



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**Executive Office on Early Learning**  
2759 South King Street  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826

January 29, 2024

**TO:** Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

**FROM:** Yuuko Arikawa-Cross, Director  
Executive Office on Early Learning

**SUBJECT:** **Measure:** S.B. No. 2603 – RELATING TO EARLY CHILD CARE  
**Hearing Date:** Wednesday, January 31, 2024  
**Time:** 1:00 pm  
**Location:** Conference Room 225

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION: Support**

The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) supports S.B. No. 2306 and defers to the Department of Human Services regarding implementation.

EOEL is committed to working collaboratively with stakeholders to expand access to high quality early learning for all keiki across the State. Professionals stand as a cornerstone of high-quality early learning as we continue to increase access to these opportunities while building the infrastructure needed to ensure the State's investment reaps the intended returns.

EOEL recognizes that increasing compensation is an effective way to enhance recruitment and retention of a qualified early learning workforce. Despite working in a specialized field with health, safety, and educational requirements and having higher levels of education than the average American worker (Whitebook et al., 1990), many early childhood care and education providers remain at the second or third percentile in the Bureau of Labor and Statistics rankings of occupation, making wages comparable to that of parking lot attendants, bartenders, and laundry service workers. Furthermore, 16 percent of child care workers are living in poverty, compared to the 10 percent of the general population in Hawai'i (Early Childhood Workforce Index, 2020).

Hawai'i's early childhood care and education professionals are some of the most undervalued in our state. EOEL strongly supports the inclusion of those who service our youngest keiki as those are the most likely to be furthest from fair wages.

We look forward to continuing to work with the Legislature to support increasing access to quality early learning programs and services and the workforce in the State. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN  
COMPTROLLER  
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN  
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ**  
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
OF  
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE

**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

JANUARY 30, 2024, 3:00 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 225 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

S.B. 2306

RELATING TO AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS (AED)

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 2306.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports and offers comments on S.B. 2306, which requires that, by no later than January 1, 2025, the department installs and maintains AED in all state buildings and provide required certified training for certain state employees and security staff.

DAGS offers these comments:

- Requests a pilot program to be implemented first at the State Capitol, with AED installation and training for the required staff in the Office of the Governor, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, and State Legislature by June 30, 2025.

- Requests an appropriation of \$75,000 in general revenues for the procurement, training, and installation phase at the State Capitol.
- Requests for sufficient time to evaluate and propose an implementation schedule for the remaining buildings, including the DOE, DLE and DCR facilities. This would provide for budgetary planning to properly fund the installation, training and on-going maintenance of the devices.
- The negotiation of including AED's in the leased building can be added to leasing contract terms or we could require agencies entering into a lease to acquire their own AED's for their leased space.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this bill.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM G. KUNSTMAN  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**LATE**

STATE OF HAWAII  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHANA  
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
[www.labor.hawaii.gov](http://www.labor.hawaii.gov)

January 26, 2024

The Honorable Angus McKelvey, Chair  
Committee on Government Operations  
State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 221  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair McKelvey:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 2306 Relating to automated external defibrillators (AEDs)

I am Kazuo Todd, Chair of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC). The SFC supports SB 2306, which requires the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) to install and maintain automated external defibrillators in all state buildings. It also requires the DAGS to provide training on the use of automated external defibrillators for certain state employees and security staff.

The installation of AEDs in all state buildings and the provision of training in their use to state employees and security staff should increase patient survivability in the event of witnessed sudden cardiac arrest. Indeed, the American Heart Association (AHA) recommends early defibrillation as a crucial step in the chain of survival for cardiac arrest patients. According to the AHA, defibrillation is most successful when administered as soon as possible after the onset of cardiac arrest. The availability of AEDs in state facilities should enable early defibrillation as the AHA recommends. The SFC urges your committee to pass SB 2306.

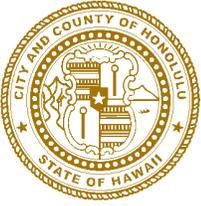
Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrative Specialist Gary Lum at 723-7169 or [glum@honolulu.gov](mailto:glum@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kazuo Todd.

KAZUO TODD  
Chair

KT/GL:



**LATE**

**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 202  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065  
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-5010 • FAX: (808) 768-5011

**RADIANT CORDERO**  
Councilmember District VII  
(808) 768-5007  
(808) 768-1208 (fax)  
e-mail: [rcordero@honolulu.gov](mailto:rcordero@honolulu.gov)

January 29, 2024

The Honorable Angus L. K. McKelvey, Chair  
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair  
And Members of the Committee Government Operations

Tuesday, January 30, 2024, 3:00 PM  
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

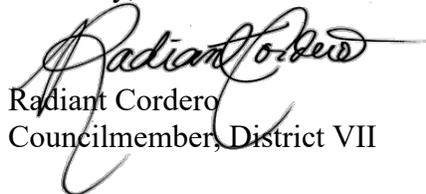
**Subject: Strong Support of SB 2306 Relating to Automated External Defibrillators**

I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB 2306 that would require the Department of Accounting and General Services to install and maintain automated external defibrillators (AED) in all state buildings, additionally requiring trainings on the use of AED for certain state employees and security staff.

As a member of the Honolulu City Council, I would like to express my gratitude to the introducers, namely Senator Brandon Elefante, who as a City Councilmember ensured AEDs were installed at city facilities and at rail stations. AEDs allow for the chance to save lives for people who go into cardiac arrest. The American Heart Association states that a person's chance of surviving drops by seven to 10% every minute a normal heartbeat isn't restored, and death can result quickly if proper steps aren't taken immediately. The use of an AED combined with CPR can double or triple the person's chance of survival. No one can ever plan for a situation like going into cardiac arrest nor can we all as neighbors and citizens plan to respond to a cardiac arrest. That was such the case just last week during a Honolulu City Council Session where an AED located right outside of the Council Chambers was utilized for a person who went into cardiac arrest. AEDs are easy to use, accessible when available widely, and should be a priority, especially in public spaces or in locations where we welcome the public, like the Hawai'i State Capitol and all state buildings.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Sincerely,



Radiant Cordero  
Councilmember, District VII

HONOLULU EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
KA 'OIHANA LAWELAWE ULIA PŌPILIKIA O HONOLULU  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

3375 KOAPAKA STREET, SUITE H450 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819  
PHONE: (808) 723-7800 • FAX: (808) 723-7836 • WEBSITE: <https://emergencyservices.honolulu.gov/>

RICK BLANGIARDI  
MAYOR  
MEIA



JAMES H.E. IRELAND, M.D.  
DIRECTOR  
PO'O

IAN T. T. SANTEE, MPA  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
HOPE PO'O

January 29, 2024

The Honorable Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations  
State Capitol Room, Room 221  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

SUBJECT: SB2306 Relating to Automated External Defibrillators

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard and members:

On behalf of the City and County of Honolulu's Honolulu Emergency Services Department, I strongly support SB2306. This measure will definitely be impactful because early AED use in cardiac arrest saves lives.

Out-of-hospital cardiac arrest is sudden, often unpredictable and happens on O'ahu about 1,000 times a year.

When someone suffers cardiac arrest and CPR is not provided, the chances of survival falls about 10% for every minute of delay until defibrillation is done by an AED or defibrillator.

Nationally, cardiac arrest survival is approximately 10% and about 11% on O'ahu. We can and must do better.

Around 2001, I became the Medical Director for the State of Hawai'i Department of Transportation's Airports Division. At that time, cardiac arrest survival at Hawai'i's airports was estimated to be 5%. Under the leadership of Airport's Fire Chief Martinez Jacobs and others, the decision was made to install AEDs in all of Hawai'i's airports and conduct widespread CPR and AED training with the selected vendor AED Institute. Since that time, cardiac arrest survival at Hawai'i's airports is in excess of 70% with 82 lives saved as of 2024. These amazing results mirror other successful programs in cities like Rochester, Minnesota which is home to the Mayo Clinic and survival rates in Las Vegas casinos.

The Honorable Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations  
January 29, 2024  
Page 2

In 2016, Councilmember Brandon Elefante introduced a bill to place AEDs in City and County of Honolulu buildings. One of those AEDs was used successfully on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in the City Council chambers to save a life. In this situation, the time from cardiac arrest to AED use was about a minute because of the proximity of the device.

In closing, my only additional comment would be to consider mandating, via this bill, CPR and AED education for all high school students as part of their educational curriculum.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (808) 723-7800 or [james.ireland@honolulu.gov](mailto:james.ireland@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,



James H.E. Ireland, M.D.  
Director

DATE: Tuesday, January 30, 2024  
TIME: 3:00 PM  
PLACE: Conference Room 225 & Videoconference  
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 2306 Relating to automated external defibrillators (AEDs)

Dear Senators,

My name is Pamela Foster, and I am the owner and president of AED Institute. For the last 20 years my company has been the leading distributor for AEDs, AED accessories, and CPR training in Hawaii.

In 2006, with Chief Martinez Jacobs, we established the first public access AED Program in Hawaii, encompassing 13 airports on 6 islands. We started the program with a 0% survival rate. Within 6 months, we had saved 3 lives that certainly would have been lost without early CPR and defibrillation.

I am in support of the intent of this bill **but strongly oppose the way it is written.**

In 2007, we did away with the need for “certification” training. Now in this new bill, 17 years later, you are taking us back to the dark ages with the need for long, drawn-out, nationally accredited “certification” training. A “certificate” does not save lives, knowledge and confidence is what works.

For more than a decade, AED Institute and all our local fire departments have offered 30-minute hands-on training sessions that teach more in the short period of time than the traditional courses. Nationally accredited training will be cost prohibited with the first \$30 per student funding the national agencies.

I am concerned on how DAG's is going to supply AEDs to all the state buildings. How will a DAGs employee know one AED from the next? Which pads go with which AED? There are over a dozen different types of AEDs with multiple different warranties, pads, batteries, and configurations.

Yes, installing AEDs into all state buildings, especially schools where more than 20% of the population is at any given time Monday through Friday, will save lives. We have proven this at our airports with more than a 70% survival rate, when the community survival rate is still a 10% survival rate.

Again, I strongly agree with the intent of this bill, but there needs to be so much more than placing DAGS in charge and teaching some nationally accredited courses that offer a “certificate”. Does this mean if you don't have a “certificate” that you cannot use an AED? This is taking us backwards almost 20 years of progress in community responder actions.

Sincerely,  
Pamela Foster, RN  
Owner and President of AED Institute  
[PFosterRN@me.com](mailto:PFosterRN@me.com)  
O: 808-440-8988 | C: 808-388-5911

**SB-2306**

Submitted on: 1/27/2024 3:13:29 PM

Testimony for GVO on 1/30/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marjorie Gifford	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

A close friend of mine died from cardiac arrest. If I had had an automatic defibrillator available, I might have saved him. I have since then taken CPR classes and kept updated on the technology just so that I can be prepared. However, there are too few defibrillators available and none within 5 minutes of my home. It is important that we place more of these available for public use throughout the islands and educate all people (especially high schoolers and college students) on the importance of using them. CPR without defibrillators is not anywhere near as effective as with them.

**SB-2306**

Submitted on: 1/27/2024 3:20:37 PM

Testimony for GVO on 1/30/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Dinner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The placement and training on AEDs in our public places will save many lives. Senators, please teke the time to familiarize yourself with this powerful tool. Once you do, all discussion of the cost and nay obstacles will immediately evaporate. It will save lives. Please pass this bill. Mahalo.

Branch Lotspeich

[branchlot@gmail.com](mailto:branchlot@gmail.com)

4350 Kahili Makai St.

Kilauea, HI 96754

Subject: Support for SB2306 - AEDs and CPR Training in Hawaii State Facilities

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Senate Bill 2306 (SB2306), which aims to mandate the installation of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and promote AED training for the employees of all Hawaii State facilities, including schools and universities. In addition, I recommend the inclusion of training on CPR for employees as well.

As a concerned citizen, I believe that this legislation will contribute significantly to the safety and well-being of our community members.

The proposed legislation addresses a critical aspect of emergency preparedness by ensuring that this life-saving equipment, AEDs, is readily available in public spaces. The inclusion of schools and universities in this initiative is particularly commendable, as these institutions are central to our community life and host diverse groups of individuals on a daily basis.

Here are several reasons why I fully endorse SB2306:

1. **Immediate Access to AEDs:** The timely availability of AEDs in Hawaii State facilities, including schools and universities, is crucial in emergencies such as sudden cardiac arrests. Quick access to these devices can significantly improve the chances of survival for those in need.
2. **Promotion of CPR Training:** This bill should also promote CPR training as a proactive step toward creating a more resilient community. CPR is a life-saving skill that empowers individuals to take immediate action during emergencies, making a difference until professional help arrives.
3. **Enhanced Public Safety:** By implementing AEDs and CPR training in State facilities, we enhance public safety and create a more secure environment for residents, students, and visitors. This measure aligns with the state's commitment to the well-being of its citizens.
4. **Community Awareness:** SB2306 has the potential to raise awareness about the importance of AEDs and CPR training. By incorporating these measures into our

state facilities, we send a powerful message about the value placed on community health and safety.

I urge you to lend your support to SB2306 and work towards its successful passage. This legislation reflects a proactive and forward-thinking approach to public safety, and I believe it will garner widespread support from the community. The positive impact of this bill on the health and safety of Hawaii's residents cannot be overstated.

Thank you for your attention to this vital matter. I am hopeful that SB2306 will receive the support it deserves, contributing to a safer and more prepared Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Branch Lotspeich

**SB-2306**

Submitted on: 1/28/2024 3:43:10 PM

Testimony for GVO on 1/30/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jonathan McRoberts	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a resident of Kauai and a member of the Rotary Club of Hanalei Bay. Our Club has been purchasing AED's and convincing business owners to have them on their properties. We are doing this because it is a simple measure to take that will save lives on our island. Having AED's in all State and County offices seems like a "No Brainer." The people who work in those buildings should also all be trained in CPR and the use of the AED's. It would also be very helpful for every school to have an AED and CPR training for all the students.

Jonathan McRoberts

PO Box 223459 Princeville, HI 96722

808-652-6863

**SB-2306**

Submitted on: 1/29/2024 10:17:09 AM

Testimony for GVO on 1/30/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Germaine Brown	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senators

please vote yes for this SB2306

thank you

germaine brown

**LATE**

**SB-2306**

Submitted on: 1/29/2024 6:20:22 PM

Testimony for GVO on 1/30/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
mihae yu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have brought Critical Care to the state of hawaii and practicing medicine/surgery for 38 years.

One concept that is imperative for patient outcome is TIMING

the sooner you can resuscitate, the better the outcome- seconds and minutes count!

I support SB 2306 where we can disperse AED, and training of CPR to public facilities and to as many people as possible. Education and giving proper tools is the key to overcoming a problem

thank you

Dear Honorable Senate Members,

The AED bill which Senator Elefante has introduced, concerns a subject that is dear to my heart because I lost my healthy, 28 year old daughter, to Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) in May of 2009. She was a preschool special education teacher who suddenly dropped in a meeting at a local public school which didn't have an AED. Dropped, like pulling a plug from an outlet, power shutting down and blackout!

Ironically, Kristin had taken a CPR/AED class because she thought for the safety of her children, she needed to know the skills. There were about a dozen other staff members in attendance, yet, sadly, no one knew what was happening to her or what to do. She was 91 pounds and trim so they thought she was having a seizure. They all tried their best to help her, but she did not survive. As a retired teacher, if I had been in the meeting at that time, I would not have known how to help her either.

My family changed forever. The unimaginable had happened and she and her husband were not to experience the future they had planned...a lifetime together, a bigger home, the children they were planning to have...never to become a reality. She had simply gone to work that morning and never came home.

For my husband and I, we were looking forward to babysitting our grandchildren and just enjoying fun times with the keiki. Strange how those dreams were a part of our lives when we awoke that morning, but not to be, just a few hours later.

It was 4 months later, when I learned what SCA was, how it can happen to anyone, of any age, at anytime, and how hands-only CPR and an AED can save a victim. Worse yet, it was more likely to happen to your loved ones because those people are the ones who are closest to you.

It was a no-brainer and I wondered why it was not common knowledge, especially when a responding by-stander was protected under the Good Samaritan law and a life could be saved. People HAD to know! Most importantly, SCHOOLS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE THE SAFEST PLACES and NO ONE should have to die in a school.

I'm sure you have read tons of information of how survival rates rose in cities where CPR/AED awareness is widespread so I won't go into that. In Japan, their Public Access Defibrillator program is very evident. You see AEDs everywhere - in subway stations, hotel lobbies, on the streets, on storefronts, on trains, even at temples in rural areas.

On a local level, we have a long way to go. At our airports, there are AEDs everywhere; employees and many citizens have been trained, resulting in an 85% survival rate - approximately 40 lives have been saved in about 20 years AT THE AIRPORT alone. Big wave surfers and lifeguards have used their CPR skills and AEDs to save their friends.

Therefore, what you are proposing, along with training is essential to our state. Simply grab an AED, push the start button and it'll tell you what to do.

Hopefully, because of your actions, our state can be even safer and we will someday accomplish our mission of having everyone knowing what to do to help a victim of Sudden Cardiac Arrest. Let's not wait until someone else has a personal loss because of a lack of an AED, to take action.

The years have not healed our family gatherings, There are always 2 empty seats at the dinner table. I lost my husband soon after; my son-in-law has lost his wife; my stepchildren have lost their father and sister; my step-grandchildren and niece and nephew have lost their aunty; and I have lost my precious daughter and husband, whom I think about everyday.

Thank you!

Respectfully Yours,

Sharon Maekawa  
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Honolulu, HI 96817  
(808) 732-1184  
alohasharonm@gmail.com