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March 25, 2019

Representative Chris Lee, Chair
Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and Committee Members:

RE: SB 600, HD1 Relating to Firearms

SB 600, HD1, 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 favorable action on SB 600, HD1, with an effective date "upon approval."

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Kim
MAYOR