

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 15, 2006

RE: H.B. No. 2187
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 2187
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to ensure that the rural areas of
Oahu are provided rapid emergency medical transport services by
appropriating funds to the Department of Health (DOH) to contract
with a government agency or a United States military branch to
provide intra-island only roto-wing aeromedical services for rural
Oahu.

The Queen's Medical Center, Hawaii National Guard Association
and Hawaii National Guard Enlisted Association, Hawaii Air
Ambulance, Inc., Pacific Medical Assets, Inc., and several
concerned individuals supported this bill. The City and County of
Honolulu (C&C) supported the intent of this measure. DOH opposed
this bill.

Intra-island only roto-wing aeromedical services for rural
Oahu is an invaluable service to ensure that necessary trauma care
is reached quickly and efficiently for those who live in distant
areas from an appropriately equipped trauma center.



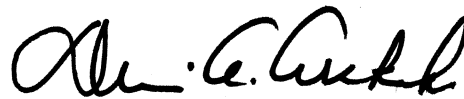
Your Committee also recognizes the problems on the Neighbor Islands where reaching appropriate trauma care can be even more difficult. For example, Kauai is in need of roto-wing aeromedical services to supplement its fixed-wing transport system. Taking this broader perspective, the need to expand these services to the Neighbor Islands should be closely examined.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Providing one additional ground emergency medical services ambulance until the specified intra-island only roto-wing aeromedical services are secured to ensure maximum emergency transport coverage;
- (2) Directing that C&C share in the cost of this program; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2187, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2187, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health,



DENNIS A. ARAKAKI, Chair



