

JAN 19 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COUNTIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in emergencies,
2 which often are matters of life and death, response time is
3 critical. The average time it takes to respond to rescue calls
4 in some of the most congested cities is about fifteen minutes --
5 and longer during rush hours. Rescue workers in the United
6 Kingdom, Italy, Japan, and Malaysia, as well as some smaller
7 cities in the United States, are already authorized to ride
8 motorcycles when responding to rescue emergencies. The Miami-
9 Dade county fire rescue department is believed to be the first
10 major United States metropolitan area to authorize the use of
11 motorcycles when responding to emergency rescue calls.

12 The purpose of this Act is to allow the use of motorcycles
13 and other appropriate vehicles to respond to emergency rescue
14 calls.

15 SECTION 2. Chapter 46, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
16 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
17 read as follows:



1 "§46- Emergency rescue; use of motorcycles and other
2 appropriate vehicles permitted. Notwithstanding any other
3 provision of law to the contrary, the council of each county,
4 subject to approval by the department of health, may enact
5 ordinances to permit the use of motorcycles operated by
6 emergency rescue workers to respond to emergency rescue calls,
7 in addition to any other type of vehicle that is otherwise
8 deemed appropriate as a response vehicle by each county."

9 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

11

INTRODUCED BY: *Shiranni Chun Oakland*
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Report Title:

Emergency Rescue Workers; Use of Motorcycles

Description:

Allows counties to enact ordinances to permit the use of motorcycles operated by emergency rescue workers to respond to emergency rescue calls, in addition to any other type of vehicle that is otherwise deemed appropriate as a response vehicle by each county.

