

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

326

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 784  
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 784  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the  
operation of an additional advanced life support ambulance to be  
based in the Makalei area on the island of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Health Systems  
Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; one member of the Hawai'i  
County Council; Hawaii Fire Department; American Medical Response;  
and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this  
measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that there is an urgent need for an  
additional advanced life support ambulance to augment the Hawaii  
County emergency medical services system for residents of the  
North Kona area on the island of Hawaii. Your Committee further  
finds that for residents of the area, primary care services can be  
as far as thirty miles away. The vast coverage area, challenging  
terrain, and increasing traffic congestion all contribute to  
delayed emergency response times. The establishment of an  
additional advanced life support ambulance, as intended by this

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measure, will significantly improve response capabilities, ensuring residents and visitors receive swift, life-saving care.

Your Committee notes the consideration provided by the Department of Health in their written testimony before your Committee, regarding whether traditional 911 services would be the most efficient or cost effective for these communities, given the potentially lower emergency call volume. Your Committee also notes the alternative model suggested by the Department to utilize advanced life support services through community paramedicine or mobile integrated health programs, which are designed to address emergency and non-emergency medical needs at a potentially lower cost.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

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

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,750,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 784, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 784, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.



Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Health,



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GREGG TAKAYAMA, Chair



