

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWÉ LAULĀ
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE COMMITTEE ON

WATER AND LAND

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024, 9:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 430 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

H.C.R. 97

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO PLAN AND CONSTRUCT A HAWAII FIRST RESPONDERS MEMORIAL.

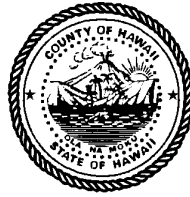
Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.C.R. 97.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) **supports** H.C.R. 97 which requests that DAGS establish a working group to plan and construct a Hawai'i First Responders Memorial. We would be honored to help lead this important effort to lay the foundation for a memorial that would recognize the selfless sacrifices made by our first responders in service to our community. The working group will submit a report to the legislature by November 30, 2024, which will include preliminary plans, findings, recommendations, projected costs, and recommendations for legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

Mitchell D. Roth
Mayor

Deanna Sako
Managing Director



Kazuo S. K. L. Todd
Fire Chief

Eric H. Moller
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 15, 2024

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR HCR97/HR81 & SCR46/SR34 FROM THE HAWAII FIRE DEPARTMENT

Aloha Honorable Members of the Legislature,

I write to you as the Fire Chief of the Hawaii Fire Department (HFD), directly advocating for your support and approval of House Concurrent Resolution No. 97 (HCR97), House Resolution No. 81 (HR81), Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 46 (SCR46), and Senate Resolution No. 34 (SR34). These resolutions aim to establish a working group under the Department of Accounting and General Services for the planning and construction of a Hawaii First Responders Memorial.

The necessity for a memorial that honors the sacrifices of Hawaii's first responders cannot be overstated. Our first responders—firefighters, paramedics, lifeguards, medical flight nurses, and pilots—demonstrate unwavering bravery and commitment to the safety of our communities. Recognizing their sacrifices through a dedicated memorial is not only a tribute but a fundamental act of acknowledgment and respect for their service.

The proposed legislation encompasses a collaborative effort, calling for the involvement of fire chiefs from all counties, ocean safety experts, and the families of fallen first responders. This inclusive approach ensures the memorial accurately reflects the values and sacrifices of our first responder community.

The HFD is fully prepared to engage in the working group and contribute to the development of a memorial that serves as a lasting tribute to those who have given their lives in the line of duty. This initiative represents more than just the construction of a physical structure; it symbolizes our state's recognition and appreciation of the courage and selflessness inherent in the profession of first responders.

Your support for HCR97, HR81, SCR46, and SR34 is crucial. By backing these resolutions, you affirm the state's commitment to honoring the legacy and sacrifices of Hawaii's first responders. We ask for your decisive action in supporting these resolutions to ensure that the valor and dedication of our heroes are forever commemorated.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your ongoing support for the safety and well-being of the people of Hawaii.

With warmest aloha,


KAZUO S. K. L. TODD
Fire Chief



HCR-97

Submitted on: 3/18/2024 8:38:40 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tiffany Lightfoot	Global Medical Response (American Medical Response)	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you to the Committee on Water and Land for hearing HCR97 relating to a Hawaii First Responder Memorial. We are in **strong support** of HCR97.

Our fallen first responders will never be forgotten. A Hawaii First Responder Memorial will help our community cope with these unimaginable losses.

Thank you for allowing us to submit testimony in **strong support** of HCR97.



UNITED PUBLIC WORKERS

AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024**

COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Chair
Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 19, 2024, 9:30 AM
Conference Room 430 & Videoconference

Re: Testimony on HCR97/HR81 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO PLAN AND CONSTRUCT A HAWAII FIRST RESPONDERS MEMORIAL

Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee:

The United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO (“UPW”) is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which includes blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 1 and institutional, health, and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties.

UPW **supports** HCR97 and HR81, which requests the Department of Accounting and General Services (“DAGS”) to establish a working group to plan and construct a Hawaii First Responders Memorial.

As the exclusive representative for the emergency medical technicians (“EMT”) and paramedics employed by the City and County of Honolulu, we believe that those first responders who have made the ultimate sacrifice while courageously serving our community should forever be honored with an appropriate memorial.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kalani Werner", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kalani Werner
State Director

HEADQUARTERS

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Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-1914
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362 East Lanikaula Street
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Toll Free - Molokai/Lanai only



Honoring Our Heroes

March 19, 2024

The Honorable Linda Ichiyama, Chair
Committee on Water & Land
Conference Room 430
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: STRONG SUPPORT- H.C.R. 97 Requesting the Department of Accounting and General Services to establish a working group to plan and construct a Hawaii First Responders Memorial

Aloha Chair Ichiyama;

On behalf of the Board of Directors for the Hawaii Law Enforcement Memorial for Fall Law Enforcement Officers in the State of Hawaii, we would like to express our strong support for House Concurrent Resolution to establish a working group to plan and construct a Hawaii First Responders Memorial.

Completed in 2016, the Hawaii Law Enforcement Memorial offers a place of honor for those law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving the people of Hawaii. It is a place where family, friends, fellow law enforcement officers and the public can visit and remember those men and women who died in the line of duty.

The Hawaii First Responder Memorial would provide a similar Memorial to honor fire fighters, lifeguards, paramedics/emergency medical technicians, and medical flight nurses and pilots. It is absolutely vital that we remember these heroes who died in the line of duty while serving the people of Hawaii.

On a personal note, I personally knew and worked with MICT Mandy Shiraki, and Fire Fighters Cliff Rigsbee and Peter Crown who all died in service to their community. It is only proper that we honor these heroes of our community. They deserve a Memorial so that we can all remember their sacrifices.

The Hawaii Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation strongly supports House Concurrent Resolution 97.

I can be reached via email at hpd1670@aol.com or at (808) 223-4820 for further information.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kurt Kendro".

Kurt Kendro, MS, Major (Retired)
President, HLEMF Board of Directors

Testimony on HCR 97/HR 81

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO PLAN AND CONSTRUCT HAWAII FIRST RESPONDERS' MEMORIAL.

Honorable Linda Ichiyama Chair of Committee on Land and Water

House of Representatives

Hawaii State Capital Room 430

415 S Beretania Street

Honolulu HI

Aloha Chair Ichiyama, Co-Chair Poepoe and Members on Water and Land Committee

I am Eddie Fujioka a Retired Honolulu EMS District Chief and Paramedic of 42 years of Service. Also, as a young Medic I have been employed as a Flight Paramedic for Hawaii Air Ambulance. I am here today to testify in strong support on requesting the Department of Accounting and General Services to establish a working group to plan and construct a Hawaii First Responder Memorial.

I urge this committee to pass HCR/HR 81 so the process can begin in planning, design and construction can begin as soon as possible. During Spring of 2023 I began an assessment on the viability of the Memorial. After reaching out to various organizations Nationally and locally I am convinced it is a viable project. Soon after beginning the assessment the Lahaina Fire happened.

Hearing the courageous stories of all first responders during the raging fires and how they placed their personal safety at risk to save others gave me a sense of pride as a former first responder. How proud of was of all of them, then I realized they could have perished in the fire too. Where and how would we memorialize them. Law enforcement has a Memorial but there is none for all other first responders. We have already lost too many in the line of duty.

It's time we honor those that pay the highest price as first responders, we are not asking for any funds. We will find a way to build and maintain it. **The Memorial will be a living monument representing all non-Law Enforcement First Responders Professionals and their families, past, present and future.**

Thank you for allowing me to testify,

Edward Fujioka

Retired EMS District Chief

HCR-97

Submitted on: 3/18/2024 7:46:41 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorrin Okumura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in Support of HCR97.

Mahalo,

Lorrin Okumura



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Thirty-Second Legislature, State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
Committee on Water and Land

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association

March 19, 2024

H.C.R 97 — RELATING TO FIRST RESPONDERS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the purpose and intent of H.C.R 97 which requests the Department of Accounting and General Services to establish a working group to plan and construct a Hawaii First Responders Memorial.

As Hawaii's largest public sector union, we represent Ocean Safety and Water Officers (Lifeguards), organized into bargaining unit 15. At times, lifeguards respond to crisis situations which requires them to make lightning-fast decisions that could mean the difference between life and death. They put themselves in harms way and at times, risk their lives, to ensure that residents and visitors can safely enjoy our beaches. However, unlike law enforcement officers, lifeguards and other first responders don't have a memorial, therefore we greatly appreciate the intent of this resolution to include a first responder memorial for non-law enforcement personnel.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of H.C.R. 97.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director