
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMERGENCY SERVICES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the counties are
2 typically the first to recognize the need for additional county
3 public safety services such as lifeguards and emergency medical
4 technicians, but must first appeal to the state legislature for
5 funds to address the identified need. The legislature further
6 finds that shifting the responsibility for funding these
7 positions from the State to the counties will enable more
8 efficient and responsive action to address public safety needs
9 as they arise. As these services are essential to the safety of
10 Hawaii's residents and visitors, an increase in general fund
11 transfers to the counties is an appropriate way for the counties
12 to fund these positions.

13 The purpose of this Act is to authorize the director of
14 finance to transfer general funds to the counties to fund
15 lifeguard and emergency medical service personnel positions in
16 the counties.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 36, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
2 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
3 read as follows:

4 "§36- Transfers of general funds to county agencies.

5 Beginning with fiscal year 2016-2017, the director of finance
6 shall transfer general funds to the counties in the total amount
7 of \$ for the counties to employ and maintain lifeguards
8 and emergency medical services personnel in sufficient numbers
9 to ensure public safety, and the total amount shall be allocated
10 as follows:

- 11 (1) Kauai county--14.5 per cent;
12 (2) Hawaii county--18.6 per cent;
13 (3) City and county of Honolulu--44.1 per cent; and
14 (4) Maui county--22.8 per cent."

15 SECTION 3. Chapter 46, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
16 by adding a new section to part II to be appropriately
17 designated and to read as follows:

18 "§46- Lifeguard; emergency medical services personnel.

19 (a) Each county shall employ and maintain lifeguards and
20 emergency medical services personnel in sufficient numbers to
21 ensure public safety.



1 (b) A county may use revenues provided pursuant to section
2 36- to fund positions established pursuant to this section."

3 SECTION 4. Section 249-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

5 "(b) From each annual motor vehicle registration fee, the
6 director shall deposit \$40 into the state highway fund [~~and \$5~~
7 ~~into the emergency medical services special fund]~~."

8 SECTION 5. Section 321-234, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 repealed.

10 [~~"§321-234 Emergency medical services special fund. (a)~~
11 ~~There is established within the state treasury a special fund to~~
12 ~~be known as the emergency medical services special fund to be~~
13 ~~administered and expended by the department.~~

14 ~~(b) The moneys in the special fund shall be used by the~~
15 ~~department for operating a state comprehensive emergency medical~~
16 ~~services system including enhanced and expanded services, and~~
17 ~~shall not be used to supplant funding for emergency medical~~
18 ~~services authorized prior to [July 1, 2004].~~

19 ~~(c) Fees remitted pursuant to section 249-31, cigarette~~
20 ~~tax revenues designated under section 245-15, interest and~~
21 ~~investment earnings attributable to the moneys in the special~~



H.B. NO. 1617

Report Title:

Counties; Lifeguards; Emergency Medical Services Personnel;
General Fund

Description:

Authorizes the state director of finance to annually transfer general funds to the counties to fund lifeguard and emergency medical services personnel positions in the counties. Repeals the emergency medical services special fund.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

