



The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

May 10, 2022

The Honorable David Y. Ige
Office of the Governor
Governor, State of Hawaii
Executive Chambers
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Governor Ige:

I am writing to respectfully request that you veto House Bill 1567, HD1, SD1, CD1 Relating to Criminal Pretrial Reform. If signed and enacted into law, the use of monetary bail would be eliminated and could require defendants to be released if ordered by the court on their own recognizance for traffic offenses, violations, nonviolent petty misdemeanor offenses, nonviolent misdemeanor offenses, or nonviolent class C felony offenses.

I have received an overwhelming number of calls and texts from my constituents and residents of neighboring islands expressing strong opposition to this bill. The reason I voted against this bill at Final Reading is because I share the concerns of my constituents regarding the potential for the automatic release of a defendant for "nonviolent," but dangerous class C felony offenses.

Examples of class C felony offenses include: (1) Burglary in the Second Degree, (2) Aggravated Harassment by Stalking; (3) Arson in the Third and Fourth Degree; (4) Violation of Privacy in the First and Second Degree; (5) Promoting Gambling in the First and Second Degree; (6) Promoting pornography; (7) Habitual solicitation of prostitution; (8) Negligent Injury in the First and Second Degree; (9) Unlawful Imprisonment in the Second Degree; (10) Unauthorized Possession of Confidential Personal Information; and (11) Identity Theft.

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I appreciate that this measure attempts to reduce unnecessary pretrial incarceration. However, I believe the offenses listed above are serious enough to veto this bill that establishes a blanket policy for releasing suspects without posting bail. For the reasons outlined above, I humbly ask for your serious consideration of my request to veto House Bill 1567, HD1, SD1, CD1 Relating to Criminal Pretrial Reform.

Sincerely,



Senator Kurt Fevella
State of Hawaii, District 19
Minority Leader/ Minority Floor Leader

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