



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN

Testimony COMMENTING on HB 851 HD 1

Relating to Health

SENATOR JILL TOKUDA, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date: Wed., April 6, 2015 9:05 AM Room Number: 211

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Appropriates an unspecified amount of EMS Special Funds (ESF) in fiscal
2 year 2015-2016. The measure requests an additional advanced life support ambulance unit
3 including a vehicle, 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 emergency
7 services to the Puna Community. The Department is projecting a shortfall in ESF to fund the
8 existing ambulance contracts across the state for FY16 and FY17. Funding an additional unit
9 would have a negative impact on existing services.

10 This measure seeks to augment the Hawaii County emergency medical services system for the
11 residents and visitors of the Puna area. Hawaii County currently operates 15 ground ambulance
12 units on the island of Hawaii. The last unit added was unit 3, Hawaii Ocean View Estates, in
13 fiscal year 2005. Hawaii County has budgeted funds to secure and administer a backup 911
14 contract with American Medical Response to aid with increased 911 calls.

15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB851

Submitted on: 4/2/2015

Testimony for WAM on Apr 6, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Mallery-Sayre	The Daniel Sayre Memorial Foundation	Support	No

Comments: 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 response time to the Puna District does not meet the recommended 8 minutes and therefore citizens of this district are put in harm's way. We encourage the WAM Committee to please consider the value of lives saved when supporting financing for this measure.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov