

Harry Kim  
Mayor



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## County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

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February 10, 2020

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Dear Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Chang, and Committee members:

**RE: SB 2618 Relating to Ambulances**

SB 2618 would provide an ALS ambulance for the Makalei Fire Station, which is several miles from the nearest existing ambulance and half an hour or more from the nearest hospital.

I believe such an ambulance is warranted and hope you can find room to act favorably on SB 2618.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Kim  
MAYOR

**SB-2618**

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 1:45:21 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/12/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Elena Cabatu	Testifying for Hilo Medical Center	Support	No

Comments:

February 6, 2020  
In Support of SB2618

Committees on CPH and WAM  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senators and Representatives:

On behalf of the Daniel Sayre Memorial Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) public foundation whose mission it is to provide fire, emergency, and rescue equipment and supplies to the Hawaii County Fire Department, or necessary funding for the purchase of said equipment and supplies and related training in the use of such equipment; and to educate the public regarding ocean and fire safety, I speak in support of SB2618.

The Makalei Fire Station in North Kona was opened in 2013 and houses a Fire Engine and Hazardous Materials Response unit. The Makalei station fills a gap on Hwy 190 between the Kailua Fire Station and the Waikoloa Fire Station serving one of the fastest growing districts in the state of Hawaii with approximately 45,000 residents. Unfortunately this station was never staffed with an Advanced Life Support (ALS) team to serve the area residents emergency medical response (EMS) needs.

EMS response time significantly impacts the overall delivery time of the patient to definitive treatment at an emergency room. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) which creates standards for Fire Service has determined that an EMS ambulance crew must respond to a scene within eight minutes to ensure optimal delivery of emergency care. According to NFPA 1710: Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments "This requirement is based on experience, expert consensus and science. Many studies note the role of time and the delivery of early defibrillation in patient survival due to heart attacks and cardiac arrest, which are the most time-critical, resource-intensive medical emergency events to which fire departments respond." Trauma, stroke and other cardiac emergencies are also extremely time sensitive and rapid transport to definitive treatment often makes the difference between life and death.

The current EMS response within the Makalei district comes from Medic 7 (8 miles away) out of the Kailua Fire Station, Medic 12 (15 miles away) out of the Keauhou Fire Station and Medic 16 (27 miles away) out of the Waikoloa Fire Station. Medic 7 and 12 account for 17% of the EMS calls in the County of Hawaii and in the best circumstances will manage a response time of 8-15 minutes to the district of North Kona; if neither of these units is available the response time from Medic 16 in Waikoloa Village is approximately 25-30 minutes. To compound this the approximate transport time from North Kona to Kona Community Hospital is 25-30 minutes. With that being said, patients treated and transported within the North Kona district are at a disadvantage due to response and transport times and based on this, overall patient outcomes suffer.

This request is presented to meet the ever-increasing demands for Emergency Medical Services on Hawaii Island specific to North Kona so that we can maintain a high level of EMS delivery to the

community as its needs change. I urge the Senate and the House of Representatives to support SB2618 so that more lives will be saved on Hawaii Island.

Sincerely,

Laura Mallery-Sayre, RDH, MSDHed, Executive Director

**SB-2618**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 10:00:26 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/12/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Julie Tulang	Testifying for Hilo Medical Center Foundation	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2618**

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 3:22:07 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/12/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Clarysse Kami Nunokawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2618**

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 4:58:52 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/12/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nicole Vergara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2618**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 1:02:17 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/12/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bronsten Kossow	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please support a much needed ambulance presence for our community in West Hawaii.