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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF  
IMPROVING EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION ON THE ISLAND OF  
KAUAI.

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;  
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- 23           (3) Lihue, serving from north of Wailua Golf course to  
24           Halfway Bridge;  
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- 26           (4) Koloa, serving from Halfway Bridge to Brydswood; and  
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- 28           (5) Waimea, serving Brydswood and the entire west side of  
29           Kauai; and  
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31           WHEREAS, while the five units have worked out a "back-up"  
32 coverage plan that has adequately served the island, it has



1 created hardships for emergency medical services personnel and  
2 the public; and

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

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7 (1) Ensuring coverage for areas such as Kalaheo, when  
8 Waimea or Poipu ambulance units are unavailable; and

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10 (2) Supporting medical infrastructure and emergency  
11 resources available at Kauai Veterans Memorial  
12 Hospital; and

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

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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the  
22 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
23 Health is requested to study the feasibility of improving  
24 emergency medical transportation services on Kauai by developing  
25 a more comprehensive coordination plan between ambulance units,  
26 hiring more staff, making better use of volunteers, and  
27 establishing an ambulance unit on the west side of Kauai, based  
28 in Kalaheo, and in any other viable manner as determined by the  
29 Department; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
32 requested to report its findings and recommendations to the  
33 Legislature no later than twenty days before the convening of  
34 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.

