DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D. DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

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

Testimony COMMENTING on SB1016 SD 1

Relating to Health

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH Hearing Date: Wed., March 25, 2015 8:45 AM Room Number: 329

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 from the EMS Special Funds could 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.

MITCHELL D. ROTH PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

DALE A. ROSS FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



655 KĪLAUEA AVENUE HILO, HAWAI'I 96720 PH: (808) 961-0466 FAX: (808) 961-8908 (808) 934-3403 (808) 934-3503

WEST HAWAI'I UNIT 81-980 HALEKI'I ST, SUITE 150 KEALAKEKUA , HAWAI'I 96750 PH: (808) 322-2552 FAX: (808) 322-6584

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 1016 SD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 25, 2015, 8:45 a.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 329

Honorable Chair Belatti, Vice-Chair Creagan, and Members of the Committee on Health, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i submits the following testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 1016, SD1

This measure appropriates funds to establish an advanced life support ambulance to be based in Puna on the island of Hawai'i, including the acquisition of a vehicle and equipment and personnel costs for state-certified emergency medical services personnel.

Puna has become the fastest growing district in the State, with a current population of more than 45 thousand residents. Passage of this Bill will provide a new advanced life support ambulance which has the potential of reducing death and disability not only of the residents, but also to visitors to the island of Hawai'i.

Data from the Hawai'i County Fire Department shows that over the past five years, there have been approximately 180 emergency medical service incidents per month within Puna. Due to the projected population surge to increase to approximately 75 thousand residents within the next 15 years, the need for an additional ambulance in this area has never been greater.

Coupled with the ongoing lava threat and the current strain on critical transportation infrastructure in Puna, the travel time to Hilo is expected to increase from an average of 30 minutes to two hours. For those reasons, this life support ambulance will be a literal life saver for the residents and visitors in Puna.

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 1016, SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



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

March 23, 2015

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair Committee on Health House of Representatives State Capitol, Room 329 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Belatti:

Subject: SB 1016, RELATING TO HEALTH Hearing Date: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 Time/Place of Hearing: 8:45 a.m.

I am Darren J. Rosario, Fire Chief of the Hawai'i Fire Department (HFD). The HFD supports SB 1016 to make an appropriation for an Advanced Life Support (ALS) Ambulance to be based in the Puna District

The EMS needs of the residents of Puna are centrally served by HFD Medic's 5 and 10 out of the Kea'au and Pāhoa Fire stations respectively. These units are strategically based to serve the bulk of Puna's population handling 91% of EMS calls in Puna. Medic 19 out of the Volcano Fire Station serves a less populated area of Puna but fills a wide geographical gap (45 miles) between Kea'au and Ka'ū.

Furthermore, the District of Puna is currently under the imminent threat of the "July 27 lava flow" that is poised to severely impact services to thousands of lower Puna residents. Essentially, the lava flow will cut them off from critical transportation infrastructure, which is their lifeline to amongst other things, health care. The area of lower Puna, currently impacted by the lava flow is home to nearly 10,000 people who live scattered about the nearly 100 square miles predicted to be isolated by the impact area. Furthermore, a recent survey conducted by the University of Hawai'i at Hilo shows that 1,101 households within the impact area house at least one person with a disability. Access to primary and acute medical care will be severely delayed due to lengthened travel times. The current time from Pāhoa to Hilo via Highway 130 is approximately 30 minutes without traffic. Once the flow crosses highway 130 and the alternate Makai routes, travel by ground will then go through the Chain of Craters road and take approximately 2 hours without traffic. Given these challenges an ALS ambulance in the community is an absolute necessity to the well being of the residents within the flow.



The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair March 23, 2015 Page 2

Retrospective data analysis from the Hawai'i Fire Department shows that approximately 180 EMS incidents are generated from within the impact area per month.

The County of Hawai'i has been proactively preparing since the threat became a reality. One proactive measure taken has been the creation of a new full service Fire Station, the "Pāhoa Village Fire Station", located within the impact area, in the town of Pāhoa. In addition to Fire Protection Apparatus, the station houses a fully staffed Advanced Life Support Ambulance fully funded by the County of Hawai'i to assist in meeting the acute health care needs of the community. Funding of each county's Emergency Medical Services System is a function of the State of Hawai'i. The current EMS budget provided to the County of Hawai'i by the State of Hawai'i cannot cover the expenses of operating this additional ALS ambulance; State EMS/DOH has indicated they cannot fund it either. For the best interest of the health care needs of lower Puna, the County of Hawai'i Fire Department (HFD) has developed a partnership with private ambulance provider American Medical Response (AMR) to serve in a "back up" role within lower Puna. HFD is also developing a partnership and has conducted training with private air medical service provider Hawai'i Life Flight to assist in patient transport out of the impact area for time sensitive EMS cases.

- In 2007-2008 the Puna district accounted for 3,970 or 21% of all EMS calls in the County of Hawai'i.
- In 2013-2014 the Puna district accounted for 5,149 calls or 27% of all EMS calls in the County of Hawai'i.

The District of Puna is roughly the size of the Island of Kauai, has a population of 45,326 and has become one of the fastest growing districts in the State of Hawai'i with a population increase of 44% since 2000. Over the next 15 years the population of Puna is expected to grow to 75,000, nearly half the current population of Hawai'i Island.

Access to primary health care in Puna is challenging for the community, for many Puna residents primary care services are as much as 30 miles away, coupled with economic and transportation challenges EMS has become the access point for health care to many in Puna. This will be even more dominant in the face of isolation from the lava flow event.

The volume of EMS calls have crept up year by year with no increase in EMS services to the Puna district; with the projected population increase this will no doubt continue and impact our ability to deliver high quality EMS services. As mentioned 911 EMS cases in Puna account for more than 27% of all 911 calls in Hawai^t County, to compound this, the round trip time from response to back in quarters on a patient transport is approximately two hours with the current roadway infrastructure in place. This will increase to a 4 hour minimum once the lava flow crosses Highway 130. It is become common for Medics 5 and 10 to have ten or more transports in a twenty-four hour shift the resulting simple math means; our personnel can essentially be on

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair March 23, 2015 Page 3

the road for nearly twenty-four consecutive hours. As a result the potential for fatigue, errors in judgment, driving and overall safety are of great concern for our personnel.

This increase in Puna's call volume is also having a collateral impact on two of our departments busiest units located in Hilo (Medic's 1 and 3) who respond to a combined 34 % of all Hawai'i County 911 EMS calls. Medic's 1 and 3 cover the Puna District when the Puna units are unavailable. Since 2007 there has been a 50% increase in responses from Medics 1 and 3 into the Puna District and there are numerous times when the majority of our East Hawai'i EMS assets Medics 1, 3, 5, 10, 19 are all covering calls in the Puna District leaving the most populated area (Hilo) without adequate services. This has resulted in increased 911 back costs to AMR. In the 2011 – 2014 fiscal periods we averaged nearly \$15,000 per month in 911 back up charges to AMR.

This request is presented to meet the ever-increasing demands for Emergency Medical Services on Hawai'i Island specific to Puna (with collateral effects in Hilo), its needs based on the impending lava flow induced isolation, and aiding our department in maintaining the highest level of EMS delivery to the community as its needs change.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 808-932-2903 or <u>fire@hawaiicounty.gov</u> should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/1e-

DARREN J. ROSARIO Fire Chief

DANIEL K. PALEKA JR. Council District 5 – Puna Mauka



Phone: (808) 961-8026 Fax: (808) 961-8912 Email: dpaleka@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawaiʻi 25Aupuni Street, Suite 1402 Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Testimony in support of Senate Bill 1016 SD 1

Aloha Honorable Senators,

Mahalo for this opportunity to submit the following testimony. I am in favor of the above referenced measure whose purpose is to fund a much needed advance life support ambulance in the Puna District where the steep rise in population, the rapid rate of increase in the amount of emergency calls requiring such service and the exacerbated situation of the current lava flow all support the dire need of the life support ambulance.

I pray you find the funding of this emergency equipment to be based in Puna essential to the core public safety duties of our government and urge you to vote in favor of this legislation.

Mahalo,

Dane & Paly

Daniel K. Paleka Jr.

VALERIE T. POINDEXTER

Council Vice Chair Council District 1



 Phone:
 (808) 961-8828

 Fax:
 (808) 961-8912

 Email:
 vpoindexter@co.hawaii.hi.us

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i Hawai'i County Building 25 Aupuni Street, Suite 1402 Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

March 23, 2015

House Committee on Health Representative Della Au Belatti Email: repbelatti@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: Hearing: Testimony Supporting SB1016, SD1, Relating to an Ambulance for Puna March 25, 2015, 8:45 a.m., Room 329

Dear Representative:

On behalf of myself and the constituents of Council District 1 in Hamakua, County of Hawai'i, I would like to express our support of SB1016, SD1, and submit a brief testimony as follows:

This bill appropriates funds for one advanced life support ambulance to be based in Puna on the island of Hawai'i, including the acquisition of a vehicle, equipment, and state-certified emergency medical personnel costs. These funds are vital for the health and safety of our public and are needed for tourism related accidents island-wide.

I strongly support and urge the enactment of SB1016, SD1. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

nie J. Paindexter

Valerie T. Poindexter, Council Member District 1, Hamakua

VP/sc

Hawai'i County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

DENNIS "FRESH" ONISHI Council Member District 3



PHONE: (808) 961-8396 FAX: (808) 961-8912 EMAIL: donishi@co.hawaii.hi.us

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

March 23, 2015

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair and Members of the House Committee on Health

Dear Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in <u>support</u> of Senate Bill No. 1016 SD1, which would appropriate funds to establish an advanced life support ambulance to be based in Puna, including through acquiring a vehicle and equipment and funding personnel costs for state-certified emergency medical services personnel.

The residents of Puna are in dire need of an additional advanced life support ambulance to augment the current Hawai'i County Fire Departments emergency medical services system.

With its rapid population growth and a projection of seventy-five thousand residents within the next fifteen years, the district of Puna must be supplied with adequate emergency resources that will accommodate the growing demand.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this bill.

Sincerely,

Dennis "Fresh" Onishi Hawaiʻi County Council Member

Hawai'i County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

creagan3 - Karina

From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachments: Ilagan, Greggor <Greggor.Ilagan@hawaiicounty.gov> Monday, March 23, 2015 1:20 PM HLTtestimony SB 1016 support RES 070 Draft 01 2014-2016.pdf

Aloha,

On behalf of the Hawai'i County Council, I would like to submit the attached resolution in support of Senate Bill 1016.

Sincerely,

Greggor Ilagan, Council Member District 4 | Hawai'i County Council

Mail: 25 Aupuni Street | Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 Direct: (808) 965-2713 | Fax: (808) 965-2707 Email: <u>gilagan@hawaiicounty.gov</u> Website: <u>http://puna4.com</u> COUNTY OF HAWAI'I



STATE OF HAWAI'I

RESOLUTION NO. 70 15

A RESOLUTION URGING THE HAWAI'I STATE LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AN ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT AMBULANCE TO BE BASED IN PUNA, AS PROVIDED IN SENATE BILL NO. 1016 AND HOUSE BILL NO. 851.

WHEREAS, the district of Puna is the fastest growing and most underserved in the State, with a current population of more than 45,000 individuals served by three ambulances; and

WHEREAS, the district of Puna has recorded on average 180 emergency medical services incidents per month for the last five years; and

WHEREAS, an active lava flow from Kīlauea volcano poses a long-term threat to Highway 130, cutting off critical access to emergency health care, delaying the response time, and endangering the lives of thousands of people who are unable to relocate; and

WHEREAS, an additional advanced life support ambulance in Puna, plus funding for equipment and personnel costs as provided in Senate Bill No. 1016 and House Bill No. 851 will improve access to emergency health care, reduce the response time, and save lives; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HAWAI'I that the Legislature is urged to support funding for an advanced life support ambulance in Puna, as provided in Senate Bill No. 1016 and House Bill No. 851.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Council supports all efforts by the Legislature to improve access to emergency health care for residents and visitors on Hawai'i Island.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the County Clerk shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the Honorable Senator Josh Green, the Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, the Honorable Representative Della Au Belatti, the Honorable Representative Sylvia J. Luke, and the Director of the Department of Health.

Dated at _____, Hawai'i, this _18th_ day of _____, 2015.

INTRODUCED BY:

EMBER, COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

COUNTY COUNCIL County of Hawai'i Hilo, Hawai'i

I hereby certify that the foregoing RESOLUTION was by the vote indicated to the right hereof adopted by the COUNCIL of the County of Hawai'i on <u>February 18, 2015</u>.

ATTEST:

Subul

COUNTY CLERK

CHAIRPERSON & PRESIDING OFFICER

I	ROLL CALI	VOTE		
	AYES	NOES	ABS	EX
CHUNG	Х			
DAVID	X			
EOFF	X		·	
ILAGAN	X			
KANUHA	X			
ONISHI	X			
PALEKA	X			
POINDEXTER	Х			
WILLE	X			
	9	0	0	0
Reference:	C-10	08/Waive	ed GRED	С
RESOLUTION NO.	H	70 19	5	

From the office of -Council Member District 4 – Puna Makai



Office: (808) 965-2712 Fax: (808) 965-2707 Email: gilagan@hawaiicounty.gov

GREGGOR ILAGAN 25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

March 24, 2015

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair And Members of the Committee on Health

Dear Representative Belatti and Committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 1016, SD1. I am grateful for your Committee's prior support for the urgent health care needs in Puna.

SB 1016 appropriates funds to establish an advanced life support ambulance to be based in Puna, including the acquisition of a vehicle and equipment and personnel costs for state-certified emergency medical services personnel for fiscal years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017.

Access to quality emergency medical care in a rural, fast-growing district such as Puna is literally a matter of life and death. The district remains under a long-term lava threat and the potential exists for the flow to return to Highway 130 in a matter of months. This bill will keep access to EMS personnel for lava-impacted residents of this State who live on Hawai'i Island.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Greggor Ulagan

Greggor Ilagan Council Member

Maile "Medeiros" David Council District 6 Portion N. S. Kona/Ka'ū /Volcano



Phone: (808) 323-4277 Fax: (808) 329-4786 Email: maile.david@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy. Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

Mach 23, 2015

The Honorable Josh Green And Members of the House Committee on Health

Dear Chair Green and Committee Members,

I submit my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill No. 1016 SD1, which would appropriate funds for an advanced life support ambulance to be based in the Puna area, the acquisition of a vehicle and equipment, and funding personnel costs for state-certified emergency medical service personnel.

Due to the significant increase of residents in the Puna area, so is the need for additional emergency medical services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Sincerely,

Maile David

Maile David Council District 6

MD/dmm



HAWAII FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 1463, AFL-CIO 1018 PALM DRIVE | HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814 TEL: (808) 949-1566 FAX: (808) 952-6003 www.hawaiifirefighters.org

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2015

March 25, 2015

Committee on Health

Testimony by Hawaii Fire Fighters Association

S.B. 298 SD1	Relating to Health
S.B. 1016 SD1	Relating to Health

My name is Robert H. Lee and I am the President of the Hawaii Fire Fighters Association (HFFA), Local 1463, AFL-CIO. HFFA represents approximately 2,100 active-duty professional fire fighters throughout the State with more than 345 HFFA members serving the County of Hawaii Fire Department, the only fire-based EMS service among the four County fire departments and State Airport Rescue Fire Fighters.

HFFA <u>strongly supports</u> S.B. 298 SD1 and S. B. 1016 SD1 as Hawai'i Island has experienced a number of factors that justifiably warrants the need for additional Emergency Medical Services (EMS) units, including a population growth; impending destruction of Highway 130 due to the still-active June 27th lava flow; and the sheer land mass of the island.

Access to primary and acute medical care within these areas has been chronically challenging as services are currently as much as 30 miles away for many residents. The volume of EMS calls have slowly increased each year without a correlated increase in EMS services to the areas, and with the projected population growth, this will no doubt continue to impact our ability to deliver high quality EMS services to residents. Given the current circumstances, the outcomes of patients who have an injury or illness in which their treatment is time sensitive, the odds are stacked against them.

The requests presented in both S.B. 298 HD1 and S.B. 1016 SD1 are to aid in meeting the ever-increasing demands for Emergency Medical Services on Hawai'i Island specific to Makalei and Puna, respectively.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and HFFA respectfully requests favorable consideration on these measures.

creagan3 - Karina

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, March 23, 2015 10:12 PM
То:	HLTtestimony
Cc:	mallerysayre@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB1016 on Mar 25, 2015 08:45AM

<u>SB1016</u>

Submitted on: 3/23/2015 Testimony for HLT on Mar 25, 2015 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments: 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 SB 1016. 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 sci ence. 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. This request is presented to meet the ever-increasing demands for Emergency Medical Services on Hawaii Island specific to Puna 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 SB 1016 so that more lives will be saved on Hawaii Island.

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.



THE HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES The Twenty-Eighth Legislature Regular Session of 2015

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

The Honorable Representative Della Au Bellati, Chair The Honorable Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING:	Wednesday, March 25, 2015
TIME OF HEARING:	8:45 a.m.
PLACE OF HEARING:	Conference Room 329
	State Capitol
	415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB1016, SD1 RELATING TO HEALTH

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

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua and I am the State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO (UPW). 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 this measure providing funds to establish an advanced life support ambulance to be based in Puna on the island of Hawaii, including the acquisition of a vehicle and equipment and personnel costs for state-certified emergency medical services personnel.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

creagan3 - Karina

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, March 23, 2015 5:56 PM
То:	HLTtestimony
Cc:	fsayre@mac.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB1016 on Mar 25, 2015 08:45AM

<u>SB1016</u>

Submitted on: 3/23/2015 Testimony for HLT on Mar 25, 2015 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Frank Sayre	Individual	Support	No	

Comments: I strongly support SB 1016. The rural nature of Puna and the long distances make it impossible for ambulances from Hilo to arrive to calls in a timely manner. Once a call is completed there is often another one waiting so it is not uncommon for the ambulance to spend an entire shift on the road.

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.

Nancy Sakamoto 77-361Nohealani St. Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

March 24, 2015

Testimony to the House Committee on Finance Wednesday 8:45 am

Re: SB1016- Relating to Puna Ambulance Services SB298

Aloha Members of this Committee:

My name is Nancy Sakamoto a 52 year resident of Kailua-Kona and counting, in Kona on the Big Island of Hawaii.

Many of my family and friends live on the east side of the island and we also frequent the Puna, Kalapana and Kapoho area to visit friends and enjoy a family camping trip at a family beach house in the Kapoho Beach lot community. It has always been a concern of mine that if there was ever an accident or need to call for an advanced life support ambulance it could not reach us in time if needed for any of my family or friends while visiting the area.

I also have concern on the amount of accidents that happen along the Mamalahoa Hwy. from the Palani Junction to Waimea. As that is our regular access road to take the Saddle to Hilo, I also am concerned on the response time for ambulances servicing this area as well.

I ask that you support to approve SB1016 and SB298 for Makalei.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Nancy Sakamoto

creagan1 - Dannah

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Wednesday, March 25, 2015 5:17 AM
То:	HLTtestimony
Cc:	dtowle@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB1016 on Mar 25, 2015 08:45AM

<u>SB1016</u>

Submitted on: 3/25/2015 Testimony for HLT on Mar 25, 2015 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dick Towle	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii Island is in great need of more emergency equipment to improve response time. I urge the Senate to pass this bill.

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.

creagan1 - Dannah

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Wednesday, March 25, 2015 8:14 AM
То:	HLTtestimony
Cc:	kbfitmaui@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB1016 on Mar 25, 2015 08:45AM*

<u>SB1016</u>

Submitted on: 3/25/2015 Testimony for HLT on Mar 25, 2015 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Paul Strauss	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

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.

creagan1 - Dannah

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 24, 2015 8:21 PM
То:	HLTtestimony
Cc:	kvphawaii@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB1016 on Mar 25, 2015 08:45AM

<u>SB1016</u>

Submitted on: 3/24/2015 Testimony for HLT on Mar 25, 2015 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristi Van Pernis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Both West Hawaii and Puna are fastest growing areas of Big Island. I'm voicing support for critical services such as ambulances and emergency support vehicles for these areas. As a real estate broker, I see population growth area and trends often before they register with many others.. these areas have been underserved and now we're come out of the recession and housing downturn...tourism is back in force...time to get with it and provide these critical life saving measures. Thanks.

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.