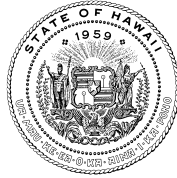


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN  
COMPTROLLER  
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ  
  
MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN  
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

**STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE 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 LABOR**

MARCH 31, 2026, 10:00 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 309 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

H.C.R. 92 / H.R. 84

ENCOURAGING THE STATE TO EXAMINE REQUIRING AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS IN ALL STATE-OWNED BUILDINGS AND PURSUE EXISTING AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR PROGRAMS.

Chair Sayama, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on H.C.R. 92 / H.R. 84.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) offers **support** on this resolution encouraging the state to examine requiring automated external defibrillators (AED) in all state-owned buildings and pursue existing automated external defibrillator programs.

Sudden cardiac arrest is one of the leading causes of death in the United States, and rapid access to early defibrillation is one of the most effective ways to save lives. These measures reflect a thoughtful, proactive approach to public health and facility safety, aligns with national best practices and reinforces the State's responsibility to

safeguard employees, visitors, and the public.

As of the date of this testimony, DAGS has completed the installation of AEDs in DAGS-managed facilities in our East Hawaii, West Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui district offices. Training has also been completed in all of our district offices. We continued to push forward to complete the installation of AED in our Oahu DAGS-managed facilities with 41 of 119 installed at this point in time. We have also conducted training for those facilities on Oahu that have AEDs installed. We look forward to completing installation of all AEDs in our Oahu DAGS-managed facilities by the end of July 2026.

The department would also like to clarify that DAGS does not manage or have oversight of all state facilities. It is important for legislators and the general public to understand and be aware that there are state departments that have direct control and oversight over their respective facilities. Should an effort be made to expand the installation of AEDs into non-DAGS-managed facilities, it will be necessary to engage those departments with that oversight.

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



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 03/31/2026

**Time:** 10:00 AM

**Location:** 309 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

**Committee:** LAB

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** HCR92, ENCOURAGING THE STATE TO EXAMINE REQUIRING AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS IN ALL STATE-OWNED BUILDINGS AND PURSUE EXISTING AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR PROGRAMS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Encouraging The State To Examine Requiring Automated External Defibrillators In All State-owned Buildings And Pursue Existing Automated External Defibrillator Programs.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HCR 92, as expanding access to Automated External Defibrillators (AED) and AED training programs will support local community health and save lives throughout the state.

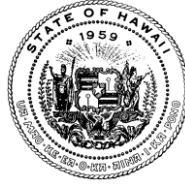
As a result of Act 143, SLH 2023, the Department has already implemented a very robust and active Common Sense (CS) Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Training Program. CS CPR is a Department initiative to provide life skills for students, faculty, and staff, and over time it will contribute to an educated population who are better able to respond to life-threatening emergencies, with correspondingly improved survival rates. The program is an approved course for teaching community responder CPR and AED skills. It is an interactive, hands-on class designed for students seventh to twelfth grade, as well as teachers, faculty, and staff at all Department schools. To date, about twenty Department schools statewide and over 13,000 students, faculty, staff, and student leaders have completed the training. Compliance with AED and CPR training, as well as maintaining first-aid capabilities in the workplace, is also required under OSHA General Industry (29 CFR 1910.151(b)).

The Department requests that funding is provided to support programs and resources related to this resolution, requiring AEDs to be procured and installed in all Department schools and facilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support to HCR 92.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

TIA L. ROBERTS HARTSOCK, MSW, MSCJA  
DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF WELLNESS AND RESILIENCE



STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF WELLNESS AND RESILIENCE  
KE KE'ENA KŪPA'A MAULI OLA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
415 S. BERETANIA ST. #415  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Testimony in SUPPORT of H.C.R. 92

ENCOURAGING THE STATE TO EXAMINE REQUIRING AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS IN ALL STATE-OWNED BUILDINGS AND PURSUE EXISTING AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR PROGRAMS.

Representative Jackson Sayama, Chair  
Representative Mike Lee, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Labor

March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.; Room Number: 309

The Office of Wellness and Resilience (OWR) **SUPPORTS** H.C.R. 92, Encouraging the State to Examine Requiring Automated External Defibrillators in All State-Owned Buildings and Pursue Existing Automated External Defibrillator Programs.

In 2024, OWR partnered with the University of Hawai'i College of Social Sciences to conduct the Hawai'i Quality of Life and Well-Being Survey—the largest statewide assessment of its kind, with more than 8,300 residents participating.<sup>1</sup> Among respondents, approximately 474 residents and nearly 300 state employees reported having a current diagnosis of heart disease.

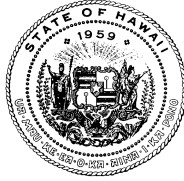
Expanding access to automated external defibrillators (AED)s and AED training programs would help ensure that state employees and the public have timely access to lifesaving equipment during cardiac emergencies. Strengthening AED availability across state facilities is a practical, evidence-informed step toward improving health and safety outcomes for our workforce and communities.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this issue.

Tia L.R. Hartsock, MSW, MSCJA  
Director, Office of Wellness & Resilience

<sup>1</sup> Barile, J.P., Orimoto, T., Kook, J., Chae, S.W., Dgheim, D., Rivera, C., Helfner, S., Turner, H., Thompson, K., Yamauchi, E., Leipold, N., & Hartsock, T. (2024). *Hawai'i quality of life and well-being dashboard*. Partnership for Wellness & Resilience, Health Policy Initiative, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII  
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'



KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH  
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

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

**Testimony in SUPPORT of (HCR92/HR84)  
ENCOURAGING THE STATE TO EXAMINE REQUIRING AUTOMATED EXTERNAL  
DEFIBRILLATORS IN ALL STATE-OWNED BUILDINGS**

REPRESENTATIVE JACKSON D. SAYAMA, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR

Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at 10:00 AM | Room Number: 309

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Position:** The Department of Health (“Department”) is submitting testimony in  
3 support of House Concurrent Resolution 92 and House Resolution 84, which encourages the  
4 state to examine require automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in all state-owned building  
5 and purse AED trainings programs.

6 **Department Testimony:** The Emergency Medical Services & Injury Prevention Systems Branch  
7 (EMSIPSB), on behalf of the Department, respectfully submits this testimony in **support** of this  
8 concurrent resolution.

9 Sudden cardiac arrest remains a leading cause of death, and immediate access to AEDs combine  
10 with trained responders dramatically increases survival rates. Ensuring AEDs are accessible in  
11 state own facilities, alongside widespread training, represents a critical, evidence-based public  
12 health intervention that can and will save lives.

13 **Offered Amendments:** None

14 Mahalo for your consideration and for your commitment to public safety.



March 29, 2026

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of H.R. No. 84, which encourages the State of Hawai'i to examine requiring automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in all state-owned buildings and to pursue existing AED programs.

More than 350,000 people experience cardiac arrest outside of a hospital each year and only about 1 in 10 survive. During cardiac arrest, CPR can double or triple a person's chance of survival and quick use of an AED can further improve those odds. This makes immediate access to AEDs critical.

The American Heart Association recommends key policies to increase survival rates from sudden cardiac arrest. These policies include awareness and education, having cardiac emergency response plans in place, CPR education and AED training and accessibility.

Expanding AED access in state-owned buildings is an impactful step toward strengthening Hawai'i's emergency response infrastructure. Equally important is the resolution's emphasis on education and training. Encouraging the State to explore and expand these efforts will help ensure that more individuals are equipped with the knowledge and confidence to act in an emergency.

Initiatives such as the American Heart Association's "Nation of Lifesavers" campaign emphasize the importance of widespread community training in Hands-Only CPR. Teaching individuals and students in schools how to recognize cardiac arrest and immediately begin chest compressions and use an AED can dramatically improve survival rates from cardiac arrest. Encouraging the State to explore partnerships and expand access to Hands-Only CPR education would further strengthen Hawai'i's emergency response capacity.

Ultimately, increasing access to AEDs and strengthening training programs will save lives, improve community health outcomes, and demonstrate Hawai'i's commitment to public safety.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to support H.R. No. 84.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lauren Simpson-Gomez".

Lauren Simpson-Gomez  
Hawai'i Government Relations Director