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March 13, 2019

Representative Gregg Takayama, Chair
Representative Cedric Asuega Gates, Vice Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Veterans, and Military Affairs

Dear Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Gates, and Committee Members:

RE: SB 600, Relating to Firearms

SB 600 would provide that no person under 21 years of age can bring a firearm into the State of Hawai'i. This would match the age requirement for a permit to acquire a firearm, and would seem to be a common sense provision—why would a person in Hawai'i be held to a higher standard than a person (resident or non-resident) traveling to Hawai'i?

An issue has been raised that such a requirement would be an unconstitutional restriction on the right to bear arms. But even President Trump has called for raising the legal age to buy a gun to 21. If purchases can be limited by age, then so can registration, and so can transport into the State.

I urge approval of SB 600.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Kim
MAYOR