



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**House Committee on Finance**

**S.B. 1254, SD1, RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE**

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

**Monday, April 1, 2013, 2:00 pm**

- 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.
- 3 **Fiscal Implications:** Appropriates funds for FY2014 and FY2015 for pre-hospital emergency medical  
4 services 24 hours a day at Ewa Beach on Oahu.
- 5 **Purpose and Justification:** The Department of Health supported Act 268 of the 2012 Legislature  
6 appropriating one million dollars for a new ambulance unit in Ewa Beach, Oahu. The new unit was  
7 needed to mitigate the closure of Hawaii Medical Center West, and also to serve the growing population  
8 of Ewa and West Oahu. A new Ewa unit was opened this past summer operating out of a temporary  
9 location in Ewa for 16 hours a day. The need for this additional unit in West Oahu is unchanged and  
10 therefore we recommend it become a permanent unit with appropriate funding.
- 11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



---

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

April 1, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 308

**Supporting SB 1254 SD 1: Relating to Emergency Medical Care**

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii advocates for its member organizations that span the entire spectrum of health care, including all acute care hospitals, a majority of home health agencies and hospices, as well as long term care facilities and other health care organizations. Our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing nearly 20,000 people statewide, delivering quality care to the people of Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 1254 SD 1, which appropriates funds to increase the availability of emergency medical services and ambulance services in Ewa Beach.

Access to emergency medical services and ambulance services was severely reduced for the residents of Ewa Beach when Hawaii Medical Center – West closed a little more than a year ago. Ambulances must now take patients considerable distances to emergency rooms elsewhere on Oahu. The ability to provide acceptable levels of emergency medical services to the residents of Ewa Beach has been threatened. This bill will expand emergency medical services and ambulance services in the Ewa Beach community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 1254 SD 1.



# THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

1301 Punchbowl Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 • Phone (808) 691-5900

**S.B. 1254, S.D. 1, RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE**  
**House Committee on Finance**  
**April 1, 2013, 2:00 p.m.**  
**Room 308**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of S.B. 1254, S.D. 1, Relating to Emergency Medical Care. My name is Cindy Kamikawa, Vice President, Nursing, Trauma, ED and Chief Nursing Officer with The Queen's Medical Center (QMC). This measure will provide the Ewa Beach Unit of ambulance services with permanent funding.

The Queen's Health Systems has successfully purchased the former Hawaii Medical Center West hospital. We are planning to re-open as The Queen's Health Systems – West O'ahu in 2014. Still, even with the new facility in place, we believe that the growing population will continue to require the increased ambulance services augmented and supported through this measure.

We urge your support for this measure.

**Monday, April 1, 2013 – 2:00 pm**

**Conference Room 308**

**The House Committee on Finance**

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Representative Aaron Johanson, Vice Chair

From: Jen Chahanovich  
Chief Operating Officer

**Re: SB 1254 SD1 RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE  
Testimony in Strong Support**

---

My name is Jen Chahanovich, Chief Operating Officer for Pali Momi Medical Center. Pali Momi Medical Center is a nonprofit hospital located in West O'ahu. It is dedicated to the health and well-being of all Hawai'i residents. With 126 beds and more than 370 physicians on its medical staff, Pali Momi offers a full range of services. It has delivered many medical firsts for the community, including West O'ahu's only interventional cardiac catheterization unit to detect and treat heart disease, a fully integrated minimally invasive surgical suite, CT scan and MRI services, emergency services, a Women's Center, and the state's first Retina Center. Pali Momi is the only medical facility in Hawai'i that utilizes a team triage approach in its Emergency Room, where patients are promptly evaluated by an emergency physician. The American Heart Association has recognized the hospital for excellence in the treatment of coronary artery disease and heart failure, one of only a few hospitals in the nation. Pali Momi was founded in 1989 and is an affiliate of Hawai'i Pacific Health, the state's largest health care provider.

I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony supporting SB 1254 SD1 which appropriates funds to increase the on-call availability of emergency medical services and ambulance services in Ewa Beach.

For the last 23 years, Pali Momi has continued to respond to the medical needs of West O'ahu. Since the closure of Hawai'i Medical Center-West, we have responded to the growing need for emergency medical services as evidenced by the significant increase in emergency room patients we've cared for this year.

The Ewa Beach Unit is a critical resource and community partner which Pali Momi relies upon to provide timely emergency medical care for our patients. This appropriation will help ensure that our patients have greater access to critical emergency medical services in the Ewa plain.

We ask that you pass this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.