



JOHN PELLETIER
CHIEF OF POLICE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

COUNTY OF MAUI

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WADE M. MAEDA
DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

February 24, 2026

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair
and Members
Public Safety and Military Affairs
The Thirty-Third Legislature
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

SUBJECT: Testimony in support of S.B. 2377 SD1, Relating to Property Damage of Critical Infrastructure Facilities.

Dear Chair Fukunaga, Vice-Chair Lee, and Committee Members:

We are writing in support of SB2377 SD1, which establishes criminal penalties for intentional damage to critical infrastructure.

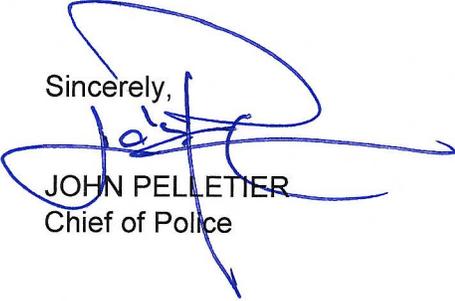
Critical infrastructure forms the backbone of daily life in Hawaii such as utilities, energy systems, transportation, and broadband communications. The impact of any disruption of these networks, be it intentional or accidental, are immediate and far-reaching, potentially affecting hospitals, which may lose power, failure of emergency communications, business closures, and loss of essential services for families.

This measure appropriately recognizes that intentional damage to these systems is not just simple vandalism, it is intentional conduct that can endanger public safety, disrupt emergency response, and create significant economic harm. Classifying these acts as a Class C felony, provides a meaningful deterrent and reflects the seriousness of the potential consequences.

Redundancy in infrastructure can be limited in Hawaii, and recovery may take significant time. Protecting these systems is especially important. Including broadband and cable networks in the definition of critical infrastructure is also a practical update, given how essential communications systems are to commerce, education, healthcare, and public safety.

This bill is a reasonable and necessary step to safeguard the well-being of our communities and the resilience of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Pelletier', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right and a vertical line crossing through the signature.

JOHN PELLETIER
Chief of Police



POLICE DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF KAUA'I



DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR
REIKO MATSUYAMA, MANAGING DIRECTOR

ELLIOTT K. KE, CHIEF OF POLICE
MARK T. OZAKI, DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

February 25, 2026

The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
And Honorable Members of the Committee on Judiciary
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2377 SD1, Relating to Property Damage of Critical Infrastructure Facilities

Honorable Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Kaua'i Police Department, I am submitting testimony in **SUPPORT** of SB 2377 SD1, which establishes the offense of criminal property damage to critical infrastructure facilities as a Class C felony.

Across the country, critical communications systems are increasingly being targeted. A recent national study reported more than 15,540 incidents in a single year, many of which disrupted essential services, including 911 systems, hospitals, airports, and law enforcement communications. The report specifically warns that when fiber lines are cut, the consequences extend far beyond inconvenience—police, fire, and 911 systems can be disabled at the precise moments when communities need them most.

While Hawai'i has not yet experienced incidents at that scale, SB 2377 SD1 represents a prudent and forward-thinking approach. Waiting until such an incident occurs in our state would place public safety at unnecessary risk. This measure recognizes that intentional damage to communications infrastructure is not merely property crime—it is a direct threat to emergency response capability.

From a 911 perspective, the integrity of communications infrastructure is foundational. Any disruption, particularly one caused intentionally, can delay response times, compromise responder safety, and endanger lives.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your **support for SB 2377 SD1** as an important step in safeguarding Hawai'i's critical communications infrastructure and protecting the safety of our communities. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Elliott K. Ke
Chief of Police
Kaua'i Police Department

**HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT
KA 'OIHANA KINAI AHI O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

636 SOUTH STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 723-7139 • FAX: (808) 723-7111 • WEBSITE: honolulu.gov

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA



SHELDON K. HAO
FIRE CHIEF
LUNA NUI KINAI AHI

JASON SAMALA
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF
HOPE LUNA NUI KINAI AHI

February 25, 2026

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Committee on Judiciary
State Senate
415 South Beretania, Room 016
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Rhoads:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 2377, Senate Draft (SD) 1, Relating to Property Damage of Critical Infrastructure Facilities

The Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) **strongly supports** SB 2377, SD 1, which establishes the offense of criminal property damage to critical infrastructure facilities as a Class C felony and expands the term “critical infrastructure” to include broadband and cable networks. Our mission to protect life and property depends on a resilient and uninterrupted communications network.

Any damage to broadband or telecommunication systems directly impair emergency dispatch, first responder coordination, and public alert systems. In an era of interconnected infrastructure, intentional sabotage creates cascading risks for public safety and healthcare operations. Current statutes do not sufficiently deter those who target these essential facilities, and stronger legal protections are necessary to ensure the safety of O’ahu’s residents and visitors.

The HFD urges your committee’s support of SB 2377, SD 1.

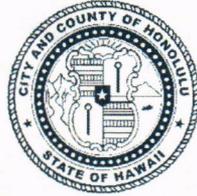
Should you have questions, please contact Battalion Chief Shawn Kuratani of our Fire Communication Center at 808-723-3473 or skuratani@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,

SHELDON K. HAO
Fire Chief

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT
KA 'OIHANA MĀKA'I O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

RADE K. VANIC
INTERIM CHIEF
KAHU MĀKA'I KŪIKAWA

AARON TAKASAKI-YOUNG
RYAN T. NISHIBUN
INTERIM DEPUTY CHIEFS
NĀ HOPE LUNA NUI MĀKA'I KŪIKAWA

OUR REFERENCE **AC-RZ**

February 27, 2026

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
and Members
Committee on Judiciary
State Senate
415 South Beretania Street, Room 016
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Rhoads and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 2377, S.D. 1, Relating to Property Damage of Critical Infrastructure Facilities

I am Vince Legaspi, Captain of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

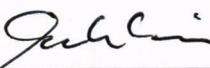
The HPD supports Senate Bill No. 2377, S.D. 1, Relating to Property Damage of Critical Infrastructure Facilities.

The HPD supports this bill because intentionally damaging critical infrastructure is not just a property crime; it can immediately jeopardize public safety, emergency responses, and the community's ability to function. Creating a specific offense and making it a Class C felony provides clearer accountability and a stronger deterrent for conduct that can disrupt essential services. This bill updates the definition to include broadband and cable networks and reflects the critical role modern communications systems play in public safety operations and the public at large.

The HPD urges you to support Senate Bill No. 2377, S.D. 1, Relating to Property Damage of Critical Infrastructure Facilities. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,



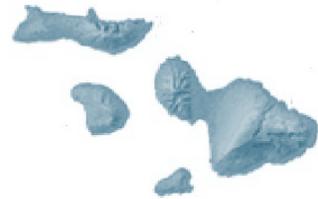
Rade K. Vanic
Interim Chief of Police


Vince Legaspi., Captain
Criminal Investigation Division

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

ANDREW H. MARTIN
Prosecuting Attorney

SHELLY C. MIYASHIRO
First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney



DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MAUI
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TESTIMONY ON
S.B. 2377 SD1
RELATING TO PROPERTY DAMAGE
OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES

February 25, 2026

The Honorable Karl Rhoads
Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard
Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Judiciary

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui respectfully submits the following comments **in support of S.B. 2377 SD1, Relating to Property Damage of Critical Infrastructure Facilities**. This measure creates a new felony offense relating to damage of critical infrastructure facilities.

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui supports this bill because of our community's increasing reliance on infrastructure networks, such as electrical, water and telecommunications systems, for essential services like respiratory devices, temperature control and emergency response, as well as other public and private systems such as gas, water, and telecommunications networks. That increased reliance, in turn, makes us increasingly vulnerable to any criminal act that damages any part of said infrastructure. While existing laws may cover particular acts or provide particular penalties, as a whole they do not completely address a scenario where an offender intentionally or knowingly damages critical infrastructure.

We would also suggest the following amendment. Per the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu in their testimony for companion bill HB 1798, the bill does not define the term "damages" for the new offense. Since there does not appear to be a general definition for "damages" in Chapter 708 and the bill's definition of "critical infrastructure facility" is taken from the "Computer Crime" definition in HRS 708-890, a

reviewing court would likely interpret that term using the HRS 708-890 definition of “damage”: “any impairment to the integrity or availability of data, a program, a system, a network, or computer services.” However, this link to HRS 708-890 also means that certain scenarios involving computer attacks may result in the new offense overlapping with offenses such as Computer Damage in HRS 708-892, 708-892.5 and -892.6, the first of which is a Class A felony. To avoid this, we suggest the following amendment:

(4) A conviction and sentence under this section shall be in addition to and not in lieu of any conviction and sentence for any offense; provided that the sentence imposed under this section may run concurrently or consecutively with the sentence for the other offense.

For these reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui **supports S.B. 2377 SD1**. Please feel free to contact our office at (808) 270-7777 if you have any questions or inquiries. Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

KELDEN B.A. WALTJEN
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

SHANNON M. KAGAWA
FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



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OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2377, SD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY DAMAGE OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 27, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.
Via Videoconference
State Capitol Conference Room 016
415 South Beretania Street

Honorable Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary: The County of Hawai'i, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney submits the following testimony **in support** of Senate Bill 2377, SD1, with comments.

SB 2377, SD1, would create a new class C felony offense for intentionally or knowingly damaging a "critical infrastructure facility," a term that would be defined as having the same meaning as "critical infrastructure" under HRS 708-890. The new offense may help deter damage to infrastructure that the Legislature has determined to be vital to the defense, security, economic security, public health, or safety of the State or nation, including gas and oil systems, water supply systems, telecommunications networks, electrical power systems, finance and banking systems, emergency services, transportation systems and services, and government operations that provide essential services. The bill would further expand this list to specifically include broadband and cable television networks.

Because the State of Hawai'i is composed of islands isolated in the Pacific Ocean, it is critical to defend the maintenance of the public and private infrastructure that supports our daily lives. Our infrastructure is more vulnerable in many ways than that of mainland states, and costs and time of repair can be much higher.

We believe that broadband and cable networks are presently covered as "critical infrastructure" under HRS 708-890 as "telecommunications networks," but the new definition serves to make this clear beyond any doubt.

One comment is that the use of the word "facility" in the title of the offense and in the defined term may be confusing, when "critical infrastructure facility" is defined as simply being "critical infrastructure," which is itself a defined term that would include networks and

transmission lines. We also note that the new class C felony offense may have broad application as written, and would extend to cover intentional or knowing damage to “last-mile” services to individual household customers. However, “last-mile” infrastructure is expensive and difficult to install and maintain, particularly in rural communities, and it is appropriate to treat intentional or knowing damage to this infrastructure as a serious offense.

For the foregoing reasons, the County of Hawai‘i, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney **supports** the passage of SB 2377, SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO HO'OPI'I
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STEVEN S. ALM
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
LOIO HO'OPI'I



THOMAS J. BRADY
FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
HOPE MUA LOIO HO'OPI'I

**THE HONORABLE KARL RHOADS, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Thirty-Third State Legislature Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawai'i**

February 26, 2026

**RE: S.B. 2377 S.D. 1; RELATING TO PROPERTY DAMAGE OF
CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES**

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu submits the following **comment** on S.B. 2377 S.D. 1.

S.B. 2377 S.D. 1 establishes the offense of criminal property damage of critical infrastructure facilities. It prohibits any person from knowingly damaging a critical infrastructure facility without the owner or operator's consent.

S.B. 2377 S.D. 1 employs the definition of "critical infrastructure" used in the computer crime statute.¹ Left undefined, however, is the meaning of the word "damage." Courts consult statutory canons of construction to resolve ambiguous terms.² Because the same law that defines "critical infrastructure" also defines "damage," the court would likely adopt that meaning. "Damage" would therefore mean "any impairment to the integrity or availability of data, a program, a system, a network, or computer services."³ This would address cases where the impairment of data integrity did not meet the threshold for computer damage in the first degree.

An express cross-reference to the HRS § 708-890 for "damage" would avoid ambiguity.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

¹ HRS § 708-890.

² *State v. Bright*, 147 Hawai'i 164, 170, 465 P.3d 611, 617 (2020) ("In the face of an ambiguity, we turn to traditional canons of construction to guide our interpretation.").

³ HRS § 708-890.



Charter Communications
Testimony of Rebecca Lieberman, Director of Government Affairs

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Hawaii State Capitol
Friday, February 27, 2026

SUPPORT FOR S.B. 2377, S.D. 1 - RELATING TO PROPERTY DAMAGE OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES.

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support** of S.B. 2377, S.D. 1, a bill that establishes penalties for intentional damage to critical infrastructure facilities.

As the largest broadband provider in the state, Charter recognizes the severe consequences that vandalism, sabotage, or destruction of critical infrastructure can have on public safety, emergency communications, and economic stability. Hawaii's businesses and residents rely on secure and reliable connectivity. Damage to broadband and telecommunications infrastructure—whether through deliberate acts or negligence—can disrupt emergency response efforts, commerce, healthcare services, and educational access. A recent study highlights the scope of this problem.¹ Establishing stronger protections and penalties for such offenses is essential to deterring attacks that could jeopardize public welfare.

In 2025, Charter extended its network to reach an additional 7,000 homes and small businesses in Hawaii, investing \$107 million across the state. Charter participated in the FCC's Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBB) and Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), which helped connect over 59,000 eligible households in Hawaii with high-speed broadband. Broadband internet access is more important than ever and Charter offers a variety of affordable high-speed internet packages to meet all the connectivity and budget needs of our customers. With Spectrum Internet Assist, qualifying low-income families and seniors can receive high-speed internet for only \$15 per month.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. 2377, S.D. 1.

¹ *Protecting the Nation's Critical Communications Infrastructure from Theft & Vandalism, 2025*, https://protectcci.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/CriticalAttacksReport_Oct25.pdf

Written Statement of

Jeannine Souki,
Senior Manager – Government & Regulatory Affairs

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

February 27, 2026, 10:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

SUPPORT WITH REQUESTED AMENDMENT FOR:

**SB 2377 S.D. 1 – RELATING TO PROPERTY DAMAGE OF CRITICAL
INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES**

To: Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee

RE: Testimony providing strong support and requesting clarifying amendment for SB2377, SD1

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testify in strong support of SB2377, which establishes the offense of criminal property damage of a critical infrastructure facility and classifies it as a Class C felony. The bill also updates **HRS §708-890** by explicitly adding “**broadband and cable television networks**” to the definition of “critical infrastructure.” **Hawaiian Telcom further requests a clarifying amendment to “telecommunication networks,” to include “broadband services.”**

SB2377 SD1 establishes the offense of criminal property damage of a critical infrastructure Hawaiian Telcom supports both the creation of this offense and the expansion of the statutory definition. Our broadband network—including the copper, fiber, and related infrastructure that supports statewide communications—is already encompassed within the existing term “**telecommunications networks**.” However, expressly adding “**broadband**” removes any potential ambiguity and ensures full clarity that critical fiber-based facilities are included.

With the repeal of former **HRS § 440G-11.5** in 2025 and the absence of a specific statutory definition of broadband in current law, it is especially important that **SB 2377 S.D.1** clearly identify broadband among the types of communications infrastructure protected under **HRS §708-890**. Broadband today is delivered through multiple platforms and technologies that may not be explicitly referenced elsewhere in statute. Adding “broadband” to this section helps ensure consistency with the evolving communications landscape.

Telecommunications networks—including broadband delivered over copper, fiber, and other technologies—are essential to public safety, economic activity, education, healthcare, and daily life throughout Hawai‘i. Damage to these facilities can disrupt 911 services, impede access to medical and government services, and significantly affect businesses and communities statewide.

Because **HRS §708-890** applies to more than the new offense created in this bill, Hawaiian Telcom respectfully requests that the Committee ensure the addition of “broadband and cable television networks” does not inadvertently affect other statutory areas. While the current draft appears consistent, we note this consideration out of caution.

To provide clarity and consistency with the bill’s intent, Hawaiian Telcom respectfully requests the following amendment to **HRS §708-890(3)**:

“(3) Telecommunications networks, including broadband services;”

Incidents of theft and vandalism targeting communications infrastructure—often motivated by the resale value of materials—have increased. In 2025 alone, Hawaiian Telcom experienced multiple outages caused by fiber cuts and vandalism on O‘ahu, resulting in significant repair costs and wide-ranging service disruptions. SB 2377 S.D.1 will help deter such activity and equip law enforcement with appropriate tools to address this growing threat.

For these reasons, Hawaiian Telcom respectfully urges the Committee to **pass SB 2377 S.D.1 with the requested clarifying amendment.**

Mahalo for your consideration.