

JAN 21 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE MEDIA, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND INFORMATION OFFICERS
TO ADOPT A NO-NOTORIETY APPROACH TO REPORTING ON MASS
SHOOTERS AND PERPETRATORS OF OTHER MASS CRIMES.

1 WHEREAS, it is routine for journalists, media outlets, and
2 law enforcement to release the name and likeness of mass
3 shooters and perpetrators of other mass crimes in an effort to
4 inform the public and apprehend suspects; and
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6 WHEREAS, some journalists and media outlets continue to use
7 a suspect's name and likeness or further report on details of
8 the suspect's life, including photos, videos, social media
9 posts, manifestos, and other self-serving statements created by
10 the suspect, thereby giving the suspect valuable airtime and
11 glorifying their crimes; and
12

13 WHEREAS, some attackers are motivated to commit crimes by a
14 desire for fame, notoriety, or recognition; and
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16 WHEREAS, media sensationalism and focus on the suspect
17 provides the fame, notoriety, and recognition the suspect aimed
18 to achieve by committing mass crimes; and
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20 WHEREAS, media coverage of mass crimes can lead to a
21 contagion effect producing copycat crimes and attackers seeking
22 to outdo previous coverage; and
23

24 WHEREAS, persons who commit mass crimes should receive no
25 more notoriety than they received prior to the commission of
26 their heinous and criminal acts; and
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28 WHEREAS, after a suspect has been apprehended, focus should
29 be placed on the real stories of the victims and heroes; and
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31 WHEREAS, shifting the focus away from the attacker deprives
32 the attacker and potential copycat attackers from the media
33 celebrity and spotlight they seek; and
34



S.R. NO. 5

1 WHEREAS, the Don't Name Them campaign, a coordinated effort
2 by the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training Center
3 at Texas State University, I Love U Guys Foundation, and Federal
4 Bureau of Investigations, and the No Notoriety campaign, founded
5 by family members of the victims of the Aurora, Colorado movie
6 theater shooting, aim to encourage media, law enforcement, and
7 public information officers to report responsibly about mass
8 crimes and move their focus from the attackers to the victims
9 and heroes who stop and prevent crimes; now, therefore,

10
11 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
12 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the media,
13 law enforcement, and information officers in the State are
14 encouraged to adopt a no-notoriety approach to reporting on mass
15 shootings and other mass crimes; and

16
17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the media, law enforcement, and
18 information officers in the State are encouraged to:

- 19
- 20 (1) Balance the public's need for information versus the
21 potential harm when reporting on suspects of mass
22 crimes;
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24 (2) Recognize that notoriety serves as a motivating factor
25 for suspects of mass crimes and inspires copycat
26 crimes;
 - 27
28 (3) Report facts surrounding the mindset, demographic, and
29 motivational profile of the suspect while downplaying
30 the suspect's name and likeness, unless necessary for
31 apprehension;
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33 (4) Limit the name of a suspect to once per piece as a
34 reference point, avoid using the suspect's name in
35 headlines, and limit use of the suspect's likeness;
 - 36
37 (5) Refuse to broadcast or publish self-serving
38 statements, photos, videos, manifestos, social media
39 posts, and similar expressions made by the suspect;
 - 40
41 (6) Focus on and elevate the names and likenesses of the
42 victims and frame messaging that shows the victims'



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1 lives are more important than the suspect's actions;
2 and
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4 (7) Promote data and analysis from mental health and
5 public safety professionals to assist in the
6 elimination of the motivation for mass crimes; and
7

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
9 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Attorney General;
10 Adjutant General; Chief Information Officer; Director of Public
11 Safety; Superintendent of Education; Chairperson of the Board of
12 Education; Mayors of the City and County of Honolulu, County of
13 Maui, County of Kauai, and County of Hawaii; presiding officer
14 of each county council; Chiefs of Police of the Honolulu Police
15 Department, Maui Police Department, Kauai Police Department, and
16 Hawaii Police Department; and major media outlets throughout the
17 State of Hawaii.
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OFFERED BY:



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