

JAMES HOCHBERG

ATTORNEY AT LAW, LLC

February 23, 2022

TESTIMONY STRONGLY SUPPORTING SB 2027

Senate Committee On Judiciary
Chair: Senator Karl Rhoads
Vice Chair: Senator Jarrett Keohokalole
Hearing: SB 2027: Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Chairman, Vice Chairman and Committee Members,

My name is Jim Hochberg and I am a civil rights attorney licensed and practicing law in Hawaii since 1984 (38 years). With respect to SB 2027, I support the purpose, intent and language of the bill and encourage your committee, the Senate and the legislature as a whole to pass it as written, without amendment.

Adding these terrifying criminal actions to the Class A felony list better protects the people of Hawaii from heinous crimes by attaching the harshest penalties to those convicted of committing these acts. As provided in HRS 706-656, imprisonment of those convicted of committing a Class A felony is life without the possibility of parole; but for those under the age of eighteen years at the time of the offense imprisonment is life with the possibility of parole.

For obvious reasons, SB 2027 identifies three categories of victims of dastardly life-ending crimes for Class A felony punishment. I agree with this bill and request that it be passed as written without amendment. If you have any questions please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

JAMES HOCHBERG

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Address: 700 Bishop Street, Suite 2100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
USPS: P.O. Box 3226, Honolulu, Hawaii 96801
Telephone: 808-256-7382
Email: Jim@JamesHochbergLaw.com