

Chairman Lang, Vice Chair Plummer, Ranking Member Leland, and members of the House Criminal Justice Committee. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to give opposition testimony on Senate Bill 256.



http://www.teenkillers.org/index.php/memorials/wisconsin/noah-williams/

My name is Bobby Joe Williams. I am the mother of Noah Adrian Williams, who was murdered on April 6, 2018, during a home-invasion robbery. I am a member of the National Organization of Victims of Juvenile Murderers (NOVJM). My son was 18-years-old. He was a community college student and aspired to have a career either working with computers or in horticulture. He never got to have a career, or get married, or have kids. He never got to live past age 18. Because on that night in April 2018, a 17-year-old invaded his home and murdered him. The killer, Charles Martin, repeatedly stabbed my son in his neck, torso, right arm, and right hand. He also stabbed Noah's roommate 12 times, including once in the neck. He has been sentenced to 30 years in prison.

Ever since Noah's life was taken it has completely destroyed my family. My daughter Emma was 11 years old when her brother was murdered. My other children were five and three. My children had their innocence stolen and if we got word of a parole hearing we would be reliving it all every time. It would traumatize my daughter. I wouldn't know what to do with myself. The thought of the killer being free after what he did is terrible. Especially after not serving a full life sentence. It would completely shake the whole community. I don't know if there is rehabilitation for somebody so callous and cruel. My once beautiful family is forever destroyed by the murder of my son.

The murder of my son was not some dumb youthful mistake. The killer planned the robbery home invasion for a week beforehand. If he could make a choice like that and follow through with it he had to have some determination.



Senate Bill 256 would prioritize the freedom of offenders like my son's murderer over public safety. It would force victims like me and my family to go through agonizing parole hearings and relive the crimes. Victims deserve justice and legal finality. They should not be forced to spend their lives fighting parole. I beg you to protect victims from this trauma by voting no on SB 256.