



**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 (SB2934 SD1)**  
**RELATING TO AMBULANCES**

SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, March 03, 2026 at 10:17 AM | Room Number: 211

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health (“Department”) respectfully requests  
2 \$1,750,000.00 and recurring funding to support the ambulance unit, staffing, station  
3 operations, and related needs, and requests that this measure be considered as a vehicle to  
4 provide this needed funding so long as it does not supplant the priorities and requests outlined  
5 in the Governor's executive budget request.

6 **Department Position:** The Department is in strong support of this measure offering testimony.

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

10 In partnership with county Emergency Medical Services (EMS) leadership, EMSIPSB has  
11 conducted a comprehensive review and primary needs assessment of ground ambulance  
12 resources statewide, with a forward-looking analysis of system needs over the next five years.  
13 This assessment was informed by current and historical 911 EMS response data, operational  
14 demand, population growth, geographic access, and system performance benchmarks.

15 **Data:** Statewide 911 EMS data clearly demonstrate that Maui County is experiencing sustained  
16 and increasing demand for emergency medical services, particularly within Central Maui. Based

1 on calendar year 2025 Maui County EMS data, there were more than 15,790 total 911 EMS  
2 responses countywide. Of these, over 5,342 emergency responses originated from Central Maui  
3 alone, accounting for more than 34 percent of all EMS responses in the county. The Kahului and  
4 Wailuku service areas, along with the broader Central Maui region, represent the highest  
5 concentration of EMS demand and consistently experience significant resource strain.

6 The Department recognizes that in calendar year 2025, approximately 90 percent of 911  
7 emergent EMS calls across Maui County were responded to in less than 19 minutes. The  
8 Department also monitors quality benchmarks that measure first patient contact time, with a  
9 target that 90 percent of emergent responses achieve first patient contact in less than 11  
10 minutes. Additionally, national EMS benchmarks recommend transport times from scene to  
11 hospital of less than 25 minutes. In Maui County, the current median transport time is  
12 approximately 34 minutes, reflecting the county's geographic challenges and the presence of  
13 remote and rural areas that are not within close proximity to acute care hospitals.

14 While the EMS system continues to perform at a high level given these constraints, EMSIPSB  
15 recognizes that sustained call volume, increasing demand in Central Maui, and longer transport  
16 times place ongoing pressure on unit availability and response reliability. EMSIPSB believes that  
17 the addition of an advanced life support 911 ambulance and associated staffing resources will  
18 improve system resilience, reduce unit hour utilization, and enhance overall quality of care for  
19 Maui County's 911 EMS system.

20 EMSIPSB strongly supports Senate Bill 2934 Senate Draft 1 (SB2934 SD1) that appropriates  
21 funding for an additional 911 advanced life support ambulance to be based in Central Maui.  
22 This request aligns with the Department's strategic, data-driven plan for the placement of  
23 additional 911 EMS resources over the next five years.

1 For these reasons, EMSIPSB strongly believes that the addition of this resource will improve  
2 response reliability, operational efficiency, and overall quality of emergency medical care for  
3 the residents and visitors of Maui County.

4 **Offered Amendments: None**

5 Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your continued  
6 commitment to strengthening Hawaii's EMS system.



**STATE HEALTH PLANNING  
AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO

**JOSH GREEN, MD**  
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

**JOHN C. (JACK) LEWIN, MD**  
ADMINISTRATOR

March 2, 2026

**TO:** SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair  
Honorable Members

**FROM:** John C. (Jack) Lewin, MD, Administrator, SHPDA, and Sr. Advisor to  
Governor Josh Green, MD on Healthcare Innovation

**RE: SB 2934-SD1 -- RELATING TO AMBULANCES**

**HEARING:** Tuesday, March 3, 2026 @ 10:17 am; Conference Room 211

**POSITION:** SUPPORT with COMMENTS

Testimony:

SHPDA strongly supports SB 2934-SD1, with comments.

This bill proposes to purchase one advanced life support (ALS) ambulance and equipment for central Maui along with the personnel needed. As our island population grows, the need to meet the healthcare needs of the population is also necessary.

Central Maui, now facing substantial population growth, lacks an ALS ambulance. This leads to slower response times in medical emergencies, increasing risks of preventable death or long-term disability. An additional ambulance would fill this gap.

The measure's statewide air ambulance component also boosts equity and reliability across all islands. Flexible air coverage complements ground support, saving lives during time-sensitive emergencies.

Thank you for hearing SB 2934-SD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

■ -- Jack Lewin, MD, Administrator, SHPDA

Council Chair  
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair  
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Councilmembers  
K. Kauano'e Batangan  
Tom Cook  
Gabe Johnson  
Tamara Paltin  
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez  
Shane M. Sinenci  
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins



Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services  
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

March 2, 2026

TO: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 3, 2026; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2934, SD1, RELATING TO AMBULANCES**

I support this measure to fund the Department of Health to fund an advanced life support ambulance and related equipment and personnel to be based in Central Maui.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Central Maui's growing population has a significant need for additional emergency services.
2. Funding this effort would help reduce death and disability among residents and visitors by ensuring more timely response to 911 calls.
3. This measure is consistent with Maui Island Plan policy 4.6.1.f: "Encourage expansion and improved access to emergency care in all communities."

Thank you for your consideration.

**SB-2934-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 4:38:00 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/3/2026 10:17:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Kingdon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Legislators:

I am submitting this testimony representing only myself and my community as a citizen, though it is relevant that I am a working paramedic and also have a background in public health and EMS system design.

I am writing in support of SB2934 (and companion bill HB2173) with the following corrections/amendments that I understand are in progress:

- Currently, Central Maui (Wailuku, Kahului, Waikapu, Waiehu, Waihee, Puunene, Sprecklesville) only has *\*one\** state-contracted 9-1-1 ambulance, based in Wailuku. Until corrected/amended, the current language of the bill indicates there are two. A second ambulance currently based in Kahului is a *private* ambulance that focuses on inter-facility transfers and cannot be relied upon for 9-1-1 EMS coverage. Thus, Maui's most populous and high call-volume district has only (1) 9-1-1 ambulance, whereas other highly populated districts such as West, South, and Upcountry Maui each have two. Even Molokai now has two. Other than Central Maui, the only other districts with only one state-contracted 9-1-1 ambulance in Maui County are the rural areas of Lanai and Hana.
- Current language in this bill referencing "air ambulance services" should be removed, as this statute should focus on improvements to our ground EMS coverage. For many years, our Maui County EMS system did in fact include Maui Medevac helicopter services, however since rotor craft service was cleaved from our system by the State of Hawaii Department of Health in the last iteration of its RFP/contract process, air services should not be conflated with ground in this bill. We are fortunate to have a good working relationship with REACH 48, which has taken on sole responsibility for EMS helicopter services within Maui County.

Maui County is in desperate need of this additional asset in our Central district, and I do not use the term 'desperate' lightly. Again, this is the most populous and high-volume district within our system, where population growth and changes in population density are causing further strain. When out-of-district response and ambulance units are called into the 'vortex' of Central Maui, this has a repercussive effect, including depletion of paramedic resources in those other districts. Other first responders such as the Maui County Fire Department are valuable, but are strictly

Basic Life Support (BLS) providers. Maui County EMS is the only Advanced Life Support (ALS) provider, with paramedics on each unit, bringing extensive training and scope of practice including advanced airways, vascular access, dozens of emergency medications, life-saving cardiovascular interventions and cardiothoracic procedures, and other essential ALS assessment and treatment modalities to the patient's side.

An additional ambulance is needed not only for routine response, but also as a crucial asset in the event of multiple casualty incidents (MCI). From frequent moderate-scale MCIs, such as multi-vehicle collisions, to infrequent but large-scale MCIs, such as firestorms and tsunamis, Maui County residents and state legislators should be shocked that once the Wailuku ambulance is on a case, the next-closest state-contracted ambulances would be coming from Kihei and Haiku (over 8 miles and 12 miles from Kahului proper, respectively) - and that is only if those ambulances are in station and not already on calls of their own. We do have one paramedic special response unit based in Ma'alea, which provides rapid response to districts including Central Maui, but as our only unit capable of and nationally recognized for special operations including marine ALS (launching with Coast Guard Station Maui), tactical paramedicine (embedding with Maui Police SRT), and medical incident command (such as at the August 2023 firestorms), this unit needs to be preserved as a non-transporting specialized asset - but does need plentiful ambulances to whom a response unit paramedic may delegate patients as they triage casualties.

The community will suffer longer response times and increased morbidity and mortality without improvement of our coverage via the crucial addition of this Central Maui ambulance.

Thank you for your serious consideration.

Sincerely,

David Kingdon, MPH, Paramedic  
Wailuku, Hawaii

**SB-2934-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 5:48:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/3/2026 10:17:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
douglas vant groenewout	Testifying for AMR ambulance	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear legislators... i see a wonderfully written testimony that anyone can (and hopefully wil) adhere their name to and submit in support of this necessary bill.. bu tlet me say in addition to what it says.

It is indefensible to not pass this senate bill as mentioned. I am a 37 year medic born and bred on maui, serving maui's people. TIME IS TISSUE (heart , lung and brain) and this time factor to services is getting longer and longer.. the medics that are busting their okoles to provide such services to your public are becoming extremely overworked and reaching theri limit (look up UNIT HOUR UTILIZATION of an ambulance,,the central ambulance units are nearing its peak) please the people, your people, a better chance to live and the medics a long OVERDUE breather between calls.. mahalo. doug vant groenewout MICT maui county

**SB-2934-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2026 11:28:30 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/3/2026 10:17:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jordon Takakura-Puha	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Legislators:

My name is Jordon Takakura-Puha, and I am the OTL of Medic 1, your only 911 contracted ambulance serving the Central Maui area.

I am submitting this testimony representing only myself and my community as a citizen, though it is relevant that I am a working paramedic.

I am writing in support of HB2173 (and companion bill SB2934) with the following corrections/amendments that I understand are in progress:

- Currently, Central Maui (Wailuku, Kahului, Waikapu, Waiehu, Waihee, Puunene, Sprecklesville) only has \*one\* state-contracted 9-1-1 ambulance, based in Wailuku. Until corrected/amended, the current language of the bill indicates there are two. A second ambulance currently based in Kahului is a private ambulance that focuses on inter-facility transfers and cannot be relied upon for 9-1-1 EMS coverage. Thus, Maui's most populous and high call-volume district has only (1) 9-1-1 ambulance, whereas other highly populated districts such as West, South, and Upcountry Maui each have two. Even Molokai now has two. Other than Central Maui, the only other districts with only one state-contracted 9-1-1 ambulance in Maui County are the rural areas of Lanai and Hana.
- Current language in this bill referencing "air ambulance services" should be removed, as this statute should focus on improvements to our ground EMS coverage. For many years, our Maui County EMS system did in fact include Maui Medevac helicopter services, however since rotor craft service was cleaved from our system by the State of Hawaii Department of Health in the last iteration of its RFP/contract process, air services should not be conflated with ground in this bill. We are fortunate to have a good working relationship with REACH 48, which has taken on sole responsibility for EMS helicopter services within Maui County.

Maui County is in desperate need of this additional asset in our Central district, and I do not use the term 'desperate' lightly. Again, this is the most populous and high-volume district within our system, where population growth and changes in population density are causing further strain. When out-of-district response and ambulance units are called into the 'vortex' of Central Maui, this has a repercussive effect, including depletion of paramedic resources in those other districts. Other first responders such as the Maui County Fire Department are valuable, but are strictly Basic Life Support (BLS) providers. Maui County EMS is the only Advanced Life Support (ALS) provider, with paramedics on each unit, bringing extensive training and scope of practice including advanced airways, vascular access, dozens of emergency medications, life-saving cardiovascular interventions and cardiothoracic procedures, and other essential ALS assessment and treatment modalities to the patient's side.

An additional ambulance is needed not only for routine response, but also as a crucial asset in the event of multiple casualty incidents (MCI). From frequent moderate-scale MCIs, such as multi-vehicle collisions, to infrequent but large-scale MCIs, such as firestorms and tsunamis, Maui County residents and state legislators should be shocked that once the Wailuku ambulance is on a case, the next-closest state-contracted ambulances would be coming from Kihei and Haiku (over 8 miles and 12 miles from Kahului proper, respectively) - and that is only if those ambulances are in station and not already on calls of their own. We do have one paramedic special response unit based in Ma'alaea, which provides rapid response to districts including Central Maui, but as our only unit capable of and nationally recognized for special operations including marine ALS (launching with Coast Guard Station Maui), tactical paramedicine (embedding with Maui Police SRT), and medical incident command (such as at the August 2023 firestorms), this unit needs to be preserved as a non-transporting specialized asset - but does need plentiful ambulances to whom a response unit paramedic may delegate patients as they triage casualties.

The community will suffer longer response times and increased morbidity and mortality without improvement of our coverage via the crucial addition of this Central Maui ambulance. As the OTL of your only 911 contracted ambulance serving the central area of Maui, I can tell you first hand the strain this puts on not only us, the workers, but also the community for which we serve. If we don't address this issue now, we only fall further and further behind a rapidly growing population. And if you need a reference of what being behind on a rapidly growing population looks like, please refer to Honolulu EMS (I spent 7 years stationed in their metropolitan area, and the workload here in the Central Maui area is beginning to feel all too familiar). With that being said, I personally don't want to see my home island/ community suffer because of the lack of resources to accommodate. Let's make the right decision for Maui County.

Thank you for your serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Jordon Takakura-Puha Paramedic/ OTL Medic 1

**SB-2934-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2026 11:50:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/3/2026 10:17:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shelly Sato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Testimony in Support of HB2173 / SB2934**

**Shelly Sato, EMT/Paramedic**

**Team Leader, Medic 9 – Molokai EMS Station**

Submitted as a private citizen

Legislators,

My name is Shelly Sato. I am an EMT and the Team Leader of Medic 9 at the Molokai EMS Station. I submit this testimony in support of HB2173 and its companion bill SB2934 in my capacity as a private citizen and community member. While I speak only for myself, my perspective is informed by daily operational experience within Maui County’s EMS system.

I strongly support this bill with the following necessary corrections and clarifications:

First, the bill’s current language indicates that Central Maui has two state-contracted 9-1-1 ambulances. This is inaccurate. Central Maui — including Wailuku, Kahului, Waikapu, Waiehu, Waihee, Puunene, and Sprecklesville — has only one state-contracted 9-1-1 ambulance based in Wailuku.

The second ambulance based in Kahului is a private inter-facility transfer unit. It does not provide reliable 9-1-1 emergency response coverage and cannot be counted as part of the state emergency response infrastructure. As written, the bill must be corrected to reflect this reality.

Central Maui is the most populous and highest call-volume district in Maui County, yet it operates with only one state-contracted 9-1-1 ambulance. By comparison, West Maui, South Maui, and Upcountry Maui each have two. Molokai now has two. The only other districts with a single state-contracted ambulance are the rural areas of Lanai and Hana.

This imbalance places significant operational strain on the entire county.

When the sole Central Maui ambulance is committed to a call, units from Kihei or Haiku must backfill coverage — if they are available. That places response resources over 8 to 12 miles away from Kahului proper, often during high-volume periods. The ripple effect depletes paramedic coverage across multiple districts, increasing response times countywide.

Second, references in the bill to “air ambulance services” should be removed. This statute should focus specifically on strengthening ground EMS coverage. Maui County no longer operates an integrated rotor-wing program within the state EMS contract. Helicopter services are now provided separately by REACH 48. While we maintain a strong working relationship with them, air ambulance operations are distinct from and should not be conflated with our ground response infrastructure in this legislation.

Ground ambulances staffed with paramedics are the backbone of emergency medical response in Maui County.

The Maui County Fire Department provides excellent service as Basic Life Support (BLS) first responders. However, Maui County EMS is the sole Advanced Life Support (ALS) transporting provider. Each ambulance carries paramedics trained in advanced airway management, vascular access, cardiac monitoring and intervention, administration of emergency medications, and other life-saving ALS procedures.

Without adequate ALS transport units, those advanced skills cannot be delivered to definitive care.

An additional Central Maui ambulance is not only necessary for routine call volume, but also critical for multiple casualty incidents (MCIs). Whether moderate-scale events such as multi-vehicle collisions or catastrophic events such as wildfires or tsunamis, the current system leaves the most populated district dangerously under-resourced once the single Central unit is committed.

Maui County does operate a paramedic special response unit based in Ma‘alaea. This unit is nationally recognized and provides marine ALS with the U.S. Coast Guard, tactical paramedicine with Maui Police SRT, and medical incident command — including during the August 2023 firestorms. However, this is a non-transporting specialty resource and must remain preserved for those functions. It depends on sufficient transporting ambulances to whom patients can be delegated during triage.

Without an additional Central Maui ambulance, response times will lengthen, inter-district coverage gaps will widen, and morbidity and mortality will increase. This is not theoretical — it is operational reality.

I urge you to correct the language of this bill and move forward with strengthening ground EMS coverage where it is most urgently needed.

Our community deserves a system that matches its population and call volume.

Thank you for your serious consideration.

Respectfully,  
Shelly Sato

EMT/Paramedic  
Team Leader, Medic 9 – Molokai EMS Station

**SB-2934-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 3:22:08 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/3/2026 10:17:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Speedy Bailey	Testifying for AMR	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support.

**SB-2934-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 9:43:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/3/2026 10:17:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
NATHAN DANG	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Legislators:

I am submitting this testimony as a citizen, representing only myself and my community, though it is relevant that I am a working paramedic.

I am writing in support of HB2173 (and companion bill SB2934). Maui County is in desperate need of this additional asset in our Central district, and I do not use the term 'desperate' lightly. This is the most populous and high-volume district within our system, where population growth and changes in population density are causing further strain. When out-of-district response and ambulance units are called into the 'vortex' of Central Maui, this has a ripple effect, including the depletion of paramedic resources in other districts. Other first responders, such as the Maui County Fire Department, are valuable, but are strictly Basic Life Support (BLS) providers. Maui County EMS is the only Advanced Life Support (ALS) provider, with paramedics on each unit, bringing extensive training and scope of practice, including advanced airways, vascular access, dozens of emergency medications, life-saving cardiovascular interventions and cardiothoracic procedures, and other essential ALS assessment and treatment modalities to the patient's side. An additional ambulance is needed not only for routine response but also as a crucial asset in the event of multiple-casualty incidents (MCIs). From frequent moderate-scale MCIs, such as multi-vehicle collisions, to infrequent but large-scale MCIs, such as firestorms and tsunamis, Maui County residents and state legislators should be shocked that once the Wailuku ambulance is on a case, the next-closest state-contracted ambulances would be coming from Kihei and Haiku (over 8 miles and 12 miles from Kahului proper, respectively) - and that is only if those ambulances are in station and not already on calls of their own. We do have one paramedic special response unit based in Ma'alaea, which provides rapid response to districts including Central Maui, but as our only unit capable of and nationally recognized for special operations including marine ALS (launching with Coast Guard Station Maui), tactical paramedicine (embedding with Maui Police SRT), and medical incident command (such as at the August 2023 firestorms), this unit needs to be preserved as a non-transporting specialized asset - but does need plentiful ambulances to whom a response unit paramedic may delegate patients as they triage casualties. The community will experience longer response times and increased morbidity and mortality without improvement in our coverage through the crucial addition of this Central Maui ambulance.

Thank you for your serious consideration. Sincerely,  
Nathan Dang, Paramedic



To: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means

From: Veronica Moore, Individual Citizen

Date: March 2, 2026

RE: Senate Bill 2934 SD1  
Measure Title: RELATING TO AMBULANCES.  
Report Title: DOH; Emergency Medical Services; Advanced Life Support  
Ambulance; Central Maui; Appropriation (\$)

To All Concerned,

My name is Veronica Moore and I support Senate Bill 2934 SD1. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Veronica M. Moore

**SB-2934-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 8:39:45 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/3/2026 10:17:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
William Mcelroy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Legislators:

I am submitting this testimony representing only myself and my community as a citizen, though it is relevant that I am working as a paramedic.

I am writing in support of SB2934 (and companion bill HB2173) with the following corrections/amendments that I understand are in progress:

- Currently, Central Maui (Wailuku, Kahului, Waikapu, Waiehu, Waihee, Puunene, Sprecklesville) only has \*one\* state-contracted 9-1-1 ambulance, based in Wailuku. Until corrected/amended, the current language of the bill indicates there are two. A second ambulance currently based in Kahului is a private ambulance that focuses on inter-facility transfers and cannot be relied upon for 9-1-1 EMS coverage. Thus, Maui's most populous and high call-volume district has only (1) 9-1-1 ambulance, whereas other highly populated districts such as West, South, and Upcountry Maui each have two. Even Molokai now has two. Other than Central Maui, the only other districts with only one state-contracted 9-1-1 ambulance in Maui County are the rural areas of Lanai and Hana.
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Maui County is in desperate need of this additional asset in our Central district, and I do not use the term 'desperate' lightly. Again, this is the most populous and high-volume district within our system, where population growth and changes in population density are causing further strain. When out-of-district response and ambulance units are called into the 'vortex' of Central Maui, this has a repercussive effect, including depletion of paramedic resources in those other districts.

Other first responders such as the Maui County Fire Department are valuable, but are strictly Basic Life Support (BLS) providers. Maui County EMS is the only Advanced Life Support (ALS) provider, with paramedics on each unit, bringing extensive training and scope of practice including advanced airways, vascular access, dozens of emergency medications, life-saving cardiovascular interventions and cardiothoracic procedures, and other essential ALS assessment and treatment modalities to the patient's side.

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The community will suffer longer response times and increased morbidity and mortality without improvement of our coverage via the crucial addition of this Central Maui ambulance.

Thank you for your serious consideration.

Sincerely,

William McElroy, Paramedic