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**PRESENTATION OF THE  
PROFESSIONAL & VOCATIONAL LICENSING DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2011

Friday, January 28, 2011  
2:45 p.m.

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 260, RELATING TO MIXED MARTIAL ARTS.**

TO THE HONORABLE JOSH GREEN, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Alan Taniguchi, Executive Officer with the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department thanks you for the opportunity to submit comments on S.B. No. 260.

The purpose of this bill is to repeal the requirement that an ambulance with paramedics be present at a mixed martial arts ("MMA") event.

Although this amendment may appear to jeopardize the health and safety of an MMA contestant, in reality, it may not be possible for an MMA promoter to comply with the current statute.

On some of the neighbor islands, the only ambulance available is provided by the county, and a private entity is not allowed to hire the county ambulance.

On Oahu, American Medical Response ("AMR"), the only Oahu-based private ambulance company, will not transport an injured contestant to the hospital. According to AMR, if a promoter wanted to transport an injured contestant to a hospital emergency room, the promoter must provide its own transportation or call 911.

Based on the above information, it would appear that promoters are unable to or are having difficulty with complying with the current statutory requirement. Furthermore, the statute requires the presence of two licensed physicians at every event, and they may be able to stabilize an injured contestant until the county ambulance arrives at the scene.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.