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STATE OF HAWAII
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DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
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**Testimony in OPPOSITION to HB1571
RELATING TO FIRST RESPONDERS.**

REP. DAVID TARNAS, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

REP. DELLA BELATTI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HOMELESSNESS

Hearing Date: February 6, 2024

Room Number: 325

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** Undetermined general fund appropriation.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) respectfully opposes HB1571 on
- 3 the grounds that it is unnecessary and requests deferral.
- 4 DOH oversees first responders as part of the state's comprehensive emergency medical services
- 5 (EMS) system which is funded entirely by the State. As a result, the State of Hawaii, through
- 6 DOH, is already financially responsible for the implementation of new mandates such as
- 7 trainings or certifications for EMS personnel.
- 8 The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs licenses emergency medical technicians
- 9 (EMT) and paramedics, which includes a requirement to receive a certain number of hours per
- 10 year of Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits. Expenses related to CME are generally
- 11 charged back to the state for reimbursement. This is also the case for mandatory trainings, unless
- 12 provided directly by DOH Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention Systems Branch.
- 13 If the intent of this measure is to clarify the State's financial obligation to non-health or non-
- 14 EMS-related first responders, such as law enforcement or firefighters, then amending chapter
- 15 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, "Department of Health," is inappropriate.
- 16 As such, DOH requests deferral of this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-1571

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 7:51:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tamara Paltin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB1571, makes sense

Mahalo,

Tamara Paltin