

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 21 , 2024

RE: S.B. No. 3126
S.D. 1
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Health & Homelessness and Transportation,
to which was referred S.B. No. 3126, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMERGENCY AEROMEDICAL
SERVICES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate
funds for an emergency aeromedical services partnership program
administered by the Department of Health in partnership with rural
counties.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Health; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation
Corporate Board of Directors; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation -
West Hawaii Region; one member of the Maui County Council; one
member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawai'i Fire Department; Maui
Fire Department; The Queen's Health System; Hawai'i Pacific Health;
Hawaii Medical Service Association; Global Medical Response;
Daniel R. Sayre Memorial Foundation, Inc.; Mitsubishi Electric
Championship at Hualalai; Kohala Coast Resort Association; Mauna
Kea Resort; Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union; Friends of
First Responders; Save Medicaid Hawaii; Indivisible Hawai'i
Healthcare Team; and numerous individuals. Your Committees
received testimony in opposition to this measure from two



individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Kaua'i.

Your Committees find that the State is currently serviced by a single private sector air ambulance provider. Although commercial airlines sometimes transport patients, the commercial carriers are not equipped for advanced life support patients. As a result, if the private air ambulance service is not operational, there are few transportation options available for sick patients. Your Committees further find that a partnership that would share the cost of an air ambulance, such as the one between the Department of Health and the County of Maui, is one means of improving emergency aeromedical services in the State. Your Committees believe that implementing the Maui model across the State will increase the availability of aeromedical transport to all the State's residents. Your Committees note that, excluding the initial cost of purchasing a suitable air ambulance vehicle, the yearly cost of operating one air ambulance unit would be approximately \$4,000,000.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health & Homelessness and Transportation that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3126, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3126, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Health &
Homelessness and
Transportation,



CHRIS TODD, Chair



DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



