



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

## House Committee on Health

### H.B. 379, RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.  
Director of Health

Wednesday, January 30, 2013, 8:30am

1 **Department's Position:** We support this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely  
2 impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget and address revenue stream needed to carryout intent.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** Appropriates \$600,000 in FY14 and FY15 from EMS Special Fund (ESF). The  
4 Department is projecting a shortfall in ESF to fund existing ambulance contracts for FY14 so could not  
5 fund these additional services at that time. Due to increasing cigarette taxes and revenues after July 1,  
6 2014, increased funding will be available.

7 **Purpose and Justification:** This measure proposes an advanced life support emergency medical  
8 services (EMS) unit stationed at Maalaea in Maui County that can rapidly respond to 911 calls in the  
9 surrounding areas. This location is strategically located between the communities of West and South  
10 Maui, overall, an area that has grown in population in the past ten years.

11 Emergency response with a non-transporting rapid response EMS unit at Maalaea could  
12 significantly reduce the response time to serious and critical medical and trauma cases in Maui County,  
13 initiating early treatment and providing additional personnel for multi-victim incidents and for helicopter  
14 transports.

15 We respectfully suggest that the phrase "*state licensed paramedic*" be considered as an  
16 alternative for "paramedic trained in advance life support" in lines 12 and 21 on Page 4.

17 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.