



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
HEALTH

Monday, February 8, 2016
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1617
RELATING TO EMERGENCY SERVICES

House Bill 1617 proposes to authorize the state director of finance to annually transfer general funds to the counties to fund lifeguard and emergency medical services personnel positions in the counties and repeals the emergency medical services special fund. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure which amends Chapter 46, Hawaii Revised Statutes, (HRS) to establish funding via Section 36 HRS, for county water safety personnel and emergency medical services personnel in sufficient numbers to ensure public safety at beaches.**

In 2015, there were increases in the incidences of ocean related injuries and response rates and there is a high percentage of visitors that, due to a lack of knowledge, skill, and experience in Hawaiian waters, need the support of water safety personnel. In addition, the Department contracts with the four counties for water safety personnel and the following State Beach Parks:

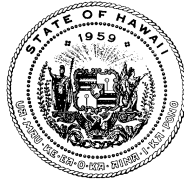
Haena State Park, Kauai (Ke'e)	Cost: \$200,065	Funding Source: General
Kaena Point State Park, Oahu (Keawaula)	Cost: \$584,216	Funding Source: Special
Makena State Park, Maui	Cost: \$606,469	Funding Source: General
Hapuna Beach State Recreation Area, Hawaii	Cost: \$465,785	Funding Source: Special

Total: \$1,856,535

In the interest of achieving a significant cost savings for the Department's Division of State Parks and to consolidate the funding mechanism for water safety personnel statewide, the Department offers the following amendments on page 2, line 4, for your consideration:

“§46- Lifeguard; emergency medical services personnel. (a) Each county shall employ and maintain lifeguards and emergency medical services personnel in sufficient numbers to ensure public safety at state park and county beaches.”

The Department would continue to enter into memorandum of agreements with the counties for the services - but at no cost to the Department since this amendment would then cover the costs of services. The Department appreciates and needs this working relationship with the counties, as we do not have water safety personnel and the beach parks listed above now contracting the water safety staff services are heavily visited by both residents and out-of-state visitors, so the nexus to apply General Funds to this cost warranted.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony COMMENTING on HB 1617
RELATING TO EMERGENCY SERVICES

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: Mon, February 8, 2016 3p Room Number: 329

Fiscal Implications: The purpose of this Act is to authorize the director of finance to transfer general funds to the counties to fund lifeguard and emergency medical service personnel positions in the counties. This measure repeals the Emergency Medical Services Special Fund. If the EMS Special Fund now provided to the Department of Health (DOH) to partially fund statewide contracts for EMS and training for emergency medical technicians and mobile intensive care technicians (paramedics) is eliminated, then DOH will not have sufficient funding in fiscal year 2017 and beyond to continue existing contracts for EMS and training at the current level. Providing funds directly to the counties for EMS personnel will bifurcate the current statewide EMS system and funding model. Additionally, directing funds to the counties for personnel will eliminate the State's ability to bill and collect for EMS patient care services (projected deposits to General Funds in FY 2017 are \$39.6 million).

Department Testimony: The DOH joins the Legislature's desire for an efficient and responsive EMS system to address public safety needs as they arise in the counties. The State of Hawaii Emergency Medical Services System provides comprehensive 911 response to every part of the State, serving residents and visitors with access to high quality pre-hospital emergency care. The system consists of 3 major components: highly trained personnel, equipment, and statewide communications and pre-hospital electronic medical record system. Emergency services are delivered through contracts with providers in each of Hawaii's four major counties. Funding is from the EMS Special Fund and General Fund appropriated and allocated to DOH. It is unknown whether all EMS personnel needs would be met by eliminating the EMS Special Fund.

FY 2017 appropriations for Hawaii EMS are: EMS Special Fund - \$14,041,796 and General Fund - \$60,810,177 for a total of \$74,851,973. EMS personnel budgeted expenses for FY 2017 are \$54,715,001. The EMS Special Fund also funds DOH contracts with UH, Kapiolani Community College for: 1) EMT and Paramedic training on Maui, Kauai and Hawaii (\$149,480), and 2) EMS Paramedic training stipends enabling neighbor island EMS students to travel to Honolulu for necessary clinical training (\$240,000). Elimination of the EMS Special Fund and directly funding the counties would have the unintended consequence of interrupting EMS personnel services throughout the state as of July 1, 2016 until new county based systems were implemented; and will eliminate DOH's ability to bill for EMS patient care services.

In addition, funding to UH, Kapiolani for training would be eliminated unless the General Fund was increased for these needed services. If the EMS Special Fund is repealed and personnel funds are directed to the four major counties, then DOH patient billing and collection services would end and the State would not receive billing reimbursements that are currently deposited into the State General Fund (projected FY 2017: \$39.6 million).

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Offered Amendments: N/A

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



WRITTEN ONLY

WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR

RODERICK K. BECKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

**TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 1617**

February 8, 2016
3:00 p.m.

RELATING TO EMERGENCY SERVICES

House Bill No. 1617 requires the Director of Finance to annually transfer general funds to the counties to fund lifeguard and emergency medical services, and repeals the Emergency Medical Services Special Fund and specifies that the remaining balance of the special fund be deposited to the State Highway Fund.

The Department of Budget and Finance recognizes the importance of lifeguard and emergency medical services but has several concerns about this measure.

First, it appears that the proposed transfer of general funds to the counties would create a standing general fund appropriation which would obligate future legislatures beyond the current biennium.

Second, this measure appears to expand the State's funding responsibility for lifeguard services to include those which are handled by the counties. Currently, the State contracts with the counties for lifeguard services at State beach parks and the counties fund their own lifeguard services at county beach parks. This bill does not clearly specify if the lifeguards are for State or county beach parks. We are also

uncertain if this measure expands the State's funding responsibility for emergency medical services.

Third, although this measure deletes the \$5 designation for the Emergency Medical Services Special Fund from the \$45 State motor vehicle registration fee, the new distribution of the \$5 is unspecified. This bill does not increase the amount from the registration fee to be deposited to the State Highway Fund from the current \$40 to \$45, nor does it decrease the registration fee to \$40.

William P. Kenoi
Mayor



Darren J. Rosario
Fire Chief

Renwick J. Victorino
Deputy Fire Chief

County of Hawai'i
HAWAI'I FIRE DEPARTMENT
25 Aupuni Street • Suite 2501 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
(808) 932-2900 • Fax (808) 932-2928

February 5, 2016

The Honorable Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Committee on Health
415 South Beretania Street
State Capitol, Room 329
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Belatti:

Subject: HB 1617, RELATING TO EMERGENCY SERVICES
Hearing Date: Monday, February 8, 2016
Time/Place of Hearing: 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 329

I am Darren J. Rosario, Fire Chief of the Hawai'i Fire Department, County of Hawai'i (HCFD). The HCFD opposes HB 1617 which proposes to shift the responsibility for funding Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Lifeguards from the State to the counties. It further proposes to increase general fund transfers as an appropriate way for the counties to fund these positions.

The HCFD is the primary 911 emergency provider of EMS services to our 150,000 plus residents and 1.7 million annual average visitors. The HCFD also provides Ocean Safety Water Safety Officers (lifeguards) at the State's Hāpuna Beach Park. Hāpuna is the Island's most popular beaches. The HCFD was funded in this current fiscal year by the State Department of Health to provide EMS Services in the amount of 14.3 million dollars. The HCFD was funded in this current fiscal year by the State Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide lifeguard services to the Hāpuna State Beach Park in the amount of 0.4 million dollars.

The HCFD has continuously provided optimum EMS and lifeguard services above and beyond the funding it receives from the State. Currently, the field of EMS requires staffing to conduct billing and regulatory compliance matters. These matters are currently managed by the State of Hawai'i Department of Health, Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention (EMSIP) branch. The HCFD does not have staffing to manage the billing and regulatory requirements of EMS. Furthermore, in Hawai'i County, there exist several State beach parks that currently are not protected by lifeguards. Shifting the responsibility to the county after years of the State not providing coverage should not be forced upon the County. Proper protection of these beach parks would require additional funding and positions.

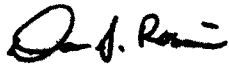


The Honorable Representative Belatti, Chair
Page 2
February 5, 2016

In order for the HCFD to be accountable as the provider of EMS and lifeguard services, the State must provide for adequate additional funding through general fund transfers at an additional amount of at least 15 million dollars to maintain current services. The unknown is the cost of the additional personnel required for EMS support office staff and the required lifeguard staff as well for each county. This would require that the State and Counties collaboratively study the actual cost of shifting the burden to the counties. The Counties should not have to undertake this burden without a substantial cost estimate study being completed.

The HCFD urges you to deny HB 1617. Please do not hesitate to call me at 932-2903 or Darren.Rosario@hawaiiicounty.gov should you have any questions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. J. Rosario", written in a cursive style.

DARREN J. ROSARIO
Fire Chief

HONOLULU EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

3375 KOAPAKA STREET, SUITE H-450 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819-1869
Phone: (808) 723-7800 • Fax: (808) 833-3934



KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR

MARK K. RIGG
DIRECTOR

IAN T.T. SANTEE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 8, 2016

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Richard Creagan, Vice-Chair
Committee on Health
House of Representative
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2016

Re: HB1617 Relating to Emergency Services

Dear Chair Bellatti and Vice Chair Creagan, and Members:

The Honolulu Emergency Services Department, Emergency Medical Services Division, is in support of the intent of HB1617, but recommends holding HB1617.

We appreciate the intent, but the TAT has undergone examination over the last two years by a Working Group assembled by the Legislature. Their report has been concluded and their recommendations submitted to the Legislature. Instead of making piecemeal amendments to the TAT, we recommend that this should be considered as a part of the entire restructuring of the TAT to be considered by this body.

We, the Honolulu Emergency Services Department, are in support of the intent of HB1617, but recommend holding HB1617.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark K. Rigg", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Mark K. Rigg
Director

Testimony: HB1616: Relating to EMS

We are the board members of Kauai Paramedics Association and currently there is no vehicle or contract with American Medical Response and the Counties of Kauai and Maui to utilize the TAT EMS funds. We urge your committee to deny this bill.

This measure HB1616 repeals the EMS Special Fund, shorting Kauai County EMS by \$1,132,060.00. In addition, it repeals funds allocated to the University of Hawaii, Kapiolani Community College for EMT and Paramedic training. Numerous paramedic students have benefited from the training stipends, which enabled Kauai County EMS students to travel to Honolulu for the necessary training.

If these EMS special funds provided to the Department of Health (DOH) to fund Kauai County contract for EMS with AMR are eliminated, and not replaced immediately with another source of funds, the DOH will not have sufficient funding in fiscal year 2017 and beyond for these existing “essential services”. This could cause an immediate disruption in the delivery of Kauai County emergency medical services.

The State Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System (EMSIPS) regulate and govern statewide EMS so that quality Advance Life Support care is the same statewide. The residents and visitors to Kauai County have benefitted tremendously from the EMS Special Fund. Diverting monies to the counties could divide and disrupt a well-developed, comprehensive and experienced EMS System.

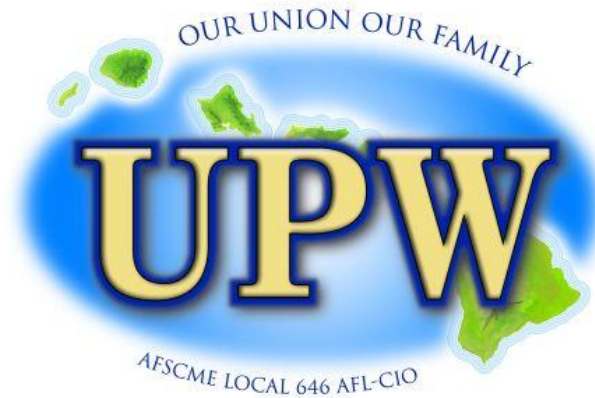
We urge you to please deny this bill from moving forward. Thank you.

Byron Vance- President KPA

Brian Ueno- VP KPA

Barb Daumiller- Treasurer KPA

Lisa Johnshoy- Secretary KPA



THE HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
The Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2016

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Richard Creagan, M.D., Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: Monday, February 8, 2016
TIME OF HEARING: 3:00 p.m.
PLACE OF HEARING: State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Conference Room 329

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1617 RELATING TO EMERGENCY SERVICES

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,
State Director of the United Public Workers (UPW),
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO. The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 12,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members of the private sector.

The UPW opposes HB1617 which authorizes the transfer of general funds to the counties to fund lifeguard and emergency services personnel positions in the counties. The bill also repeals the emergency medical services special fund. The UPW echoes the serious concerns

of the Department of Health in the proposed repealing of the emergency medical services special fund and transfer of general funds to the counties. Training for emergency medical technicians and mobile intensive care technicians (paramedics) will be severely curtailed. Further, the repealing of the emergency medical services special fund will bifurcate the EMS system. This could be a recipe for confusion and probable delay in emergency services.

The State of Hawaii Department of Health Emergency Medical Services system is comprehensive; its 911 system serves the entire state. More importantly, the state provides high quality pre-hospital emergency care to residents and visitors alike. We strongly believe that the current EMS system is reasonably efficient and responsive.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in opposition to HB1617.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2016 8:38 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: andy.ancheta@amr.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1617 on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM*

HB1617

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andy Ancheta, MPH	American Medical Response	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 3:34 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: tito.villanueva@amr.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1617 on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM

HB1617

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tito Villanueva	American Medical Response	Oppose	No

Comments: I am Tito Villanueva, Operations Manager/EMS Chief for American Medical Response (AMR), County of Kauai, strongly oppose of H.B. 1617. AMR provides 911 responses to every part of Kauai serving residents and visitors with access to high quality pre-hospital emergency care through a contract with Department of Health, Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention Branch. The State Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System (EMSIPS) regulate and govern statewide EMS so that quality Advance Life Support care is the same statewide. Diverting monies to the counties could divide and disrupt a well-developed, comprehensive and experienced EMS System. The current system provides comprehensive 911 responses to every part of the State. It consists of highly trained personnel, statewide communications, statewide billing, and statewide electronic medical records. This bill could cause an immediate disruption in the delivery of Kauai County emergency medical services. Directing funds to the counties for emergency medical services will eliminate the State's collection and billing for patient care services. I urge you to deny passage of this bill.

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Testimony: HB1617: Relating to EMS

My name is Curt Morimoto and I've been working in EMS for the past (40) yrs. and I am the Operations Manager for American Medical Response (AMR) in Maui County for the past (22) yrs.

The residents & visitors to Maui County have benefitted from quality Emergency Medical Services provided by the State of Hawaii and American Medical Response. Together and in collaboration with the Hawaii State Legislature the Maui County EMS System has grown from three (3) ambulance stations to (11) ambulance stations and (1) rotor wing Medevac.

The STATE Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System (EMSIPS) regulate and govern statewide EMS so that quality Advanced Life Support care is matched across the State. (Elaborate more on the state systems here)

Maui County has benefitted tremendously from the EMS Special Fund which has supported the addition of EMS units in Wailea, Maalaea and the Maui Medevac. This measure HB 1617 repeals the EMS Special Fund, shorting Maui County EMS by \$3,947,018.00. In addition, it repeals funds allocated to the UH, Kapiolani Community College for EMT and Paramedic training. Numerous paramedic students have benefitted from the training stipends, which enabled Maui County EMS students to travel to Honolulu for the necessary clinical training.

If these EMS special funds provided to the Department of Health (DOH) to fund Maui Counties contract for EMS with AMR are eliminated, and not replaced immediately with another source of funds, the DOH will not have sufficient funding in fiscal year 2017 and beyond for these existing "essential" services. This could cause an immediate disruption in the delivery of Maui County EMS. Dr. Alvin Bronstein, State EMS & Injury Prevention Branch Chief testified to this at the hearing for HB1616 on 2/3/16 before the Committee on Tourism.

I support the intent general fund monies to shore-up lifeguard staffing statewide and even to 'supplement' EMS funds. However, currently there is no vehicle or contract with American Medical Response and the counties of Maui and Kauai to utilize the any EMS funds at this time. Diverting monies to the counties could divide and disrupt a well-developed, comprehensive and experienced EMS System.

I urge you to please disapprove this bill. Thank you.

Curt S. Morimoto
American Medical Response
230 Hana Highway, Suite #12-B
Kahului, HI 96732
(808) 871-2153

To: The Honorable Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Rep. Richard Creagan, Vice Chair

Re: HB1617: Relating to EMS

My name is Speedy Bailey and I've been working in EMS for the past (40) yrs. and I am the General Manager for American Medical Response (AMR) in Hawaii.

The residents & visitors of Hawaii have benefitted from quality Emergency Medical Services provided by the State of Hawaii Emergency Medical Services & Injury Prevention Branch, the Hawaii County Fire Department, City & County of Hawaii and American Medical Response. Together and in collaboration with the Hawaii State Legislature the Hawaii EMS System has developed and matured into a comprehensive emergency medical services system.

Hawaii's system is unique in that it is one of few coordinated comprehensive EMS systems nationally. The STATE Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System (EMSIPS) regulate and govern statewide EMS so that quality Advanced Life Support care is delivered across the State, from Hilo to Hana, Honolulu and Hanalei. This comprehensive system articulated in HRS 321 includes:

- 3 EMS service models: Fire, Private & 3rd service municipal
- A statewide trauma system and coordinated injury prevention system
- A statewide data, billing and collection system
- Statewide EMS Training at Kapiolani Community College
- A Statewide EMS Advisory Council

Hawaii's EMS system has benefitted tremendously from the EMS Special Fund which has supported the addition of EMS units in Makakilo, Kaaawa, Honolulu, Ocean View, Wailea, Maalaea and the Maui Medevac. This measure HB 1616 repeals the EMS Special Fund, shorting Hawaii EMS by ~\$14 million in essential "life saving" services. In addition, it repeals funds allocated to the UH, Kapiolani Community College for EMT and Paramedic training. Numerous paramedic students have benefitted from the training stipends, which enabled neighbor island EMS students to travel to Honolulu for their necessary clinical training.

If these EMS special funds provided to the Department of Health (DOH) are eliminated, and not replaced immediately with another source of funds, the DOH will not have sufficient funding in fiscal year 2017 and beyond for these existing "essential" services. This could cause an immediate disruption in the delivery of EMS services statewide.

I support the intent of funds to shore-up lifeguard staffing, but do not support the transfer of general funds to county agencies for emergency medical personnel. There currently there is no vehicle or contract with American Medical Response and the counties of Maui and Kauai to utilize the County EMS funds at this time. Diverting monies to the counties would divide and disrupt a well-developed, comprehensive and experienced EMS System.

I respectfully ask that you deny this bill. Thank you.

HLTtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 3:48 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1617 on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM*

HB1617

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 3:06 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: barbdaumiller@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1617 on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM

HB1617

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Daumiller	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am a currently employed EMT with American Medical Response, and have been for over 23 years. I don't feel that removing EMS from the St. Dept. of Health, and separating the Counties in this matter, is in our citizens and visitors best interest at this time.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 2:27 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: cody.bonilla@amr.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1617 on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM*

HB1617

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cody Bonilla	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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HLTtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 11:32 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: tiffany.lightfoot@amr.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1617 on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM*

HB1617

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tiffany Lightfoot	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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