

SCR45 / SR 20

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO
WORK WITH THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION AND
OTHER INTERESTED ORGANIZATIONS TO PLAN AND CONSTRUCT A HAWAII
EMERGENCY RESPONDER AND GOOD SAMARITAN MEMORIAL.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



Dean H. Seki
Comptroller

Maria E. Ziellinski
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
DEAN H. SEKI, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEES
ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
AND
TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS
ON
March 11, 2014

S.C.R. 45 / S.R. 20

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO
WORK WITH THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION
AND OTHER INTERESTED ORGANIZATIONS TO PLAN AND CONSTRUCT A
HAWAII EMERGENCY RESPONDER AND GOOD SAMARITAN MEMORIAL

Chairs Espero, Wakai and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to
submit written testimony on S.C.R. 45 / S.R. 20.

The Department of Accounting and General Services supports the intent of S.C.R. 45 /
S.R. 20 and will work collaboratively with the Hawaii Emergency Medical Services Association
and other interested parties if Legislative funding, which does not adversely impact the
Executive Budget, is provided to effectuate the purpose of these measures.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this matter.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2014 10:26 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: outerreef@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR45 on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM

SCR45

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM/TEC on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerry Wright	Maui County Paramedics Association	Support	No

Comments: The Maui County Paramedics Association is in full support of the bill to establish a memorial for the Emergency Medical Services providers who have died in the service of others. The community of EMS providers in Hawaii is small enough that all are impacted by the loss of one of our own. We know the sacrifices and dedication that goes into a career in EMS and find it fitting that those who make the ultimate sacrifice receive recognition and memorialization by the community they served. It is absolutely the least we can do. Please move this worthy effort forward with full support and speed. Jerry Wright President Maui County Paramedics Association

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 5:46 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: csmorimoto@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR45 on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM*

SCR45

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for PSM/TEC on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2014 9:51 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: jusdinz@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SR20 on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM

SR20

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM/TEC on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dina Kanakaokai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My brother was Dist.Chief Paramedic Mandy T. Shiraki. He was a paramedic for the C&C for nearly 30 years. He was also a teacher,a mentor. He was a hero. On Jan.31 2004,while working w/Hawaii air ambulance, his plane went down on Mauna Kea. It took 3 agonizing gut wrenching days to find them. (along w/him was paramedic firefighter Danny Villiaros and pilot Ron Lauerbacher) It has been 10 years, but the pain and loss is still with us.You cannot imagine what we have gone through. But my brother truly loved his job, and I know he would do it all over again. That is what he did, and he was the best. He is my hero. All of the paramedics have knowlege to save lives. You know they got to love their jobs because they surely don't get paid enough. They love their jobs and love what they do. It takes a special person to do what they do, and see all the carnage they see. They are the true unsung heroes. I would love to see a memorial honoring my brother, and all of his brothers and sisters that put they're lives on the line to save a life. They do it everyday. I would also love to honor Marlana Yomes ,Brien eisman, Peter Miller. Their plane went down on Maui 2006. Our heroes deserve to be honored w/a memorial. I honor them everyday. It would be great to be able to take my mother to see her only sons name on a wall in Hawaii. We had to fly to Virginia to get his name on a wall. We want one in our home state of Aloha. Fireman and police have one. It's about time our paramedic heroes get one.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2014 6:35 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: kapena_hill@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR45 on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM

SCR45

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM/TEC on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kapena hill	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing in support of scr 45 which would allow for an EMS memorial to be established and maintained in Hawaii to honor those men and women who lost their lives while helping others. I personally knew many of the fallen, and worked with them. Their loss affected many, and still resonates with us all today. I feel it is important that we honor those and others who will follow by establishing this memorial. I will give family members and others a place to visit and remember, and pay tribute to the fallen, like we are able to do for so many other services. I humbly ask for your support and encouragement so that this can finally become a reality. Thank you- Kapena Hill MICT/Paramedic

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2014 5:32 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: jkimmel5959@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR45 on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM

SCR45

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM/TEC on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
james kimmel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: my name is James Kimmel, I am a paramedic on Maui and I support this bill

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2014 12:48 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: cllahm@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR45 on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM

SCR45

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM/TEC on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Candace Lahm	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: As an EMS worker in the 911 system on Maui, I would like to show my support of SCR 45 for the EMS worker memorial. Thank you! Candace Lahm

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2014 8:53 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: ryan@hawaiipublicadjuster.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR45 on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM

SCR45

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM/TEC on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: No First Responder service touches more lives, or has been responsible for correcting so much suffering than those responders working in the back of ambulances. With its creation in the 1970's, the EMS profession is a young one in which the public is not that familiar with when comparing it to its sister responder agencies of the police and fire departments. This is an amazing way to show gratitude to those who have lost their lives while attempting to save others.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 08, 2014 4:20 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: skynout@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR45 on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM

SCR45

Submitted on: 3/8/2014

Testimony for PSM/TEC on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
william t watkins jr	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Dear Sirs Madams, I personally new several of the EMS personnel that died in the line of duty. I understand a number of firefighters have died in the line of duty too. Including other emergency responders and Good Samaritans is a good idea. Thanks you for your support. William Watkins (Lin)

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March 10, 2014

SCR 45

Report Title: Hawaii Emergency Responder and Good Samaritan Memorial;
Department of Accounting and General Services

Dear Senators:

Just over 10 years ago I submitted my shift availability for work as a paramedic on Oahu. With this I was assigned a weekend 12-hour overnight shift which was good because it allowed me to spend both Saturday and Sunday with my wife and newborn son. The extra money was appreciated, especially since we also just purchased our first home. This was one of several part-time jobs – my primary employment was, and still is, as an instructor at KCC and another part-time job was as a paramedic on Kauai.

Shortly after being assigned that overnight shift I was offered a 48-hour shift on Kauai. After talking with my wife we decided the extra money was too good to pass up so I gave up the short 12-hour shift on Oahu and took the 48-hour shift on Kauai. The Oahu supervisor was ok with it because the shift I gave up wouldn't be hard to fill.

During the evening hours of Saturday, January 31, 2004, while working on Kauai, I received one of many frantic phone calls, the first one was from one of my ex-students who was dispatching for the City and County of Honolulu – she was asking where I was. Many of my students and fellow EMT's and Paramedics knew I moonlighted for Hawaii Air Ambulance. I was proud to work as a flight paramedic and let all of my students and coworkers know this. After telling her where I was she said "they can't find 73V" (one of the airplanes I flew in).

This is the phone call nobody ever wants to receive. Many, if not all on this committee, have at one point in their lives received this phone call. And as what may have happened with you, my heart sunk. I knew something tragic happened. I knew the outcome that often happens once a missing aircraft is found.

I was supposed to be on that plane. That was my shift. Three of my coworkers died that evening.

Ron Laubacher of Waikiki, Mandy Shiraki, and Danny Villiaros, both from Mililani sacrificed for our community. Just two years later, in which the anniversary was just several days ago, Brien Eisaman of Waipahu, Peter Miller of Kailua and Marlana Yomes of Waianae also paid the ultimate price in serving our community.

Each day, dedicated members of the Hawaii EMS community go out into our communities to provide care for those in need during times of crisis. Some do this directly by intervening during a patient's medical emergency. Others do this indirectly by teaching others to provide care or get involved in the development of EMS systems throughout our State.

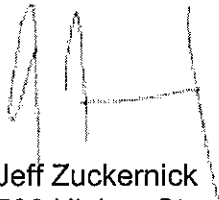
Unfortunately, some of these professionals are victims of an untimely death. Whether the loss of our heroes was due to a line of duty death or an untimely death due to illness, the impact from the loss within our profession is no less dramatic.

While public safety officers from law enforcement and the fire service have been recognized for their sacrifice with memorials, the men and women of EMS have gone without recognition for too long. I believe it is our mandate to finally give these silent heroes a fitting permanent memorial and their loved ones, co-workers, and counterpart's, a permanent place to remember those we have lost.

We can't thank those that sacrificed for us here in Hawaii. Having a Hawaii EMS Memorial would also honor and remember those men and women of our Emergency Medical Service System who gave their lives in the line of duty.

I urge you to support this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JZ', is positioned above the typed name.

Jeff Zuckernick
506 Ulukou Street
Kailua, HI 96734
Code900@aol.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 2:27 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: david@kingdonconsulting.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR45 on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM

SCR45

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for PSM/TEC on Mar 11, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Kingdon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this resolution. It is important that the public understand the service and the sacrifice of emergency responders such as Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics. In spite of the safety culture that we try to promulgate, EMTs and Paramedics will continue to face the possibility of illness, injury, or even death associated with emergency service. EMTs and Paramedics willingly face these dangers to serve their communities, while much of the public has a notably incomplete awareness of the EMS system and its providers. An EMS memorial is one way for the discipline as a whole, and particularly those who have fallen, to gain deserved recognition.

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