places that are listed are where a lot of attacks happen. Gun free zones are the most dangerous places because that's where criminals know no one has a firearm. WE are law abiding citizens NOT criminals. The focus should be on the criminals not guns or law abiding citizens.

I case you forgot what the 2nd amendment says.
." A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED."

Name: James Cooper	Email: jimcooper@mindspring.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 12, 2023 @ 03:27 PM

Testimony:
I strongly support this bill defining sensitive locations within the City and County of Honolulu where carrying firearms is prohibited. The right to bear arms does not state the right to indiscriminately bear arms. Citizens also have a right to arms-free zones and this bill accounts for that right.

Name: Robert Pitman	Email: rgpitman96@gmail.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 12, 2023 @ 05:28 PM

Testimony:
I oppose this bill.

These laws will make it extremely difficult to legally carry and protect yourself.

Name: Benel Piros	Email: soripleneb@gmail.com	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 12, 2023 @ 08:29 PM

Testimony:
I OPPOSE due to the fact a LAW ABIDING Citizen is restricted to Lawfully carry and protect themselves at all times while in a public setting. Criminals don't follow the LAW and this Bill will do nothing to stop crime.

Name: Eric Akiyama	Email: eric1991j@gmail.com	Zip: 96819
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 12, 2023 @ 08:37 PM

<p>Testimony: Aloha, I strongly oppose BILL057. This bill is disrespecting a Supreme Court Ruling. If passed, this bill will restrict responsible law abiding citizens from protecting themselves and those they care about. Criminals will prey on the law abiding citizens in these sensitive places.</p>		
<p>Name: Zachary Miller</p>	<p>Email: zacharrymm@gmail.com</p>	<p>Zip: 96734</p>
<p>Representing: Self</p>	<p>Position: Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 02:58 AM</p>
<p>Testimony: I strongly oppose bill 57 as it takes away the very right that the constitution ensures and SCOTUS just reassured last June. This bill would take away my ability to protect my wife and son as we travel around the island and make me a felon even though I went through the proper process to obtain a permit. This bill only restricts the law abiding citizen and would not prevent criminals from carrying a firearm in any location. This bill will not hold up in a court of law and only hurts the great citizens of Hawaii. Please vote against this bill and support the citizens who only want to protect there families and those around them.</p>		
<p>Name: ERIC ZAMULE</p>	<p>Email: ERICZAMULE@HOTMAIL.COM</p>	<p>Zip: 96818</p>
<p>Representing: Self</p>	<p>Position: Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 03:39 AM</p>
<p>Testimony: I oppose the sensitive places bill as it will only serve to criminalize otherwise law abiding citizens who unknowing carry their firearms into sensitive areas, but will do nothing to stop violent criminals. I have lived in several concealed carry states and while this is a new concept in Hawaii, loosening of carrying regulations for legal gun owners has never lead to an increase in crime.</p>		
<p>Name: Kyle Hara</p>	<p>Email: kylehara@gmail.com</p>	<p>Zip: 96797</p>
<p>Representing: Self</p>	<p>Position: Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 03:49 AM</p>
<p>Testimony: I'm writing in opposition of this bill. If a law abiding qualified citizen have a CCW license, They have already passed many checks and hurdles from mental background, criminal background, classes and shooting qualifications. They should be able to carry and protect self and others around them. Crime and criminals do not abide by rules and laws or locations, they are opportunist, and will target sensitive places. Why make it harder for good citizens that just want to protect themselves and loved ones? What good does it do if you can have the tool to protect but can't have it with you?</p>		
<p>Name: Jerry Yuen</p>	<p>Email: jerry.t.yuen@gmail.com</p>	<p>Zip: 96822</p>
<p>Representing: Pu'u'loa Rifle and Pistol Club</p>	<p>Position: Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 06:24 AM</p>
<p>Testimony: I strongly oppose Bill 57 because it is unconstitutional and will do nothing to deter crime. Many of the sensitive places recommended for prohibited carry of firearms are grossly beyond the traditional. Parks, bus stops, parking lots, public transportation, commercial and public buildings are places where individuals will need the means to protect themselves. Making good people helpless will not make criminals harmless.</p>		
<p>Name: CLIFFORD CHEE</p>	<p>Email: cklchee@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Zip: 96825</p>
<p>Representing: Self</p>	<p>Position: Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 08:04 AM</p>
<p>Testimony: Please set aside personal feelings and respect the rule of law and oppose this Bill. Passing this Bill will open the City to lawsuits that the City will not win. Losing these lawsuits will cost the Taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars...money that we can't</p>		

afford to waste. Please be responsible stewards of our tax dollars. Thank you for your Public service.

Name: Taz Gample	Email: tazgample@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 08:52 AM

Testimony:
Aloha,

I am writing in opposition to the current bill. Banning lawful citizens from being allowed to carry only serves to embolden criminals already intent on committing crimes. No amount of additional laws will deter a criminal whose intent is to commit harm. This bill seeks to limit constitutional freedoms under the guise of public safety, but instead puts the public at greater risk. When a criminal perceives the public as armed, they WILL think twice before engaging in acts of violence. And all that is needed is the PERCEPTION of resistance. Don't take away the strongest deterrent against criminals. It's not the actual carrying of firearms that deters criminals, but the BELIEF that there are people capable of resisting. And should one criminal decide to act on their violent intentions, don't take away the only chance of survival that citizens may have. When your life is on the line and every second matters, police are only minutes away.

Please do what is right. And oppose this bill.

Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony.

Name: Sarah Sumadi	Email: ssumadi@everytown.org	Zip: 98146
Representing: Everytown for Gun Safety	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 10:24 AM

Name: Kalbert Young	Email: uhgovrel@hawaii.edu	Zip: 96822
Representing: University of Hawaii	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 11:30 AM

Name: Randy Cheung	Email: gokkuma@gmail.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 01:08 PM

Testimony:
Default is prohibition at ALL businesses. Inconsistent with 2nd amendment rights. Places unnecessary burden on ALL businesses to purchase/create, post and maintain signage. Makes them all unwittingly complicit with this unconstitutional bill. And leaves them with useless signs once this bill has been struck down in court. Strong opposition.

Name: Gavin Lohmeier	Email: onederful100@aol.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 01:28 PM

Testimony:
oppose bill 57. too restrictive. this bill will have no effect on crime or gun violence. it will only serve to disarm citizens with a valid permit to carry. criminals don't obey the law. gun free zones don't work.
sincerely,
Gavin Lohmeier

Name: Lori Fujimoto	Email: roaringlow808@gmail.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 02:20 PM

Name: Rory Fujimoto	Email: chiefcornerstone1234@gmail.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 02:22 PM
Name: Michael Leong	Email: mleonginhawaii@gmail.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 03:06 PM
Name: Barbara Fischlowitz-Leong	Email: barbinhawaii@gmail.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Assistive Technology Resource Centers of Hawaii	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 03:10 PM
Name: Gabriel Kekauoha	Email: gkekauoha16@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 03:22 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I oppose bill 57.</p> <p>"Sensitive places", like parks and beaches are common places people frequent to enjoy and relax. Why shouldn't someone be able to protect themselves from deadly threats at these places? It's not as comfortable and hard to enjoy these public places if you don't feel safe from deadly threats. You do realize that police take some time to respond to a location... you or I might be in imminent danger from a deadly threat like a gun or knife from a criminal who's ignored the "sensitive places" law and actually targeted the area, where we have been disarmed and vulnerable. I think that it's wrong to not allow firearms in vehicles at these locations as well. Anyone who has been approved and given by the chief of Police of Honolulu a permit to carry has fulfilled all the necessary training to handle and operate the firearm safely. By restricting these law-abiding citizens, you are putting their lives at risk or at very least effecting their daily lives where and how they can move around the island. I don't think it's fair for people who rely on public transportation to not be able to carry their firearm even after getting their permit to carry from HPD. I don't believe it's right to force every business to put up a sign to notify the public with a "GUNS ALLOWED" sign.</p> <p>Stop this bill</p>		
Name: Anthony Pyun	Email: anthonypyun@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 04:03 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I strongly oppose this bill! We the people have a moral and constitutional right to protect our family and ourselves! This bill only affects law abiding citizens! We all know criminals never follow the law and also will know everyone is un-armed which makes all of us an easy victim. HPD will not be available to protect everyone so we must be allowed to have a chance to defend ourselves and family.</p>		
Name: Eric Clark	Email: eclark@jnag.com	Zip: 96821
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 04:12 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I am writing in strong opposition to this Bill. This Bill cannot stand from a legal perspective, since it is so broad brushed it seeks to ignore the recent Supreme Court decision (Braun) and other constitutional law. Any restrictions on carrying, which is not understood by Federal law to be part of the Second Amendment, must rely on historical precedent related to restrictions on carrying firearms. This Bill will set off a costly legal process, which myself and others will gladly contribute to, and which the State, City and County of HI will have to use taxpayer funds to cover. It is very clear cut, what is being proposed is illegal. However, the</p>		

personal opinions and positions of local politicians, including the Mayor and Governor, have seemed to cloud their judgment on this topic. Unfortunate that it might get to this irrational stage of wasting tax payer funds.

Name: Eric Clark	Email: eclark@jnag.com	Zip: 96821
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Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 04:20 PM
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Testimony:
resubmitting due to typo

I am writing in strong opposition to this Bill. This Bill cannot stand from a legal perspective, since it is so broad brushed it seeks to ignore the recent Supreme Court decision (Braun) and other constitutional law. Any restrictions on carrying, which is now understood by the recent Supreme Court decision to be part of the Second Amendment, must rely on historical precedent related to restrictions on carrying firearms. This Bill will set off a costly legal process, which myself and others will gladly contribute to, and which the State, City and County of HI will have to use taxpayer funds to cover. It is very clear cut, what is being proposed is illegal. However, the personal opinions and positions of local politicians, including the Mayor and Governor, have seemed to cloud their judgment on this topic. Unfortunate that it might get to this irrational stage of wasting tax payer funds.

Name: Samuel Webb	Email: sebb67@yahoo.com	Zip: 96822
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Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 05:17 PM
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Testimony:
We do not need more CCW bans, when criminals don't follow the law already.

Name: Daniel Covert	Email: dc_az3@yahoo.com	Zip: 96734
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Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 05:24 PM
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Testimony:
This is bill is very similar to a bill that was passed this year in New Jersey. This bill was halted in court 3 weeks after it was passed. It is no secret our first responders and not able to quickly respond and CCW gives responsible law abiding citizens the option to protect themselves in the event a first responder cannot quickly help a mom with her children, a kupuna, or an able bodied person being put in danger by a criminal. Linda Johnson was beaten to death by Michael Armstrong on front steps of the Kapolei Police station. If our officers are not able to help save Linda on their front steps, what would happen to the rest of us if we called for help and response times were 5, 10, or 15 minutes.

Name: Sean Loo	Email: seanhl10@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
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Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 13, 2023 @ 10:53 PM
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Testimony:
I oppose this bill because it infringes on our second amendment rights and inhibits law abiding citizens from defending themselves. Criminals do not follow the law and labeling somewhere as a sensitive place doesn't magically make it safe from criminals or prevent criminals from going to those places. This Bill only makes law abiding citizens more vulnerable to becoming a victim and would further embolden criminal intent in these areas because criminals will know that people in these so called sensitive places will be unarmed and unable to defend themselves.

Name: Angelina Mercado	Email: amercado@hscadv.org	Zip: 96814
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Representing: Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 01:46 AM
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Name: Xavier Baker	Email: xavierbaker0@gmail.com	Zip: 96707
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Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 06:47 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I am in strong opposition of this bill. It's sad I even need to be submitting testimony again for this bill. The fact that it hasn't as been 3-1 against this bill every hearing should speak for itself. If you took an oath to serve the people and the people say no to this bill but you ignore it...well I guess you are going against your oath. During this whole process it looks as if the anti 2a group feel only they should be heard. This bill is very unconstitutional. And all I can say is be ready for the many lawsuits to come if this bill passes. Lots of wasted time an money over something that is a constitutional right and should be granted no matter what your personal emotions are on the subject.</p>		
Name: Ellen Carson	Email: egcarson@icloud.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 07:38 AM
Name: Galen Pao	Email: gpao563@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 08:15 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>To City Council Members.</p> <p>I continue to oppose Bill 057 because it is unconstitutional. Bill 057 will violate the rights of citizens who choose to exercise their right to carry firearms in public.</p> <p>Access to public places and government facilities is a right that all citizens should be able to access and enjoy. Bill 057 will deny that right to those who are exercising their 2nd Amendment to carry firearms in public.</p> <p>The purpose of Bill057 is obvious. It is to circumvent the Bruen decision as handed down by SCOTUS. I urge that City Council members review Bill057 as drafted and amend Bill057 to not include public transportation, parks, beaches, places of assembly and their parking structures as so called "sensitive places".</p> <p>Please abide by the oath of office one takes to defend, protect, and uphold the Constitution of the United States and the State of Hawaii. Bill 057 must not be approved in it's entirety and must be amended.</p> <p>Thank you. Galen J. Pao</p>		
Name: Chad Cummings	Email: Nalo_b@yahoo.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 08:46 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I strongly oppose this bill as it is unconstitutional. It infringes our rights. Putting limits on where law abiding citizens can carry to protect themselves is crazy and show that people who right these bills DO NOT CARE about LAW ABIDING CITIZENS. Criminals will still carry and continue to commit crimes whiles our leaders try to disarm law abiding citizens and strip us of our rights! Just making more infringements.</p>		
Name: Ryan Tinajero	Email: Ryan.C.Tinajero@gmail.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 08:46 AM
Name: Jacob Holcomb	Email: jake@mailbox.org	Zip: 96819

Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 08:48 AM
<p>Testimony: The Supreme Court decision is clear. Bill 57 is unconstitutional. When the government breaks the law, there is no law, and that's what we are witnessing on our streets these days. They say weak men create hard times, and it seems like the supporters of this bill have really set out to prove that point.</p>		
Name: Mitchell Weber	Email: mdotweber@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 09:23 AM
<p>Testimony: I strongly Oppose Bill57, Just another reminder, the C&C of Honolulu has no qualified immunity. You are restricting the civil rights of your constituents. The wording of this bill is a defacto ban on carrying a firearm. The will the city and county provide legitimate safe storage and security for firearms owners to store their arms before entering a gun free zone, will there be attendants and security in all c&c facilities and adjoining sidewalks and parking lots to enforce your carry ban and protect the public?</p>		
Name: Todd Yukutake	Email: toddyukutake@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 09:28 AM
<p>Testimony: I am opposed to Bill 57 as it will prevent me from carrying a firearm for self-protection and it is unconstitutional. This bill is written and pushed by the Mayor. It is the responsibility of the council to be a check on the Mayor's tyrannical acts and the council is failing at it's job. Please oppose this bill.</p>		
Name: Scott Shimoda	Email: Scott_shimoda@hotmail.com	Zip: 96782
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 09:34 AM
<p>Testimony: I oppose this bill. Allow the citizens to protect themselves when the police will not.</p>		
Name: Jordan Au	Email: jordan-726@hotmail.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 09:40 AM
<p>Testimony: To whom it may concer, I strongly oppose Bill 57. This bill would make it illegal for people to carry firearms almost everywhere. On the first page it states that the intent is to protect health, life, and property. However, making many places a sensitive place will make it a target for shootings like we have seen many times over the years. Many of the shootings that have become famous took place in an area that did not allow people to carry firearms. Obviously those rules did not stop the shooter. This bill will only criminalize people who want to carry a firearm to protect themselves and others. Also, there have been numerous cases where an armed civilian managed to stop an active shooter. We should be empowering people to be able to protect themselves and others, not create more victims. Thank you,</p>		

Jordan Au		
Name: Robert Choy	Email: rchoy@hah.org	Zip: 96813
Representing: Healthcare Association of Hawaii	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 09:40 AM
Name: Gordon Fowler	Email: gordyf@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 09:55 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I have to once again strongly oppose this measure.</p> <p>It is clearly an attempt at an end run around the recent Scotus ruling that affirms the right of an individual to arm himself defensively in public. This has been tried and is now in the courts in other jurisdictions where it has been ruled unconstitutional as it will be here.</p> <p>You folks apparently don't trust your citizenry.</p> <p>A government that does not trust its citizens is a poor excuse for leadership.</p> <p>In order to follow the intent of SCOTUS and the rule of law, this bill should not be enacted.</p> <p>Aloha Gordon Fowler</p>		
Name: steve kumasaka	Email: macsak@gmail.com	Zip: 96821
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 10:00 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS UNCONSTITUTIONAL OVER-REACH</p>		
Name: Alfred, jr. Vila	Email: avila@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96706
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 11:00 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Such law doesn't deter career criminals.</p> <p>As we all know, only law abiding people" abide by the rules and the law.</p> <p>A criminal don't care about laws.</p> <p>Crime happens on bus stops, (in the bus) inside MALL'S and GAS Station, even in our PARK'S.</p> <p>People who have been assaulted can tell us, it does not matter to any criminal where or when they choose to commit crimes!.</p> <p>BILL057: will not stop crime against innocent citizens.</p>		
Name: Rikki Rutt	Email: rikkirutt@yahoo.com	Zip: 96782
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 12:41 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I am once again submitting testimony in strong opposition to the proposed bill 57. First off, we have already seen similar restrictions in the mainland that this is modeled after already beginning to be overturned in the courts. By prohibiting carry by licensed individuals in public areas goes completely against the ruling of the supreme court. Also, only law-abiding individuals will obey (the responsible people that will not be the source of problems) resulting in the rules providing no safety. Another issue with the proposed rules is that on prohibitions on private property. The ruling the courts issues determined that carrying a firearm outside of the home is a constitutionally protected right. That is the default, and if an individual does not want to allow that on their</p>		

private property it is their right to post such. The default being no carry permitted unless explicitly stated is a blatant disregard of the ruling of the supreme court. The proposed rules are unconstitutional and go against not only the recent supreme court ruling but also other court rulings. Add to that the fact that it will provide absolutely no benefits to public safety (and will actually be detrimental to the it). An added issue is that these rules will be challenged in the courts and as we have seen have precedence to be overturned which will only end up costing the residence and taxpayers of the City and County of Honolulu through the waste of public funds to fight the challenges to the proposed rules. I hope that the Council use logic and facts and do not pass this bill. I would like to add my thanks and gratitude to council members Okimoto, Tulba, and Tupola for their no votes at the past reading, and for listening to the overwhelming majority of submitted testimony in objection to this bill. I hope the rest of the council can follow in their example and do right by their constituents.

Name: Timothy Miyao	Email: tmiyao@live.com	Zip: 96720
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 12:51 PM

Testimony:
Honorable Honolulu City Council,

I urge you to oppose Bill 57 relating to Public Carry of Firearms. Bill 57 is far overreaching and prohibits a citizen from exercising her/his Constitutional right. What is the National historical tradition that would support each regulation in this legislation? Please oppose Bill 57 in its current form as it denies citizens' rights in locations without National historical precedence.

In the Supreme Court decision *New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen*, it was determined that regulations, put in place by the government, must adhere to our national historical tradition that is widespread. A state's history is insufficient to be used to justify violations of a Constitutional right. The Supreme Court's opinion included, and I quote, "To justify its regulation, the government may not simply posit that the regulation promotes an important interest. Rather, the government must demonstrate that the regulation is consistent with this Nation's historical tradition of firearms regulation. Only if a firearm regulation is consistent with this Nation's historical tradition may a court conclude that the individual's conduct falls outside of the Second Amendment's "unqualified command"". For your convenience, I attach a link to the US Supreme Court Ruling for *New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen*: https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843_7j80.pdf

In our national history voting service centers and government buildings were places that limited a citizen's constitutional right. These would pass the litmus test of our Nation's historical tradition of firearms regulation.

Some of the places in this bill would not adhere to our National historical tradition. Parks and places where people are assembled for an event do not meet the criteria of National historical tradition.

Modes of public transportation, such as buses also fail to meet the National historical tradition criteria. Washington DC is being taken to court for prohibiting carry on their Metro system. Bill 57 would prohibit a citizen's right to self-defense on buses. What of the people who rely on the city bus? How would they protect themselves walking between the bus stop and their home at night? These individuals are arguably at higher risk to be assaulted than someone operating a locked private vehicle. Yet Bill 57 would deny them the ability to protect themselves.

Which National historical tradition made First Amendment expressive activities a sensitive location? Bill 57 dictates that a citizen can exercise his/her First and Second Amendment rights but not at the same time. Bill 57 says that a citizen needs to choose between two constitutionally guaranteed rights. It will hinder either a citizen's freedom of assembly or right to bear arms.

Prohibition on the carry of firearms on private property, if determined and advertised by the property owner, meets the criteria of National historical tradition. However, Bill 57 inappropriately adds that it is the responsibility of the businesses to post signs saying that "carry is permitted". In most other states businesses are responsible for posting a sign indicating that NO carry is allowed. This would also align with the widespread concept of establishments posting "No shirt, no shoes, no service" and "No food or drinks allowed". Firearm business owners in Hawaii have often been harassed by unsavory members of the public. This harassment would no doubt escalate and include any business that posts a sign that carry is welcome.

When reviewing Bill 57 I humbly ask that you please carefully consider the United States Constitution and Supreme Court ruling in *New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen*. Many components of Bill 57 infringe on Constitutional rights without meeting the requirement of National historical tradition. Please oppose Bill 57 in its current form. I appreciate your time and all that you do for the people of Hawaii!

Name: Michael Golojuch Jr	Email: michael@hawaiidemocrats.org	Zip: 96707
Representing: Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 02:41 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha Councilmembers,</p> <p>The Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i's oldest and largest policy and political LGBTQIA+ focused organization fully supports Bill 52 (2022).</p> <p>We hope you all will support this important piece of legislation.</p> <p>Mahalo nui loa,</p> <p>Michael Golojuch, Jr. Chair and SCC Representative Stonewall Caucus for the DPH</p>		
Name: Mufi Hannemann	Email: mhannemann@hawaiilodging.org	Zip: 96815
Representing: Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 04:26 PM
Name: Angelika Sielken	Email: angelikasielken@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 05:08 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I oppose the bill the way it is written.</p>		
Name: Dirck Sielken	Email: dsielken@hipco.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 05:31 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha Council Members,</p> <p>I strongly oppose House Bill HB984 as written. The Second Amendment says "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed". Bill57 is too restrictive. The way it is written, LEGAL, conceal carry is impossible in all public places. Where we still require self defense, this bill will prevent us. There shouldn't be more restrictions for law abiding citizens to possess and or conceal carry the firearms they own.</p> <p>Passing this bill into law when you swore an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States is actually breaking your oath.</p> <p>OATH OF OFFICE</p> <p>All eligible public officers, before entering upon the duties of their respective offices, shall take and subscribe to the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, and that I will faithfully discharge my duties as to the best of my ability." As used in this section, "eligible public officers" means the governor, the lieutenant governor, the members of both houses of the legislature, the members of the board of education, the members of the national guard, State or county employees who possess police powers, district court judges, and all those whose appointment requires the consent of the senate. [Ren and am Const Con 1978 and election Nov 7, 1978; am SB 1440 (1992) and election Nov 3, 1992] Please stand by you Oath of Office and put forth a bill that doe snot infringe on the law abiding citizens 2nd Amendment Right.</p>		

Please focus on bills that will deter the criminals and protect the innocent.

Thank you,
Dirck Sielken

Name: Ronald Livingston	Email: rglivinghi@aol.com	Zip: 96825-1606
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 06:42 PM

Testimony:

Dear Mr Waters and Honolulu City Council Members.

You seem more afraid of law abiding citizens with a legal concealed carry permit then you are of the bad people with guns. I have read that crime rate committed by people with concealed carry permits is around .02%.

Some of you have said you want to protect your constituents by over restricting where concealed carry may occur.

Your not, your only reinforcing places where the wolves may freely prey on their victims without interference and no one to stop them (just like gun free school zone).

It has been shown that where concealed carry is allowed the crime rate has gone down. The bad guys don't want to get shot and may think twice when there are more good people carrying guns. Many times shots don't even need to be fired to stop the crime.

It very seldom makes the news, that between 1 & 2 million accurateness happen every year, that a good guy with a gun stops a bad guy with a gun and a lot of the time no shots are fired.

And what about public transportation, don't you think those riders need and deserve more protection? How many muggings, beatings, robberies and shootings have happened at bus stops, too many.

Let us law abiding citizen help. We want to keep our island safer. That is why we have fought for this for so long.

And we have to get permission in order to wear our guns into a store? Doesn't that defeat the purpose of concealed carry? If they don't want guns in their store put up a sign and I will shop somewhere else and pray they don't get robbed. NO GUNS ALLOWED

Ronald Livingston
rglivinghi@aol.com
808-258-1898

Name: Michael A Cobb jr	Email: mikecobbjr@hotmail.com	Zip: 96709
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 08:32 PM

Name: Will Caron	Email: willcaronforhawaii@gmail.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 09:17 PM

Testimony:

I strongly support Bill 57 to limit the locations in which a person may legally bring a firearm. The right to bear arms is not absolute. Nor does it trump the right to a safe public environment. Firearms reduce safety in public, and despite what pro-gun zealots say, tight gun laws have served Hawaii well for decades, and serve virtually all other developed nations in the world well too. The U.S., with its loose gun laws, is the only developed nation in the world in which mass shootings—acts of terrorism often perpetrated by rightwing extremists—are allowed to go decimating our young people unchecked, all in the name of a misguided sense of entitlement that gun zealots espouse. Enough is enough. We cannot allow Hawaii to become like the continent when it comes to gun violence. To keep Hawaii and its people safe, please pass Bill 57. Mahalo.

Name: Tina Yamaki	Email: tyamaki@rmhawaii.org	Zip: 96816
Representing: Retail Merchants of Hawaii	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 09:21 PM

Name:	Email:	Zip:
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Deedra Sielken	deesiel@aol.com	96607
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 10:20 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Though I'm a legal gun owner and have no desire to conceal and carry , I do support those that wish to. I think those that have requested to conceal and carry have jumped through all the obstacles you have put in their way. They have taken classes, shown you that they are more than capable of handling their weapons. You have now tried to make it so that they can't carry in sensitive spots? This island is so congested that these sensitive spots would be pretty much everywhere. I think you need to stop treating the law abiding citizen as the criminal . It's sad that people who follow the rules of law are always the one affected the most . Always restricted.</p>		
Name: Barbara Shimei	Email: bshimei@gmail.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Indivisible Hawaii	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 14, 2023 @ 10:28 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>IN SUPPORT</p> <p>Indivisible Hawaii supports Bill 57. Please pass this important bill.</p>		
Name: David Vea	Email: 321go930@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 15, 2023 @ 04:53 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I strongly oppose Bill 57, Honolulu Sensitive Places law. I agree with most law-abiding gun owners of Hawaii that this type of bill is a knee-jerk reaction to the Supreme Court Decision in Bruen vs New York Rifle and Pistol Association (NYRPA). Section 1 of this Bill states, the purpose of this ordinance is to define those sensitive locations consistent with our 2nd Amendment and the Supreme Courts ruling in Bruen v NYSRPA. However, Bill 57 is in direct opposition to the Supreme Courts recent Decision. It is as if the proposing official of this bill did not take the time to do his due diligence to review the Supreme Court's decision in its entirety to understand the intent and or how the use of Text, History, and Tradition was used to arrive at this decision.</p> <p>Firstly, Bill 57 and its proposed definition of Sensitive Places is contrary to the Supreme Courts decision in Bruen. More specifically, Bill 57s attempt of a laundry list of locations is effectively to characterize most public areas as a "sensitive-place" lacks merit because there is no historical basis for the city and county of Honolulu or the State of Hawaii to effectively declare all common locations a "sensitive place." The Bruen decision declared the burden falls on council representative and the city to show that the City and County of Honolulu or the State meet proper-cause requirement is consistent with this Nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation. To do so, the city would need to demonstrate though the historical record reflecting these were actual "sensitive places" where weapons were "altogether prohibited." They failed to do so in the bill of subsequent committee meetings. The argument claimed by these proposing officials if this bill indicates that the other purpose of this ordinance is to protect sensitive areas that traditionally been subject to restrictions on carrying or possessing arms actually holds no weight because prior to the Bruen decision, law enforcement and other personnel were the only personnel permitted to carry firearms. Consequently, this is not a historical account of a sensitive place "where weapons were altogether prohibited."</p> <p>Moreover, for proposing officials to claim any locations were previously and historically restricted locations is disingenuous because law abiding citizens were Not allowed to carry a firearm for self-defense at all. I do agree that the court used laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools and government buildings but expanding the category of sensitive places to most common areas as described in Bill 57 is overreaching, too broad, contrary to the Bruen ruling, and more importantly contrary to 2nd amendments intent. The Supreme Court explained this in Heller, stating the "textual elements" of the Second Amendment's operative clause— "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed"—"guarantee the individual right to possess and carry weapons in case of confrontation." With that being said and using modern examples as a reference, statistically most mass shootings in the past decade occur in these common places. Statistically, when these shootings occur and the shooter is confronted by a law-abiding gun owner, the threat is neutralized far quicker and with far less bloodshed than those incidents that occur in a gun free zone a.k.a. sensitive place. Please take the time to review the data, the courts decision, and we can avoid a longer drawn battle in the courts if this is passed which will result in Supreme Court vacating this</p>		

law. If the overreaching and broad definition of sensitive places is passed as stated in this bill, I fear more litigation, drawn out legal battles, wasting the people's time, the people's money, and it will be contributing to the ever-decreasing confidence the public has in their elected officials. If the rule of law was adjudicated at the highest court in the land but yet we do not uphold this law and decision as declared by the Supreme Court, will we be a land of lawlessness? I pray for our leaders and that we make the right decision. If there is any text we must heed, it is God's word. "When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn." Proverbs 29:2.

Name: David Schafer	Email: covers67@yahoo.com	Zip: 96786
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 15, 2023 @ 06:31 AM

Testimony:
Which part of the 2nd Amendment do you not understand. Shall not be infringed on. Stop trying to pass rules that will make the whole community unsafe. Criminals will not comply with with any law that you pass regarding guns. Making it hard for law abiding citizens to protect themselves. I do not support this bill. Please do not pass this insane bill.

Name: chad maeda	Email: maedaa001@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 15, 2023 @ 08:26 AM

Testimony:
I strongly oppose this bill

Name: Elijah Kim	Email: ejkim173@hotmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 15, 2023 @ 08:40 AM

Testimony:
I oppose this bill because it violates our constitutional right to the second amendment. Stop trying to control guns and address the bigger issue of mental health and substance abuse. Also, you are better off educating and training everyone on proper firearms use/care/handling/responsibility/ownership than trying to pass unconstitutional laws. Let's be American and not give up the freedoms that make us the great nation we are.



**Testimony to the Honolulu City Council
Wednesday, March 15, 2023**

RE: Bill 57 CD2- Relating to the public carry of firearms

Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the City Council:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports Bill 57 CD2**, which "its purpose is to define those sensitive locations within the City and County of Honolulu ("City") where the carrying of firearms is prohibited, consistent with an individual's Second Amendment right to bear arms and the United States Supreme Court's ruling in New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen, 142 S. Ct. 2111 (2022)".

As representatives of Hawaii's business community, we understand the importance of creating a safe and secure environment for our employees, customers, and the public at large. Unfortunately, gun violence has become an all-too-common occurrence in our society, with tragic consequences for individuals and communities across the country. We believe that sensible, common-sense measures can help reduce the risk of such violence and create a safer environment for all.

We agree with the intent of the bill to prohibit firearms in private businesses unless the specific businesses expressly consents via prescribed signage requirements posted at the premises of the business. This protects businesses that choose not to allow firearms in their premises while maintaining the safety of their employees and their customers but also preserves the rights of business owners that choose to permit firearms inside their places of business. This ensures that customers, employees, and the public are informed about the possibility that there may be someone inside with a firearm. This ensures the safety and transparency to the customer, without infringing on the rights of a business owner or licensed firearm carrier.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Aloha,

I am providing written testimony in opposition to BILL 057(22) CD1.

The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS), through the *NYSRPA vs. Bruen* decision, recently established "text, history, and tradition" as the new standard for jurisprudence regarding the Second Amendment. Any precedent analyzed using the text, history, and tradition method must have its origins rooted near the creation of the Second Amendment in 1791.

In regards to sensitive places, the SCOTUS ruling specifically mentioned polling places, schools, and government buildings as examples of sensitive places that historically prohibited the bearing of arms. Additional proposed locations noted in BILL 057(22) CD1 fail to provide historical context or justification for inclusion on a list of sensitive areas.

New York included all of the sensitive areas defined in BILL 057(22) CD1 in the Concealed Carry Improvement Act (CCIA), which was a response to the SCOTUS decision. U.S. District Court Judge Glenn Suddaby, among other judges, have already ruled large parts of the (CCIA), particularly many of the sensitive locations, are unconstitutional and do not adhere to text, history, and tradition.

Further, U.S. District Court Judge Renee Marie Bumb ruled New Jersey's list of sensitive locations, which are very similar to New York's, unconstitutional. Bumb also blocked the enforcement of carrying firearms on private property without the "express consent" of an owner or signage indicating firearms are allowed. The State's default ban for firearms on private property essentially made a decision for an entire population. BILL 057(22) CD1 aims to replicate the same directive for private property.

BILL 057(22) CD1 has offered no validation for the list of sensitive places in accordance with the text, history, and tradition method set forth by SCOTUS. Banning the bearing of arms in various proposed sites, which mimic New York's CCIA and New Jersey's sensitive places list, has already been ruled unconstitutional. Numerous testimony alluded to these facts under review of the first version of BILL 057(22), but the City Council appears poised to move forward regardless, which is incredibly unfortunate.

Thank you.



Monday, March 13, 2023

City Council of Honolulu
530 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Bill 57(2022): A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE, RELATING TO THE PUBLIC CARRY OF FIREARMS – SUPPORT

Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council:

Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America are writing in support of Bill 57:

Everytown is the largest gun violence prevention organization in the country with nearly 10 million supporters including moms, mayors, survivors and everyday Americans who are fighting for public safety measures that respect the Second Amendment and help save lives. At the core of Everytown are Mayors Against Illegal Guns, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and the Everytown Survivor Network.

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America is a grassroots movement of Americans fighting for public safety measures that respect the Second Amendment and protect people from gun violence. Moms Demand Action campaigns for new and stronger solutions to lax gun laws and loopholes that jeopardize the safety of our children and families. Since its inception after the tragedy at Sandy Hook School, Moms Demand Action has established a chapter in every state of the country.

The Supreme Court's recent decision in [*New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen*](#) invalidated New York's requirement that applicants seeking a license to carry a concealed handgun in public show "proper cause"—jeopardizing public safety in Hawai'i and other states with similar laws. The Court's decision is wrong, dangerous, and completely out of step with centuries of history and fundamental constitutional principles.

With a rate of 3.8 deaths per 100,000 people, Hawai'i has [one of the lowest rates of gun deaths](#) in the U.S. This is no accident—Hawai'i has the [second strongest set of gun safety laws in the country](#). Hawai'i is a national leader in gun violence prevention policy and has a long history of passing common-sense gun laws.

However, the Court's decision risks compromising those hard-won gains by making it easier for more people to carry concealed guns in Hawai'i communities and likely leading to significantly more guns in public places. By the end of December, media reports indicated [more than 600 permit applications](#) were pending in Honolulu County. Data out of Maryland, which is similarly affected by the *Bruen* decision, shows that from June 23-July 11, people submitted 5,314 new applications for wear and carry permits—a 772.6% increase from the same time last year. As our nation continues to experience horrific mass shootings, an onslaught of daily gun violence, and a spike in hateful armed extremism, more people carrying guns in public is the absolute last thing we need.



Let's be clear—strong concealed carry permit systems save lives. Research shows that in states that have already weakened their firearm permitting laws, the move was associated with an 11 percent rise in the rate of homicides with handguns¹ and a 13-15 percent increase in violent crime rates more broadly.² *Bruen* completely upended centuries of precedent and made all Hawai'i residents less safe in the process.

Thankfully, the Court made clear that states are still allowed to require a license to carry a firearm in public, and the *Bruen* decision also affirmed the constitutionality of laws prohibiting guns in “sensitive places” where governments historically prohibited them, such as schools, government buildings, polling places, and courthouses, as well as in “new and analogous” locations. Current Hawai'i law does not restrict license-holders from carrying weapons in almost any of those sensitive locations.

In a reality where more people may be carrying, it is critical that Honolulu County create a comprehensive list of the locations where guns should not be allowed. **These locations include places where alcohol is served, where families and children gather, where density and/or high emotions create a potentially dangerous atmosphere, where other constitutionally protected activities take place (e.g., voting, public assemblies and other expressive activities), and where sensitive business is conducted.** We are pleased to see such locations in Bill 57. In order to set consistent understandings of where firearms are allowed, Bill 57 also specifies that firearms would be prohibited at business establishments or charitable organizations unless the establishment has expressly consented to the presence of firearms, which they can do by posting clear signage if they choose to allow firearms on the property. **Setting a default presumption that firearms will not be allowed unless a private business or property owner consents to their presence is a prudent way to avoid confusing long-standing public expectations in a state like Hawai'i where there has historically been very little public carrying of firearms.**

For these reasons listed above, Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America support the Council's proposed Bill 57. We encourage you to pass this bill, and hope that the state will follow Honolulu's lead by passing statewide legislation to address this pressing issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sarah Sumadi".

Sarah Sumadi
Associate Regional Director for State Government Affairs, Western Region
Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action & Students Demand Action
450 Lexington Ave.
New York, NY 10163
ssumadi@everytown.org

¹ Michael Siegel et al., “Easiness of Legal Access to Concealed Firearm Permits and Homicide Rates in the United States,” *American Journal of Public Health* 107, no. 12 (December 1, 2017): 1923–29, <https://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/10.2105/AJPH.2017.304057>.

² John J. Donohue, Abhay Aneja, and Kyle D. Weber, “Right-to-carry Laws and Violent Crime: A Comprehensive Assessment Using Panel Data and a State-Level Synthetic Control Analysis,” *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies* 16, no. 2 (2019): 198-247.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Testimony

Hō‘ike Mana‘o

Testimony Presented Before the
Honolulu City Council

March 15, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

by

Kalbert K. Young

Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer
and

Carrie Okinaga

Vice President for Legal Affairs and University General Counsel
University of Hawai'i System

BILL 57 CD2 (2022) – RELATING TO THE PUBLIC CARRY OF FIREARMS

Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia‘āina, and Members of the Council:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of this issue. Bill 57 CD2 defines those sensitive locations within the City and County of Honolulu where the carrying of firearms is prohibited. The University of Hawai'i (UH) is thankful that we are included in the definition of schools in this measure.

The UH supports the definition of “school” as a “sensitive place,” since it has educational, research and cooperative extension locations across the state which are not physically located or adjacent to a campus but provide a wide array of research and education to UH students as well as the general public.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony in support of Bill 57 CD2.

BILL057(22) RELATING TO THE PUBLIC CARRY OF FIREARMS

Hi, my name is Lori Fujimoto. I am here today to request less restrictions for us qualified civilians -- concealed carry weapons (CCW) permit holders -- to carry firearms concealed and non-concealed (open carry)...especially women.

Women are far more likely to be victims of violent crime, and far less likely to be perpetrators of violent crime.

Especially female CCW permit holders should not have any sensitive area restrictions. And if you keep any sensitive places, then they should only be those that have magnetometers to keep out all guns, which are places like airports and courthouses. And even in these places like airport and courthouses, there should be private lock boxes provided to secure firearms, like how the US Federal Court house, provides law enforcement officers a secure their firearms.

Almost exclusively, law enforcement has not responded quick enough to stop violent crime, because it predominantly happens much too quickly. Usually, victims are not even able to call 9-1-1 soon enough for police to arrive before violent injury occurs.

This just this past February 1, 2023, at approximately 9:00 am, Mililani Walmart parking lot, Desmond Kekahuna intentionally ran over a woman who was pushing her baby in a stroller. Attacker then proceeded to attack this woman and a man who came to her aid, leaving them both in critical condition.

The idea that low Honolulu crime (which is debatable), and that Honolulu is “safe-enough,” should not violate our US Constitution rights to keep and bear (i.e., carry) a concealed weapon. This low-crime argument suggests that this attack in the Mililani Walmart is rare enough to be perfectly acceptable. Your CCW restrictions leaves victims like these entirely defenseless.

The proposed ban prohibits qualified citizens from carrying in all the listed locations in effect is a “back door ban” or “disguised ban” that violates our US Federal Constitutional Rights. There is nothing “sensitive” about these places. These places that you deem “sensitive” are mundane and a part of normal everyday life. Qualified CCW permit holders literally cannot obtain simple basic, life necessities to survive or participate in society.

Integrity demands that you public officials abide by the US Constitution and what was specified by the US Supreme Court, and not circumvent or suppress the law with your own political bias. The City Council’s willingness to “back door ban” concealed carry shows your lack of integrity. Your liberal, crime-lenient political positions are soft (softer than conservative Republicans) on violent criminals and strip law-abiding citizens of their 2nd Amendment and leaving innocent victims defenseless.

Criminals who are willing to commit violent crime, will certainly not obey lesser laws of carrying weapons. These restrictions sick/send/launch violent criminals to target law-abiding citizens, especially in gun-free, sensitive zones, because criminals know that the law-abiding will obey the law and not carry their firearms in those zones. .

My husband has been employed/working as a federal law enforcement agent/officer for the past 18 years. I, as his wife, would pass the same background database checks as him. Yet your “back door ban” treats me as a criminal, who has no constitutional right to carry a firearm for self-defense.

The database background checks for CCW applicants are already the same as the police.

The firearms proficiency test is also comparable to the local police.

Qualified citizens should be able to carry both open and concealed. Open carry serves as an effective deterrent to violent crime. Periodic open-carry should be allowed to CCW permit holders in certain “sensitive” situations, where, for example, there is a suspicious group of men congregating outside a store at night. My law enforcement husband does this when he has to fill gas late in crime ridden areas of Hawaii.

Qualified Retired Law Enforcement Officers (QRLEO) should be exempt from the restrictions of sensitive locations and private property.

I also support qualified citizens and QRLEOs to carry high capacity magazines. This will allow the qualified citizen to defend themselves on a more even playing field, when defending against violent criminal attackers who are well-known to disobey firearms laws like the laws restricting magazine capacity.

Lori K. Fujimoto, March 13, 2023
last four of social security number 7284

BILL057(22) RELATING TO THE PUBLIC CARRY OF FIREARMS

I am here today to request less restrictions for us qualified civilians -- concealed carry weapons (CCW) permit holders -- to carry firearms concealed and non-concealed (open carry)...especially women. Women are far more likely to be victims of violent crime, and far less likely to be perpetrators of violent crime.

Especially female CCW permit holders should not have any sensitive area restrictions. And if you keep any sensitive places, then they should only be those that have magnetometers to keep out all guns, which are places like airports and courthouses. And even in these places like airport sand courthouses, there should be private lock boxes provided to secure firearms, like how the US Federal Court house, provides law enforcement officers a secure their firearms.

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The idea that low Honolulu crime (which is debatable), and that Honolulu is “safe-enough,” should not violate our US Constitution rights to keep and bear (i.e., carry) a concealed weapon. This low-crime argument suggests that this attack in the Mililani Walmart is rare enough to be perfectly acceptable. Your CCW restrictions leaves victims like these entirely defenseless.

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Integrity demands that you public officials abide by the US Constitution and what was specified by the US Supreme Court, and not circumvent or suppress the law with your own political bias. The City Council’s willingness to “back door ban” concealed carry shows your lack of integrity. Your liberal, crime-lenient political positions are soft (softer than conservative Republicans) on violent criminals and strip law-abiding citizens of their 2nd Amendment and leaving innocent victims defenseless.

Criminals who are willing to commit violent crime, will certainly not obey lesser laws of carrying weapons. These restrictions sick/send/launch violent criminals to target law-abiding citizens, especially in gun-free, sensitive zones, because criminals know that the law-abiding will obey the law and not carry their firearms in those zones. .

I have been working as a federal law enforcement agent/officer for the past 18 years. My wife would be passing the same background database checks as me. Yet your “back door ban” treats my wife as a criminal, who has no constitutional right to carry a firearm for self-defense. The sensitive area laminations should not apply to retired law enforcement.

The database background checks for CCW applicants are already the same as the police.

The firearms proficiency test is also comparable to the local police.

Qualified citizens should be able to carry both open and concealed. Open carry serves as an effective deterrent to violent crime. Periodic open-carry should be allowed to CCW permit holders in certain “sensitive” situations, where, for example, there is a suspicious group of men congregating outside a store at night. As a law enforcement agent/officer when I have to fill gas late in crime-ridden areas of Hawaii, I unconcealed my gun (and badge).

Qualified Retired Law Enforcement Officers (QRLEO) should be exempt from the restrictions of sensitive locations and private property.

I also support qualified citizens and QRLEOs to carry high capacity magazines. This will allow the qualified citizen to defend themselves on a more even playing field, when defending against violent criminal attackers who are well-known to disobey firearms laws like the laws restricting magazine capacity.

Rory K. Fujimoto, S/A, March 13, 2023
last four of social security number 7680

March 13, 2023

Bill 57 2022 CD2 Testimony

Aloha Honolulu City Council Chair and Honolulu City Council Members. Thank You for the opportunity to **testify in support of Bill 57 2022 CD2, Full Council Meeting, 03/15/23.**

- Due to SCOTUS' New York State Rifle and Pistol Association vs Bruen decision, I applaud the City and County of Honolulu's efforts to limit potential reach and harm of the said decision.
- As a registered firearm owner in the City and County of Honolulu, I believe Bill 57 will help bolster the CCW vetting process and prohibit firearms in a variety of places within the City and County.
- SCOTUS' decision did not hold that a state cannot require a license to carry a firearm in public, as mentioned in an article released by the San Diego Sheriff's Dept on 06/23/22.
- Per an article entitled Cal Matters that covers the California Legislature- the said SCOTUS decision bans enforcement agencies from awarding CCW permits on their own subjective discretion, though SCOTUS' ruling still left it open for states to add their own "objective" standards.
- The ruling also enables Counties and States to specify "sensitive" gun-free zones.
- As of 2021, concealed handgun permits have increased to 21.52 million in the USA including states that require no permits.
- Certain gun advocates continually argue that school shootings like those at Sandy Hook, Ulvalde, St. Louis Central Visual Performing Arts High, and the recent Half Moon Bay workplace shootings could be averted if more guns were available.
- Per an Associated Press article dated 6/18/22- From 2000 to 2021 fewer than 3% of 433 mass shootings ended with a civilian shooting back as cited by the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training Center at Texas State University.
- The New York Times further reported it is far more common for police and/or bystanders to subdue alleged mass shooting suspects.
- Per the Gun Violence Archive (GVA) there have been a reported 109 shootings in the USA by March 12, 2023.
- The GVA further reports 149 people have been killed in mass shootings as of March 6th.
- I concur that CCW permit holders should not be allowed to bring firearms into schools, agencies that serve children, government buildings, banking/financial institutions, polling places, places of worship, and privately owned businesses. The onus should not be placed upon private owners- City legislation should cover this.
- I urge the City Council to ensure that charitable establishments include non-profits serving persons with disabilities/children/vulnerable clients, victims of domestic violence in safe houses and emergency shelters.
- Further, regarding Sensitive Places Within the City to ensure that CCW permittees will be disallowed entirely within Honolulu Hale i.e., Mayor's and Managing Director's offices, Councilmembers and their staff offices, Honolulu Hale

cashiers, and all adjoining/outside departments including BFS, DPP, DFM, DDC, EMS, CUS, DPR, VID.

- Per a Giffords Law Center study, I urge the Honolulu City Council to legislate Bill 57 to safeguard its gun sensitive zones guidelines from pre-emption by either Federal or pro-gun lobby interests.
- Further per the Giffords Law Center study, to amend Bill 57 to disallow honoring Out-of-County CCW permits brought to Hawaii e.g., from counties in Florida, Louisiana, Vermont, South Carolina, Arizona, Texas, and Ohio which reportedly have weak permitting laws. Forcing counties with strong CCW laws to comply with those having lax laws poses a threat to public safety.
- Per the United States Concealed Carry Association (USCCA) merely carrying a concealed gun creates a false sense of security.
- USCCA urges developing Situational Awareness- including self-defense education and training. CCW is more than just carrying a gun in one's pants. No amount of study or preparedness can predict real life criminal encounters. There are no textbook scenarios or the "perfect" right to defend oneself.
- USCCA also cites that CCW novices must constantly think through their dress code- carrying two pounds of extra/chambered weight is less comfortable, requires **constant training**, and careful removal when entering gun-free/gun-sensitive zones.
- The X Insurance.Com (XIC) 03/14/22 study cited the National Safety Council's report that 1% of all gun deaths are due to unintentional discharges resulting in 535-gun deaths per year.
- This statistic means one person dies from unintentional gun discharges daily, especially amongst adults younger than 24.
- Inadequate experience/training are contributing factors for this age group who are around children and other young adults.
- Another factor is unholstering a gun in public places which could fall, discharge, and hurt someone. Inexperience leads to unintended discharges in public bathrooms, restaurants, and gatherings during removal of belts, careless removal from pockets.
- The USCCA warns that CCW holders could still face criminal action if forced to use a gun in self-defense situations where aggressors are harmed or killed. Income, assets, and livelihoods could be lost via a civil liability lawsuit(s).
- As a retired social worker of 35 years, I know only too well the effects of gun violence in domestic/child abuse, custody cases, and incarceration cases.
- I also worked as a Legislative Aid at the City Council and Committee Clerk at the State of Hawaii Legislature for a combined total of 11 years.

- On February 14, 2023, at the State Capitol- JHA Chair David Tarnas publicly reported that a CCW permittee attended the hearing of HB984 with a handgun.
- The permittee reportedly informed the House Sergeant at Arms (HSAA) he was armed and was asked to leave.
- As a legislative aid/committee clerk I observed the HSAA is consistently vigilant at public hearings. What was the purpose of bringing a handgun to the State Capitol JHA hearing on 2/14/23?
- Lastly, I urge that the City Council include an addendum page from the City Corporation Counsel documenting legal/constitutional checks for Bill 57 2022 CD2.

Again, Thank You for the opportunity to **testify in support of Bill 57 2022 CD2, Full Council Meeting, 03/15/23.**

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Leong

Assistive Technology Resource Centers of Hawaii (ATRC)
200 No. Vineyard Blvd, Ste 430
Honolulu, HI 96817

March 13, 2023

Bill 57 2022 CD2 Testimony

Aloha Honolulu City Council Chair and Honolulu Council Members. Thank You for the opportunity to **testify in support of Bill 57 2022 CD2, Full Council Meeting, 03/15/23.**

- Due to SCOTUS' New York State Rifle and Pistol Association vs Bruen decision, I applaud the City and County of Honolulu's efforts to limit potential reach and harm of the said decision.
- As an advocate for persons with disabilities/vulnerable children and adults, I believe Bill 57 will help bolster the CCW vetting process and prohibit firearms in a variety of places within the City and County.
- SCOTUS' decision did not hold that a state cannot require a license to carry a firearm in public, as mentioned in an article released by the San Diego Sheriff's Dept on 06/23/22.
- Per an article entitled Cal Matters that covers the California Legislature- the said SCOTUS decision bans enforcement agencies from awarding CCW permits on their own subjective discretion, though SCOTUS' ruling still left it open for states to add their own "objective" standards.
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- I concur that CCW permit holders should not be allowed to bring firearms into schools, non-profit agencies that serve persons with disabilities/children/vulnerable populations, government buildings, banking/financial institutions, polling places, places of worship,

and privately owned businesses. The onus should not be placed upon private owners- City legislation should cover this.

- I urge the City Council ensure that charitable establishments include non-profits serving persons with disabilities/children/vulnerable clients, and victims of domestic violence in safe houses and emergency shelters.
- Per a Giffords law Center study, I urge the Honolulu City Council to legislate Bill 57 to safeguard its gun sensitive zones guidelines from pre-emption by either Federal or pro-gun lobby interests.
- Further per the Giffords Law Center, to amend Bill 57 to disallow honoring Out-of-County CCW permits brought to Hawaii e.g., from counties in Florida, Louisiana, Vermont, South Carolina, Arizona, Texas, and Ohio which reportedly have weak permitting laws. Forcing counties with strong CCW laws to comply with those having lax laws poses a threat to public safety.
- As the Executive Director of ATRC for 25 years, I know only too well the effects of gun violence in domestic/child abuse, abuse of persons with disabilities, and vulnerable populations.
- I am aware that on February 14, 2023, at the State Capitol- JHA Committee Chair David Tarnas publicly reported that a CCW permittee attended the hearing of HB984 with a handgun. The permittee reportedly informed the House Sergeant at Arms he was armed and was asked to leave.
- What was the purpose of the said permittee's behavior when the State and City are diligently responding to public and gun owners concerns since SCOTUS' New York State Rifle and Pistol Association vs Bruen decision?
- Lastly, I urge that the City Council include an addendum page from the City Corporation Counsel documenting its legal/constitutional checks for Bill 57 2022 CD2.

Again, Thank You for the opportunity to **testify in support of Bill 57 2022 CD2, Full Council Meeting, 03/15/23.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Fischlowitz-Leong
Executive Director, ATRC



HAWAI'I STATE
**COALITION AGAINST
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Re: Bill 57 (2022) FD1 Relating to the Public Carry of Firearms

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Council,

The Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV) addresses the social, political, and economic impacts of domestic violence on individuals, families, and communities. We are a statewide partnership of domestic violence programs and shelters.

On behalf of HSCADV and our 28 member programs statewide, I respectfully submit testimony in **strong support of Bill 57 (2022) FD1**. This measure would have a profound impact on public safety, survivors of domestic violence, their children and the nonprofit organizations that serve them.

In addition to providing services to survivors at emergency domestic violence shelters, transitional housing, domestic violence programs provide counseling, supervised child visitation, and exchange and advocacy services which would be included in charitable establishments as defined in this measure.

Perpetrators of domestic violence with access to guns use the threat of gun violence inflict emotional abuse on their partners or escalate to homicide. The presence of a firearm in domestic violence situations increases the risk of homicide for women by 500%. Additionally, more than half of women killed by gun violence are killed by family members or intimate partners.¹

And the trend is worsening: in the ten-year period between 2008 and 2017, intimate partner homicides of women involving guns increased by 15 percent.² Adults are not the only victims. [On March 4, 2022 a father under a restraining order killed his three daughters during a court-ordered family visitation at a church.](#)

We must create safe spaces where survivors of domestic violence are free to heal and seek help after traumatic events. Prohibiting the public carrying of firearms in these spaces is paramount to creating this healing environment without threat of harm, revictimization, or re-traumatization.

¹ Campbell JC, Webster D, Koziol-McLain J, Block C, Campbell D, Curry MA, Gary F, Glass N, McFarlane J, Sachs C, Sharps P, Ulrich Y, Wilt SA, Manganello J, Xu X, Schollenberger J, Frye V, Laughon K. Risk factors for femicide in abusive relationships: results from a multisite case control study. *Am J Public Health*. 2003 Jul;93(7):1089-97. Doi: 10.2105/ajph.93.7.1089. PMID: PMC1447915

² Fridel EE, Fox JA. Gender differences in patterns and trends in the US homicide, 1976-2017. *Violence and Gender*. 2019; doi: 10.1089/vio.2019.0005. Data from this study were obtained by Everytown from the author James Alan Fox directly over email dated October 1, 2019 for this analysis.



HAWAI'I STATE
**COALITION AGAINST
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on this important matter.

Sincerely,
Angelina Mercado, Executive Director

TESTIMONY OF ELLEN GODBEY CARSON IN SUPPORT OF Bill 57

I write in strong support of Bill 57, with a request for amendment

While I write as an individual, I have served as president of the Hawaii State Bar Association, the Institute for Human Services (IHS) and Hale Kipa Youth Services. In these capacities, I have strived to strike the right balance for safety of our community and protection of individual rights.

I support Bill 57 because it creates numerous measures to better protect our community, while complying the US Supreme Court's mandate that public carry permits be allowed.

I request the following amendment to help better safeguard our community:

Amend the first sentence in section 40-___.5(a) to read: "Clear and conspicuous signage must be posted at all public entrance to a business establishment or charitable establishment when indicating permission that is different from the default prohibition...." Without clear and conspicuous signage at public entrances, the public may have no fair notice whatsoever that firearms may be present on the property. This will allow us all to make our own reasonable choices for self-protection.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony and helping protect our most vulnerable residents.

Ellen Godbey Carson
Honolulu, Hawaii
March 14, 2023

City Council Bill 57 CD2 and FD1

Constituent Council District: 3
Constituent Stance: **Oppose**

Committee on Executive Matters and Legal Affairs
City Council Chamber
Wednesday, March 15, 2023
10 A.M.

Councilmembers,

I continue to **oppose** the City Council’s **Bill 57 Committee Draft 2 (CD2)** and Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam’s **Floor Draft 1 (FD1)** because both variations of the bill serve as repeat circumventions of the United States Supreme Court’s decision in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen*.

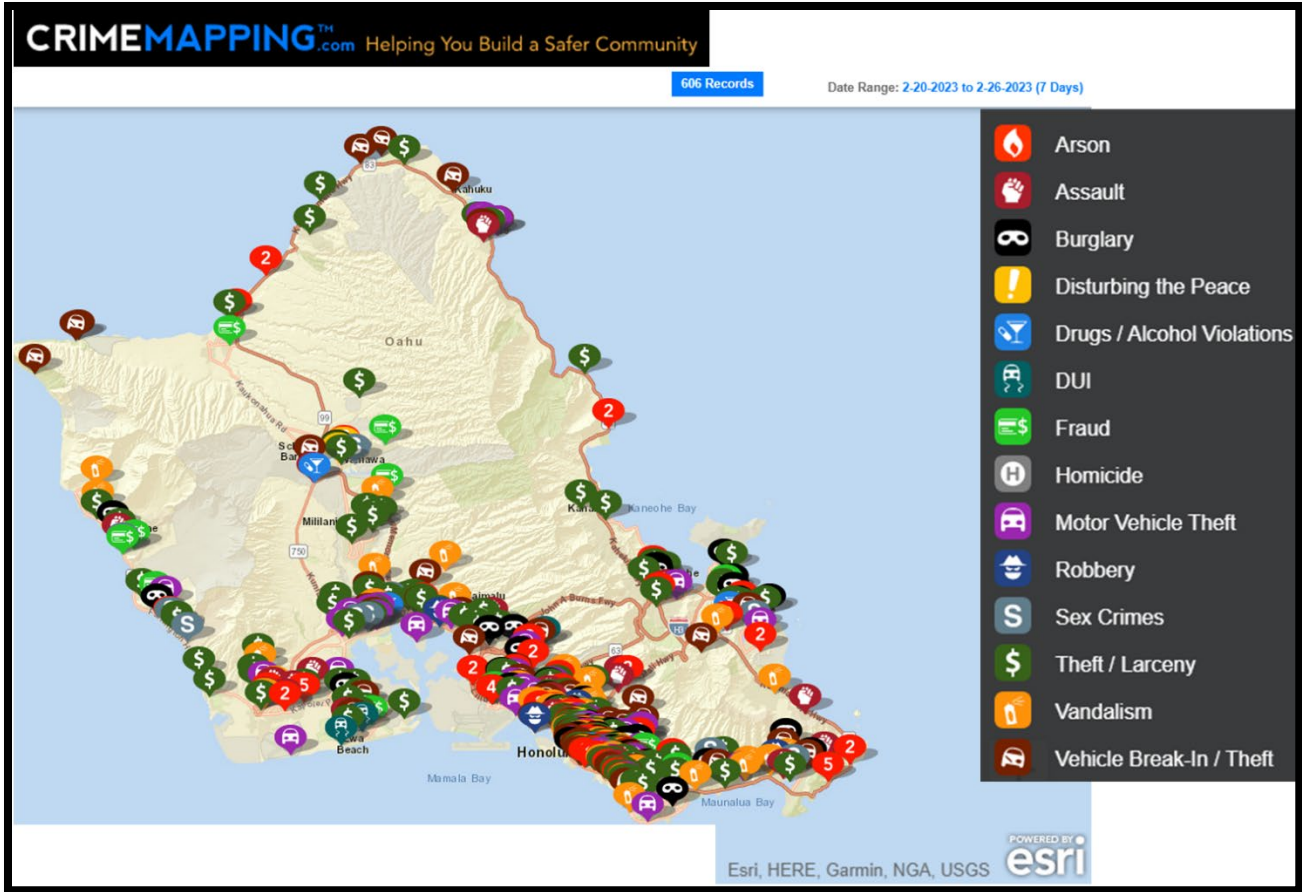
Continuous Overexpansion of CCW Prohibition

Despite opposition all along the way from First Reading through Third Reading, **Bill 57** and all its drafts still impose additional prohibitions against lawful Conceal Carry Weapon (CCW) capabilities by expanding prohibitions to so-called “sensitive places.”

Sec. 41. _2 Definitions in all **Bill 57** forms have not changed and continue to broadly define “Businesses” and “Business Establishments” to encompass virtually every single private business on the entire island that does not fall under express City purview. Such broad definition continues to prevent businesses from distinguishing themselves as private entities that are distinctly separated from public government offices that are managed by the City and County of Honolulu. **Bill 57 CD2** continues to restrict CCW licensee movement by banning CCW carry on parking lots within the proposed **Sec. 41. _2 Definitions** and **§ 41-__4 Prohibition against the public carrying of firearms in a sensitive location—prohibition against carrying a firearm on a private business establishments or charitable establishment’s premises without express consent.**

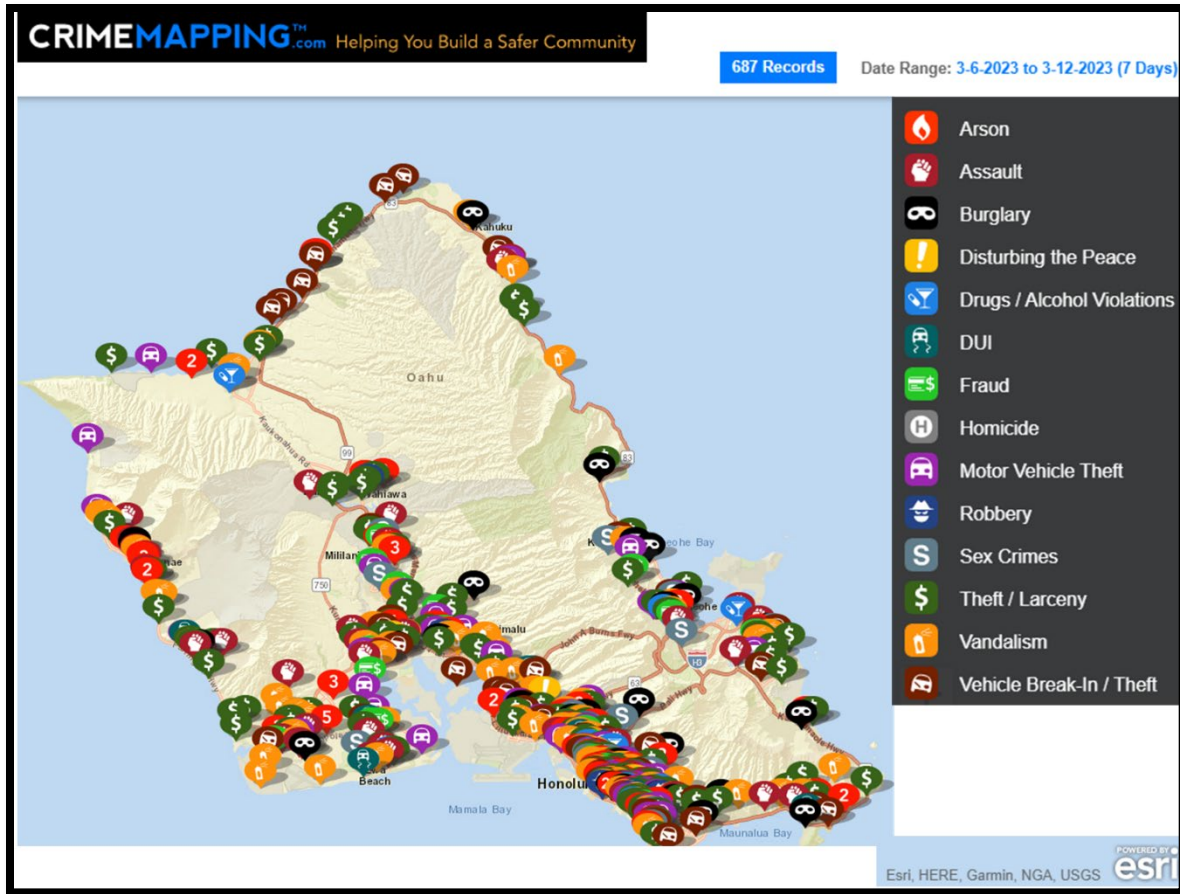
Still No Substantive Evidence of Public Safety Assurance by City and County

Bill 57 within all of its drafts repeats its tiring, superficial purported claim that enhanced CCW restrictions will supposedly “. . .protect health, life, and property; and. . .preserve the order and security of the City, its inhabitants, and its visitors.” Readily observable evidence continues to reveal that criminals will always assail the City Council’s constituents and that such criminal activity still isn’t associated with increased legal CCW carry. The February 22, 2023 public hearing concerning **Bill 57** revealed that out of the approximately 30 issued CCW licenses, 0 CCW license holders committed any criminal act whatsoever. In March, the number still remains 0. Actual criminals do not even need to use a gun to jeopardize the health, life, and security of the City’s inhabitants. From February 20th through February 27th in 2023 alone, a map generated by Crimemapping.com has revealed over **606 recorded** crimes that affect constituents island-wide are **not** firearm related. In March, the weekly crime count didn’t improve either. From March 6 to March 12 of 2023, there were **687 non-**firearm related crimes occurring within the span of a mere 7 days. Again, this number reflects what has been **recorded**. Figures 1 and 2 below present data derived from Honolulu Police Department’s (HPD’s) Computer Aided Dispatch System. What is important to note is the fact that the 606 February and 687 March *recorded* incidents are just that—recorded. The number of actual crimes could very well *exceed* the reported number of cases whereby HPD maintains cognizance. As demonstrated by the crime maps in the figures below, the absence of firearms and associated “gun violence” does not automatically constitute fulfillment of public safety. Merely presenting the argument by stating that, “all crime cannot be stopped all the time,” or, “crimes tend to happen in urbanized areas such as populous cities on a per capita basis. . .” are invalid rebuttals to public safety failures. If so much as a single individual is harmed by a single criminal at any location on Oahu, then the City and County of Honolulu cannot claim that it is capable of preserving the order and security of the City, its inhabitants, or its visitors.



[Figure 1]

Source for Figure 1: <https://www.crimemapping.com/map/agency/165#>



[Figure 2]

Source for Figure 2: <https://www.crimemapping.com/map/agency/165>

Enduring Enforcement Concerns

Even with signage that either permits or prohibits the carry of a concealed firearm on a business, the default ban configured under **Bill 57** essentially makes signage moot since default prohibition is always implied.

Moreover, imposing a misdemeanor based solely upon a *prima facie* basis does not constitute a viable evidentiary basis since the CCW license holder may be responding to an emergency where they may not have easy access to their CCW license since it may be stored in a wallet or purse located in a separate room within their residence prior to emergency residential evacuation. **Bill 57** in all its variations continues to target the CCW license holder since none of the revisions do not account for instances of license theft and consequently subjects the CCW license holder to immediate punishment without any viable recourse or remedy at the time of theft. No matter how much this concern is addressed, it is left unanswered. Moreover, revisions to Chapter 15 of the Rules of the Chief of Police concerning CCW license issuance still do not include any provision for duplicative license issuance for any emergencies. This means that if a CCW license holder's sole CCW license for a particular pistol is lost to the wind during a hurricane, stolen by a thief, or otherwise destroyed by a flood or fire, the CCW license holder will have no other way to identify their legal carry status unless they obtain a complete replacement from their respective county police department in-person—there is no provision for mailing of CCW licenses. Such license duplication limitation creates an artificial burden that continues to be forced upon the CCW license holder.

On the note of police interaction, **Bill 57 CD 2** also has an alarming provision in **Sec. 41-__6 Duty to inform law enforcement upon contact**. The provision does not specify that an evidentiary basis for the inquiry is required for the presentation of a CCW license. Essentially, any passive contact with a law enforcement officer would be inclusive and force a CCW license holder to inform an officer of their license possession, despite conducting no action that would necessarily require it, *aside from* the text contained in **Sec. 41-__6**. This section requires the inclusion of an evidentiary basis requirement for a law enforcement officer to request the presentation of a CCW license for a specific and relevant investigative purpose. Mere contact is a flimsy basis to establish such a presentation requirement.

Focus on Actual Public Safety Assurance

Because of the numerous repetitive prohibitions contained within **Bill 57** and all its associated predecessors, I continue to urge that the Council use common sense and defer the bill indefinitely. Numerous bills proposed by the State Legislator continue to mirror the City's prohibitive CCW efforts. Additionally, any duplicity of effort by the City is a waste of valuable taxpayer resources. If public safety is your primary concern, then do something about the 600 plus crimes that have adversely affected your constituents' lives during the past week.

Thank you for your consideration and use of reason.

Respectfully,

Ryan C. Tinajero

Constituent of City Council District 3—Kāneʻohe



March 15, 2023 at 10:00 am
City Council Chamber

Honolulu City Council

To: Chair Tommy Waters
Vice Chair Esther Kia'aina

From: Robert Choy, MPH
Director, Post-Acute Care
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: Support
Bill 57 (2022) CD 2, Relating to the Public Carry of Firearms

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support of this measure. We concur with the approach that this bill takes, which presumes that firearms will not be allowed on the premises of businesses and sensitive places, while still allowing those entities that wish to allow firearms onto their properties to do so.

We support Bill 57 CD2, which includes healthcare facilities—including hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, clinics, community health centers, and other settings where providers and patients are seeking to heal—in the list of sensitive places and urge the City Council to pass this bill.

Healthcare providers hold a unique space in our society. They are called upon to treat those who are victims of violence while also ensuring that their premises are kept safe from those who wish to do harm. We have heard stories from our members over the years about their need to increase security on their campuses to ensure that dangerous weapons are not brought in to potentially cause injury. This takes an incredible amount of resources and vigilance, but is also not foolproof. We have seen in many states the tragic consequences of weapons such as firearms being brought into hospitals and nursing homes, with some documented cases of providers being killed while on the job.

This bill presents a compromise that seeks to maximize the safety of the public. As an industry devoted to caring for others, we support this approach and want to ensure that all who provide and seek needed services and treatments can feel secure.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this measure.



HAWAI'I LODGING & TOURISM
A S S O C I A T I O N

Testimony of
Mufi Hannemann
President & CEO
Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association

Honolulu City Council
Bill 57 (2022), CD2
March 15, 2023

Chair Waters and members of the City Council, mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association, the state's oldest and largest private sector visitor industry organization.

The Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association—nearly 700 members strong, representing more than 50,000 hotel rooms and nearly 40,000 lodging workers—has long touted Hawai'i's status as one of the safest premier destinations to which one could travel. Our organization prioritizes public safety through various initiatives like our annual Visitor Public Safety Conference and via our advocacy for City programs like Safe & Sound Waikiki and Weed & Seed Hawai'i.

Following the ruling by the Supreme Court of the United States, our State and county governments were required to loosen local gun laws and begin issuing concealed carry permits. It is our position that an increase in the number of concealed firearms in our community threatens local residents and—by extension—our status as a safe destination.

With the significant shift in policy as a result of the SCOTUS ruling, Bill 57 (2022), CD2 will make it significantly easier for local businesses of all types to accommodate their patrons, keep them safe, and adhere to federal law without needing to invest in signage, training, or manpower.

At the same time, the measure allows for law-abiding gun owners to exercise their rights while limiting the number of concealed weapons in public, maintaining public safety.

For these reasons, HLTA supports Bill 57, CD2.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer this testimony.

BILL057 (22)

Dear City Council,

Please do not pass this restriction on the carrying of firearms by the public.

These restrictions excessively burden the public who have a right to self-defense from having access to their tools where ever they may face a dangerous confrontation. Why do you feel it necessary to limit the public's ability to defend themselves when the aggressors, criminals, have no such limitations? Criminals can do anything but we the public have limitations? Who are you protecting with these ordinances anyway?

Perhaps you should read the 2nd Amendment and the 14th Amendments before you jump to the wrong conclusions regarding the rights of the People who you are violating.

Why spend the taxpayer's time and money defending laws that are clearly against the U.S Constitution or even passing these ordinances in the first place? Everyone has the right to self-defense not just the criminals who break the laws and seem to have access to firearms with few consequences. The police do not have the responsibility to ensure the safety of the individual citizens and most of us can't afford private armed guards. Most of us have a difficult time affording our basic daily needs. What about the people who deal with dangerous individuals every day at the bus stop who protects them? This proposal will embolden the criminal element in our neighborhoods. They will know we can't defend ourselves things will only get worse for the public.

We must carry the most effective tool for self-defense that we can obtain with our limited financial abilities. The current rules in place for the concealed carrying of a firearm are very burdensome for the public. Each individual, tax payers who pay for everything, deserve the ability to exercise the rights guaranteed by our creator and codified in the U.S. Constitution. I don't understand why you believe it necessary to turn our rights into privileges with this proposal. Do not pass this bill. Each council member who votes in favor of this proposal votes against our constitutional rights and should be held accountable.



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI, PRESIDENT
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII**

March 15, 2023

Re: Bill 57 CD 2 (2022) RELATING TO THE PUBLIC CARRY OF FIREARMS.

Good morning, Chair Waters and members of the Honolulu City Council. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii was founded in 1901 and is a statewide, not for profit trade organization committed to supporting the growth and development of the retail industry in Hawaii. Our membership includes small mom & pop stores, large box stores, resellers, luxury retail, department stores, shopping malls, on-line sellers, local, national, and international retailers, chains, and everyone in between.

We are in strong support of Bill 57 CD2 (2022) Relating to The Public Carry of Firearms. This measure defines those sensitive locations within the City and County of Honolulu where the carrying of firearms is prohibited, consistent with an individual's Second Amendment right to bear arms and the United States Supreme Court's ruling in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen*, 142 S.Ct. 2111 (2022)

We appreciate that RETAIL is clearly defined in this ordinance as a business establishment. This measure makes it clear that the public carrying concealed firearms is not allowed at retail locations. This way, retailers would not have to purchase numerous special signage to disallow guns in their establishments and confront customers who may think they are entitled. We have seen this happen recently during the pandemic when face masks were mandated. The push back, verbal and sometimes physical abuse from those who did not want to wear the mandatory masks were horrendous. With conceal to carry, we especially don't want our employees to be confronted with a firearm if someone is denied entry or service.

On a daily basis, retailers continue to be hard hit by thieves who shoplift and try to fight back with employees or good Samaritans when confronted. Shoplifters are becoming more aggressive when fighting back. Our major concern is that there is someone who wants to be "the hero" and tries to shoot the shoplifter, misses and a customer or employee is injured, or the shoplifter tries to shoot his way out of being caught. **We want our customers and employees to feel safe to come to work and shop in our stores. Without shoppers there would be no retail brick and mortar stores and if retail stores close due to lack of customers, there will be less people working.**

We would like to point out that on any given day there are large public gathering of shoppers at retail stores and shopping malls. Malls and retail locations attract large number of people who are there to shop.

Active shooters are prevalent in malls across the United States. In 2022 alone, there were active shooter incidents in malls that include but not limited to Mall of America, Westfield Garden State Plaza, Beverly Hill Center, Greenwood Park Mall, Columbia Mall, Inland Center Mall, Stanford's Shopping Center, Atlantic Station mall, Scottsdale Fashion Square Shopping mall, Eastridge Mall, Ellenton Premium Outlets, Tysons Corner Center, Stanford Shopping Center, Inland Shopping Center, Macomb Mall, Jefferson Mall, Kings Plaza Shopping Center, and the Irving Mall. And while these malls are on the mainland and not in Hawaii, our state must remain vigilant and not think "It won't happen here." Again, **we don't want someone to think they are going to be "the Hero" or go viral on social media for trying to take down an active shooter and then shooting a customer or employee instead.** Not everyone who has a conceal and carry permit will be a weapon's expert. It is our understanding that at a firing range is very different than put in a live situation. In a live situation, most people's adrenaline is heightened, reactions are instantaneous, and mistakes can be made. **Unlike video games, there is no reset or do over when someone gets shot.**

We want to ensure that our employees and customers feel safe working and shopping in our stores.

Mahalo again for this opportunity to testify.