



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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**Testimony COMMENTING on HB 464 HD1**  
**Relating to Health**

SENATOR JOSH GREEN, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: Wed., March 18, 2015 1:30 PM Room Number: 414

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in fiscal years 2015-  
2 2016 and 2016-2017. The measure requests an additional ambulance unit including a vehicle,  
3 personnel, and equipment.

4 **Department Testimony:** The Department respectfully defers to the Governor's Executive  
5 Budget request for the Department of Health's appropriations and personnel priorities.

6 The Department recognizes the significant challenges to providing health care and  
7 emergency services to the Kakaako Community. The Department is projecting a shortfall in  
8 general funds to fund the existing ambulance contracts across the state for FY16 and FY17.  
9 Funding an additional unit would have a negative impact on existing services.

10 This measure seeks to augment the City and County emergency medical services system  
11 for the residents and visitors of the Kakaako area. The Honolulu City and County Emergency  
12 Medical Services currently operates 20 ground ambulances on the island of Oahu. The last unit  
13 added was Ewa Beach in fiscal year 2013. Honolulu City and County has budgeted funds to  
14 secure and administer a backup 911 contract with American Medical Response to aid with  
15 increased 911 calls.

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.