

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LINDA ROSEN, M.D., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

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

In reply, please refer to:
File:

House Committee on Finance

SB 2348 SD2, HD1, RELATING TO HEALTH

**Testimony of Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Health**

Tuesday, April 1, 2014, 2:00 pm

1 **Department's Position:** We support this bill provided its passage does not replace or adversely impact
2 priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** Appropriates an unspecified amount of EMS Special Funds (ESF) for FY2015.
4 The Department is projecting a shortfall in ESF to fund the existing ambulance contracts for FY2015 so
5 could not fund these additional services at that time.

6 **Purpose and Justification:** This measure seeks to augment the Hawaii County emergency medical
7 services system for residents of the Puna and Makalei areas. It calls for vehicles, personnel, and
8 equipment for two advanced life support ambulance units.

9 The Hawaii County Fire Department currently operates 15 ground ambulance units on the island
10 of Hawaii. The last unit added was Unit 3, Hawaii Ocean View Estates, in FY2005.

11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

finance8-Danyl

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 11:53 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: speedy_bailey@amr-ems.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2348 on Apr 1, 2014 14:00PM*

SB2348

Submitted on: 3/31/2014

Testimony for FIN on Apr 1, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Speedy Bailey	American Medical Response	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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THE HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature
Regular Session of 2014

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Honorable Rep. Syliva Luke, Chair
The Honorable Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
The Honorable Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, March 19, 2014
TIME OF HEARING: 8:30 AM
PLACE OF HEARING: Conference Room 329

TESTIMONY ON SB2348 SD2 HD1 RELATING HEALTH

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,
State Director of the United Public Workers,
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO ("UPW")

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua and I am the State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO (UPW). The UPW is the exclusive representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 1 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members of the private sector.

The UPW supports SB2348 SD2 HD1, which makes an appropriation to establish and fund two advanced life support ambulances based in Puna and Makalei on the island of Hawaii, including acquisition of vehicles, equipment, and personnel costs.

With the continual growth in this area we believe that adding these EMS vehicles will save lives and provide needed health care assistance to the residents.

We ask the committee to pass Senate Bill 2348.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

finance8-Danyl

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 11:09 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: csmorimoto@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2348 on Apr 1, 2014 14:00PM

SB2348

Submitted on: 3/31/2014

Testimony for FIN on Apr 1, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Curt S. Morimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: PLEASE PASS THIS life & death bill. Costs will never bring back a life. This is a bill that will save lives as minutes matter when responding with an ambulance. Thank you!!

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William P. Kenoi
Mayor



Darren J. Rosario
Fire Chief

Renwick J. Victorino
Deputy Fire Chief

County of Hawai'i
HAWAII FIRE DEPARTMENT
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March 31, 2014

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Committee on Finance
State Capitol
Conference Room 308
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Luke:

Subject: S.B. 2348 SD2, HD1 Relating to Health

I am Darren J. Rosario, Member of the State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Hawai'i Fire Department (HFD). The HFD support S.B. 2348, makes an appropriation to establish and fund two special emergency medical response vehicle units based in Puna and Makalei on the island of Hawai'i, including acquisition of vehicles, equipment and personnel costs.

The EMS needs of the residents of Puna are centrally served by HFD Medic's 5 and 10 out of the Kea'au and Pahoa Fire stations respectively. These units are strategically based to serve the bulk of Puna's population handling 91% of EMS calls in Puna. Medic 19 out of the Volcano Fire Station serves a less populated area of Puna but fills a wide geographical gap (45 miles) between Kea'au and Ka'u.

- In 2007-2008 the Puna district accounted for 3,970 or 21% of all EMS calls in the County of Hawai'i.
- In 2013-2014 the Puna district accounted for 5,149 calls or 27% of all EMS calls in the County of Hawai'i.

The district of Puna is roughly the size of the Island of Kauai, has a population of 45,326 and has become one of the fastest growing districts in the State of Hawai'i with a population increase of 44% since 2000. Over the next 15 years the population of Puna is expected to grow to 75,000 nearly half the current population of Hawai'i Island.



The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
March 31, 2014
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Access to primary health care in Puna is challenging for the community, for many Puna residents primary care services are as much as 30 miles away, coupled with economic and transportation challenges EMS has become the access point for health care to many in Puna.

The volume of EMS calls have crept up year by year with no increase in EMS services to the Puna district; with the projected population increase this will no doubt continue and impact our ability to deliver high quality EMS services. As mentioned 911 EMS cases in Puna account for more than 27% of all 911 calls in Hawai'i County, to compound this, the round trip time from response to back in quarters on a patient transport is approximately two hours. It is become common for Medics 5 and 10 to have ten or more transports in a twenty-four hour shift the resulting simple math means; our personnel can essentially be on the road for nearly twenty-four consecutive hours. As a result the potential for fatigue, errors in judgment, driving and overall safety are of great concern for our personnel.

This increase in Puna's call volume is also having a collateral impact on two of our departments busiest units located in Hilo (Medic's 1 and 3) who respond to a combined 34 % of all Hawai'i County 911 EMS calls. Medic's 1 and 3 cover the Puna district when the Puna units are unavailable. Since 2007 there has been a 50% increase in responses from Medics 1 and 3 into the Puna District and there are numerous times when the majority of our East Hawai'i EMS assets Medics 1, 3, 5, 10, 19 are all covering calls in the Puna district leaving the most populated area (Hilo) without adequate services. This has resulted in increased 911 back costs to AMR. In the 2011 – 12 fiscal period we averaged nearly \$15,000 per month in 911 back up charges to AMR, and that figure is climbing steadily.

The new Makalei Fire Station in North Kona put into service in 2013, houses a Fire Engine and Hazardous Materials Response unit, the Makalei station fills a gap on Hwy 190 between the Kailua Fire Station and the Waikoloa Fire Station, serving a wide spread community of approximately 45,000 residents, also considered one of the fastest growing districts in the State of Hawai'i.

EMS response time significantly impacts the overall delivery time of the patient to definitive treatment at an emergency room. According to the National Fire Protection Association which creates standards for Fire Service has determined that an EMS Medic Unit crew must respond to a scene within eight minutes. According to NFPA 1710, "This requirement is based on experience, expert consensus and science. Many studies note the role of time and the delivery of early defibrillation in patient survival due to heart attacks and cardiac arrest, which are the most time-critical, resource-intensive medical emergency events to which fire departments respond." Trauma cases are also extremely time sensitive and rapid transport to definitive treatment often makes the difference between life and death.

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair

March 31, 2014

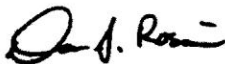
Page 3

The current EMS response within the district comes from Medic 7 (8 miles away) out of the Kailua Fire Station, Medic 12 (15 miles away) out of the Keauhou Fire Station and Medic 16 (27 miles away) out of the Waikoloa Fire Station. Medic 7 and 12 account for 17% of the EMS calls in the County of Hawai'i and in the best circumstances will manage a response time of 8-15 minutes to the district of North Kona; if neither of these units are available the response time from Medic 16 in Waikoloa Village is approximately 25-30 minutes. To compound this the approximate transport time from North Kona to Kona Community Hospital is 25-30 minutes.

Given the current circumstances the outcomes of patients who have an injury or illness in which definitive treatment is time sensitive, the odds are stacked against them in North Kona.

This request is presented to meet the ever-increasing demands for Emergency Medical Services on Hawai'i Island specific to Puna and Kona (with collateral effects in Hilo), aiding our department in maintaining the highest level of EMS delivery to the community as its needs change.

Sincerely,



DARREN J. ROSARIO
County of Hawai'i Fire Chief
SFC Member

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 4:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: tito.villanueva@amr.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2348 on Apr 1, 2014 14:00PM

LATE

SB2348

Submitted on: 3/31/2014

Testimony for FIN on Apr 1, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tito Villanueva	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Delivery of care and treatment during emergent situation is very time sensitive. Please support this bill.

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