# <u>HB1874 HD1</u>

Measure Title:	MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.
Report Title:	Emergency Medical Services; County of Kauai; Appropriation (\$)
Description:	Appropriates moneys for FY 2016-2017 for a 24-hour, 7-days-a- week, rapid response emergency medical services unit for the County of Kauai. (HB1874 HD1)
Companion:	<u>SB2132</u>
Package:	None
Current Referral:	CPH/PSM, WAM
Introducer(s):	KAWAKAMI, Morikawa, Tokioka



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

## Testimony COMMENTING on HB 1874 HD1 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

# SENATOR ROSALYN BAKER, CHAIR SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH and SENATOR CLARENCE NISHIHARA, CHAIR SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: Fri, March 18, 2016 9:30am Room Number: 229

1 Fiscal Implications: HB 1874 HD1 requests an unspecified amount of general funds for fiscal

2 year 2016-2017 be appropriated to the Department of Health (DOH), Emergency Medical

3 Services & Injury Prevention System Branch for a specialized emergency medical rapid response

4 unit to include vehicle, personnel, and equipment. The cost of this unit is estimated to be

5 \$700,000 annually. The Department respectfully defers to the Governor's Executive Budget for

6 the DOH's appropriations and personnel priorities.

7 **Department Testimony:** The Department recognizes the significant challenges to providing

8 health care and emergency medical services to the expanding communities of Kauai. This

9 measure seeks to augment the Kauai emergency medical services system for the county's

10 residents and visitors. DOH contracts and funds a private ambulance service provider to operate

11 5 ground ambulances on Kauai.

12 Using data from the DOH pre-hospital emergency medical database, we examined county

ambulance response times for the 6-year period 2010-2015. Hanalei area (Zip code 96714)

14 consistently exceeded the mandated DOH contract response time of 20 minutes or less. We

15 found that over the 6-year period 34% of the Hanalei responses exceeded the mandated 20

16 minute threshold. Adding a specialized rapid response unit and personnel resources might

17 improve these 911 response times and allow for optimizing resources countywide.

- 1 The additional requested vehicle, personnel, and equipment are not in the DOH's FY 2016-2017
- 2 budget. Should the legislature wish to increase Kauai EMS resources, then the requisite funds
- 3 would need to be added to the DOH budget for FY 2016-2017 and beyond. DOH has convened
- 4 the four county ambulance providers. The group is meeting to review State 911 ambulance
- 5 priorities and prioritize needs going forward.
- 6 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

### March 18, 2016 at 9:30 am Conference Room 229

## Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

## Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

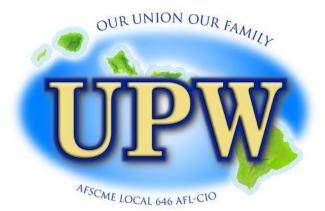
- To: Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
- From: Jen Chahanovich CEO, Wilcox Memorial Hospital

## Re: Testimony in Support – HB 1874, HD1

My name is Jen Chahanovich and I am the chief executive officer of Wilcox Memorial Hospital. Founded in 1938, Wilcox Memorial Hospital is a not-for-profit hospital dedicated to providing the Kaua'i community with accessible, quality health care. Wilcox is the largest medical facility on Kaua'i and has been recognized as one of the nation's best small hospitals. With 185 physicians on staff, Wilcox Memorial Hospital offers island residents and visitors expert diagnosis and treatment for more than 22 specialties. It is a state-of-the-art acute care facility with a full suite of services including emergency, OB/GYN, pediatrics, cardiology, gastroenterology, ophthalmology, pulmonology, nephrology, orthopedics, neurology, internal medicine and family practice.

I am writing in **support** of HB 1874, HD1 which makes an appropriation for emergency medical services for a 24 hour, 7 days a week rapid response services unit for the County of Kauai. Timely access to life-saving health care is essential for all communities. The availability of ambulances and emergency medical personnel are critical components to making sure patients are transported to hospitals as quickly as possible and greatly improves outcomes. The appropriation provided in this measure will enhance the delivery of emergency medical services and remove some of the barriers to obtaining needed services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



THE HAWAII STATE SENATE The Twenty-Eighth Legislature Regular Session of 2016

<u>COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH</u> The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair,

<u>COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL</u> <u>AND MILITARY AFFAIRS</u> The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair The Honorable Will Espero, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING:Friday, March 18, 2016TIME OF HEARING:9:30 a.m.PLACE OF HEARING:State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street<br/>Conference Room 229

## TESTIMONY ON HB1874, HD1 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL 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 supports HB1874, HD1 appropriating moneys for FY2016-FY2017 for a 24-hour, 7-day a week rapid response emergency services unit for the County of Kauai.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

# HAWAI'I PACIFIC HEALTH

55 Merchant Street Honolulu, Hawaiʻi 96813-4333

Kapi'olani · Pali Momi · Straub · Wilcox

www.hawaiipacifichealth.org

March 18, 2016 at 9:30 am Conference Room 229

## Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

## Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

- To: Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
- From: Michael Robinson Vice President – Government Relations & Community Affairs

## Re: Testimony in Support – HB 1874, HD1

My name is Michael Robinson, Vice President, Government Relations and Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system, and the state's largest health care provider and non-governmental employer. Hawai'i Pacific Health is committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four hospitals, more than 50 outpatient clinics and service sites, and over 1,600 affiliated physicians. Hawai'i Pacific Health's hospitals are Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital.

I am writing in **support** of HB 1874, HD1 which makes an appropriation for emergency medical services for a 24 hour, 7 days a week rapid response services unit for the County of Kauai. Timely access to life-saving health care is essential for all communities. The availability of ambulances and emergency medical personnel are critical components to making sure patients are transported to hospitals as quickly as possible and greatly improves outcomes. The appropriation provided in this measure will enhance the delivery of emergency medical services and remove some of the barriers to obtaining needed services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Aloha,

I Cody Bonilla am in **support** of bill **HB1874**. As an EMS provider for the last 10 years on Kauai, this will be a huge mile stone accomplishment for the community.

Currently the five 911 ambulance station strategically placed Island wide could definitely use the help. On any given day, there are ambulance units needing to be utilized outside of their respected districts. Thus, response times become greater. With this **Rapid response** unit, the community would receive **advance life support** care faster. This is huge when it comes to advance care in the field. Quicker advance medical interventions saves lives!

In 2014 there was **5,175** calls island wide from JAN 2014 to DEC 2014. **454** of those calls were responded from outer district units.

Data from **November 2015 to February 2016**, a 4 month period shows AMR ran **1,782 911** calls. Of those 1,782 calls, **184** calls were done by out of district units.

So if we try to project numbers for a **November 2015 to November 2016** period time frame(12 months), these would be the numbers.

November 2015 – November 2016 = ~5,346 calls Island wide

## Back up calls out of district for this time period would be ~552 calls.

We both know that you will never get exact numbers unless it's happened, and no one knows if they will ever need to call 911 because of an injury or sickness, but data shows the increase in call volume yearly with our aging population, increase full time residents, and our influx of visitors.

Kauai has not increased their ambulance fleet since 1992. We are in desperate need to better serve our community. Keep in mind that out of the ~10 percent of back up calls out of district island wide, one of those calls could be your family that may have survived if advance care came seconds sooner!

Mahalo for your time.

Sincerely,

Cody Bonilla

March 16, 2016

TO:

## COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

FROM: Curt S. Morimoto Operations Manager, American Medical Response—Maui County

# RE: SUPPORT TESTIMONY HB#1874 H.D.1

During the 2013 legislative session a bill was introduced to approve a 24/7 Advanced Life Support (ALS) Rapid Response Unit (RRU) for Ma'alaea, Maui. My thanks to Senator Roz Baker for championing this Bill and its subsequent passage and startup in October, 2013.

The Ma'alaea RRU (Medic-15) has been utilized in a number of ways:

- First responds to 9-1-1 emergencies in the Ma'alaea area where the closest ambulance is 10-13 mins. away
- Medic-15 moves (standbys) in South & West Maui when their respective ambulances are busy on other assignments thereby reducing ALS response times for trauma & medical emergencies to visitors & residents in all (3) districts on Maui
- Medic-15 Medic has also been utilized as the Medevac Paramedic when the Medevac crews are tied up
- Medic-15 Paramedic has also responded to multiple-casualty incidents and been valuable in the Incident Command structure communicating with other ambulances to the scene
- Medic-15 Paramedic has been utilized in other districts on Maui as needed on busy days

This RRU, although not a full ambulance has the same equipment, supplies & medications to make a difference in life & death emergencies where time is of the essence.

This same RRU can act the same on Kauai whereby it can move to 'open' districts until its respective ambulance is back from prior calls. It will allow another quick ALS responder that minimizes response times to an emergency.

The residents & visitors on Kauai will benefit the same as has been the case on Maui since the inception of its RRU in Ma'alaea.

I urge you to please pass this bill as it will make a difference in lives saved on Kauai.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	CPH Testimony
Cc:	david@kingdonconsulting.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1874 on Mar 18, 2016 09:30AM
Date:	Tuesday, March 15, 2016 7:36:48 PM

# <u>HB1874</u>

Submitted on: 3/15/2016 Testimony for CPH/PSM on Mar 18, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Kingdon, MPH, Paramedic	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My name is David Kingdon; I am the station supervisor for Maui County EMS' Special Response Vehicle paramedic unit based in Ma'alaea, Maui. With over two years' experience since the legislature prudently approved our paramedic response unit, I can personally attest to the efficacy of a sole practitioner paramedic unit. I am sure that Kauai would see similar benefits. Our unit has markedly reduced advanced life support response times, not just in Ma'alaea itself, but also in busy adjacent districts where patients had previously endured delays when in-district ambulances were unavailable. We have also been a resource for medical incident command at larger incidents, and the flexibility of our unit has allowed for innovative partnerships, most notably with a nearby Coast Guard station. These aspects of our paramedic response unit have literally led to many lives saved. When calls have been of a more minor nature, we have been able to handle those by ourselves, freeing up transport ambulances for more serious cases. While I am not based on Kauai, I am familiar with their island. I know that while their population has been growing, it has been a long time since their EMS system was granted additional resources. Whereas the costs associated with a solo response unit are modest, the benefits of this paramedic asset are substantial. Thank you for your consideration of this wise appropriation.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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### March 18, 2016

To: The Honorable Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair

Re: HB 1874: 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.

I am in support of HB 1874. AMR provides 911 response on 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.

Passage of HB 1874 would add significantly to the level of care to our visitors and residents as well as having faster response time during their emergency needs. Pre-hospital emergency medical response has been increasing and continues to increase due to Kauai's population growth, aging demographic and an increase in the number of households and visitors.

The last time a new emergency medical services ambulance unit was added on Kauai was in 1992, immediately after Hurricane Iniki. There have been no additional rapid response or ambulance units since. It is anticipated that Kauai's population demographic will change and include an aging population over the next few years. This increase demand for services requires additional resources.

The North Shore of Kauai is a large district which covers Moloaa, Kilauea, Princeville, Hanalei, Wainiha, and Ke'e Beach Park. Outside the Kilauea Unit, the nearest ambulance station is located Kapaa. The timeline to reach the only acute hospital on Kauai can be forty minutes or more. Similarly, the ambulance unit on the west district covers Eleele, Hanapepe, Kaumakani, Waimea, Kekaha, Polihale Beach Park, and up Kokee State Park. Response and transport times to the only Level 3 trauma center on Kauai may even take longer. If the ambulance that responds to a call for emergency medical service must respond from an out-of-district location, the response time is even longer. The movement of ambulances with patients from their own district creates a domino effect of lack of emergency medical services to other areas. A timely response to an emergency is critical to increase the likelihood of a good outcome for a sick or injured individual.

AMR has been continuously providing optimum EMS services above and beyond the funding it receives from the State. During flashflood conditions where Hanalei Bridge is closed, AMR provides additional ambulance unit to cover the Hanalei to Ke'e areas at no cost to the County or State.

A rapid response unit complements and adds to the existing resources that Kauai already has. It will help reduce death and disability among residents and visitors by providing immediate response to what was outlined previously.

I respectfully urge your committee's passage of HB 1874 to appropriate funds to establish a twenty-four –hour, seven-days-a-week emergency medical services Rapid Response Unit for Kauai.

## Aloha,

I Steven Arellanes am in support of bill HB1874.

On any given day, there are ambulance units needing to be utilized outside of their respected districts. Thus, response times become greater. With this Rapid response unit, the community would receive advance life support care faster. This is huge when it comes to advance care in the field. Quicker advance medical interventions saves lives!

I understand we are coming out of a recession and we have had to manage resources by moving units to cover areas that are unprotected to give that response area faster response times. But when doing so, you add a greater response time to your coverage area. Ideally we could benefit from having another station. Our population and call volume has quadrupled since another unit was added 24 years ago. But having this RRV will provide assistance until further resources may come available.

Mahalo for your time.

Sincerely,

Steven Y Arellanes

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	CPH Testimony
Cc:	tiffany.lightfoot@amr.net
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1874 on Mar 18, 2016 09:30AM*
Date:	Tuesday, March 15, 2016 8:45:37 AM

## <u>HB1874</u>

Submitted on: 3/15/2016 Testimony for CPH/PSM on Mar 18, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tiffany Lightfoot	American Medical Response	Support	No

Comments:

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#### March 16, 2016

TO:

## COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

# FROM: Tito Villanueva<br/>Operations Manager, American Medical Response—Kauai County RE: SUPPORT TESTIMONY HB#1874 H.D.1

AMR provides 911 responses for Kauai, serving residents and visitors with access to high quality prehospital emergency care through a contract with Department of Health, Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention Branch.

Passage of H.B. 1874 H.D. 1 would add significantly to the level of care to our visitors and residents as well as having faster response time during their emergency needs. Pre-hospital emergency medical response has been increasing and continues to increase due to population growth, aging demographic, and an increase in the number of households and visitors.

Kauai County Population	Year	Number of residents
Resident population	1990	51,676
De facto population	1990	68,558
Resident population	2015	71,400
De facto population	2015	89,500
Projected resident pop	2025	80,000
Projected de facto pop	2025	99,800
Source: DBEDT		
http://hawaiieconomicdata.com/		

The last time a new emergency medical services ambulance unit was added on Kauai was in 1992, immediately after Hurricane Iniki. There have been no additional rapid response or ambulance units since. It is anticipated that Kauai's population demographic will change and include an aging population over the next few years. This increase demand for services will require additional resources. A timely response to an emergency is critical to increase the likelihood of a good outcome for a sick or injured individual.

The North Shore of Kauai is a large district which covers Moloaa, Kilauea, Princeville, Hanalei, Wainiha, and Ke'e Beach Park. Outside the Kilauea unit, the nearest ambulance station is located in Kapaa. The timeline to reach the only acute hospital on Kauai can be forty minutes or more.

Similarly, the ambulance unit on the west district covers Eleele, Hanapepe, Kaumakani, Waimea, Kekaha, Polihale Beach Park, and up Kokee State Park. Response and transport times to the only Level 3 trauma center on Kauai may even take longer. If the ambulance that responds to a call for emergency medical service must respond from an out-of-district location, the response time is even longer. The

movement of ambulances from their own districts creates a domino effect of lack of emergency medical services to other areas.

In 2014, about nine (9) percent of calls or four hundred thirty nine (439) are backup calls island wide. Total transport from the Hanalei area (area code 96714 only not including Princeville and Kilauea/Moloa) in a six years period (2010 – 2015) were nine hundred seventeen (917), three hundred nine (309) or thirty four (34) percent took greater than 20 minutes for the ambulance to arrive on scene. Majority of these calls exceeded the standard response time of twenty (20) minutes mainly due to large district with long and narrow winding road, and unit turnaround time of greater than one hundred twenty (120) minutes. In addition, other ambulance units respond from other districts about eleven (11) percent of all calls to the Hanalei district.

A rapid response unit complements and adds to the existing resources that Kauai already has. This unit will also reduce response time for advance life support care when an ambulance unit is unavailable, respond to calls that are minor in nature freeing up ambulances for more serious cases, and serve as a medical incident command at a disaster or multiple casualty incident. If funded, this unit will be a resource for the Hanalei district during flashflood conditions where the Hanalei Bridge is closed.

I respectfully urge your committee's passage of H.B. 1874 H.D. 1 to appropriate funds to establish a twenty-four –hour, seven-days-a-week emergency medical services rapid response unit for the County of Kauai.

# <u>HB1874</u>

Submitted on: 3/16/2016 Testimony for CPH/PSM on Mar 18, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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#### Testimony for HB 1874

#### To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Thomas Vander Wende. I am a Hawaii State Licensed M.I.C.T./Paramedic. After 33 years of service in EMS, First in the C&C Honolulu followed by 25 years in the County of Kauai, 22 years at M22 on the North Shore and 3 years on the South Shore, M24, I retired in 2014 and am now employed as part of a two man team of M.I.C.T./Paramedics to the President of the United Arab Emirates.

I came to Kauai in 1989. Back then the island population was much less and life was much slower. We would stand by for a shift on the ambulance and go maybe 1 or 2 shifts without any 911 calls. As time progressed, life became busier and the island population grew...and grew and grew.

By the time I retired in 2014, we were quite the busy EMS system. I do not have figures here today but I can tell you that the incidence of moving ambulances out of their own response areas to cover 911 calls in other areas was quite prevalent. When this occurs, response times are increased. There are now more and more calls where the Kapaa ambulance responds to the North Shore, an average response time of 20 min, where the Lihue ambulance responds to Poipu, Kapaa and North Shore, and the Poipu ambulance responds to Waimea as well as the Waimea ambulance responding to Poipu...the latter scenario is of greater concern as once the Waimea ambulance leaves, there is no other EMS coverage on that end of the island...same for the north shore.

The addition of a quick response EMS unit would greatly reduce mortality rates and enhance survivability due to the ability to move around freely and quickly. Moving this unit into areas when another unit is deployed would be of great value to the community.

It is my opinion that this vehicle is very much needed now due to the increase in population and the increase in *popularity* of the island of Kauai to visitors, not to mention the increase in EMS related 911 calls. Kauai also has the highest drowning rate in the state. Getting Advanced Life Support to an emergency faster than an ALS transport unit can respond would save lives exponentially. While Kauai is the only island that utilizes a two tiered emergency response system integrated with Kauai Fire Department, the KFD personnel are first responder level trained only which basic first aid is. And the KFD is also becoming more utilized and frequently have their limited resources stretched beyond their ability. While they are a valuable and necessary part of the advanced EMS system on Kauai, the highly respected professional members of KFD cannot provide ALS service. Kauai has one of the best EMS systems in the US today, all members are extremely skilled, highly trained professionals and each component compliments the system uniquely and adding this Quick Response Vehicle will ensure that Kauai remains one of the best systems into the future.

I hope the Hawaii State Legislature will approve the funding for this unit and keep Kauai and Hawaii the premier EMS system it is.

Regards,

### THOMAS VANDER WENDE M.I.C.T./Paramedic Presidential Medical Wing Ministry of Presidential Affairs Royal Wing Services Mafraq Hospital Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates