

FEB 16 2010

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF
ESTABLISHING AN AMBULANCE DISPATCH CENTER ON THE WEST SIDE
OF KAUAI, BASED IN KALAHEO.

1 WHEREAS, the protection and preservation of the health of
2 Hawaii's people is a matter of compelling state interest; and
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4 WHEREAS, emergency ambulance services, available twenty-
5 four hours a day, can help reduce medical emergency deaths,
6 injuries, and permanent long-term disability, and are a key
7 component of the State's comprehensive emergency medical
8 services system; and
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10 WHEREAS, a timely response and immediate transport to an
11 acute care treatment facility are keys to preventing
12 irreversible damage or death; and
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14 WHEREAS, the Island of Kauai has five ambulance units that
15 are located in:

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- 17 (1) Princeville, serving from north of Anahola and the
18 entire north shore;
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 - 20 (2) Kapaa, serving just north of Anahola until north of
21 the Wailua Golf course;
 - 22
 - 23 (3) Lihue, serving from north of Wailua Golf course to
24 Halfway Bridge;
 - 25
 - 26 (4) Koloa, serving from Halfway Bridge to Brydswood; and
27
 - 28 (5) Waimea, serving Brydswood and the entire west side of
29 Kauai;
 - 30

31 and



1 WHEREAS, while the five units have worked out a "back-up"
2 coverage plan that has adequately served the island, it has
3 created hardships for emergency medical services personnel and
4 the public; and

5
6 WHEREAS, more needs to be done in the face of Kauai's
7 population growth, such as:

- 8
- 9 (1) Ensuring coverage for areas such as those in Kalaheo,
- 10 when Waimea or Poipu ambulance units are unavailable;
- 11 and
- 12
- 13 (2) Supporting medical infrastructure and emergency
- 14 resources available at Kauai Veterans Memorial
- 15 Hospital;
- 16

17 and

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19 WHEREAS, although the recent recession has slowed the
20 future planned development for Kauai, the population on the west
21 side of Kauai is projected to increase dramatically; and a large
22 number of residents are elderly persons, which increases the
23 need for immediate emergency care; now, therefore,

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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
26 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the
27 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
28 Health (DOH) is requested to study the feasibility of
29 establishing an ambulance dispatch center on the west side of
30 Kauai, based in Kalaheo; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOH is requested to report its
33 findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than 20
34 days before the convening of the Regular Session of 2011; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
37 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
38 of Health, and Mayor of Kauai.

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Arvid Ylge
Norman S. ...
 OFFERED BY:
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