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Hawaii Set to Be First State to Add Gun Owners' Personal Data to Federal Registry

Gun owners in Hawaii may soon find their names uploaded to a federal registry of firearms owners maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

In a story reported by the Associated Press (AP), anyone in Hawaii owning a weapon could soon have their names and other personal data sent to the federal government for inclusion in a list known as the "Rap Back," as part of a bill filed in the state senate.



The Rap Back is a list of persons for whom the FBI keeps track of any criminal activity nationwide.

The bill, SB 2954, was passed in April by the state house of representatives and later that same month, the bill was passed unanimously (with one senator excused) by the state senate.

Section 2 of the text of the bill passed by state lawmakers mandates that "every person registering a firearm under this subsection shall be fingerprinted and photographed by the police department of the county of registration."

The registration must include the following information about the firearm: "name of the manufacturer and importer; model; type of action; caliber or gauge; serial number; and source from which receipt was obtained, including the name and address of the prior registrant."

Further, the names and addresses of all gun owners in the state must be uploaded to the FBI's Criminal Justice Information System.

This database typically includes people in positions of trust who have their criminal activity (if any) monitored in order to keep the people over whom they have authority safe from potential harm.

It goes without saying that many in Hawaii feel this proposal is forcing them to say "aloha" to their right to keep and bear arms as protected by the Second Amendment to the Constitution. "I don't like the idea of us being entered into a database. It basically tells us that they know where the guns are, [and] they can go grab them,"