



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on HB 1063 HD 2**  
**Relating to Health**

SENATOR JOSH GREEN, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: Wed., March 18, 2015 1:30 PM Room Number: 414

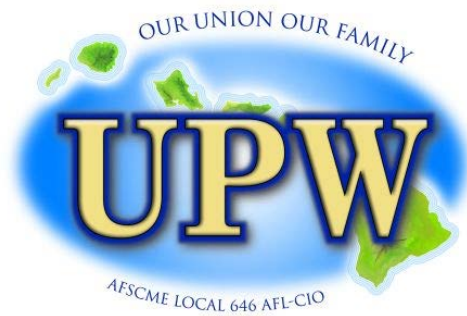
1 **Fiscal Implications:** Appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in fiscal years 2015-  
2 2016 and 2016-2017. The measure requests the state Department of Health to assist the city and  
3 county of Honolulu to operate an additional ambulance unit.

4 **Department Testimony:** The Department respectfully defers to the Governor's Executive  
5 Budget request for the Department of Health's appropriations and personnel priorities.

6 The Department recognizes the significant challenges to providing health care and  
7 emergency services to the Moanalua, Aliamanu, Red Hill, Salt Lake, and Foster Village  
8 Communities. The Department is projecting a shortfall in general funds to fund the existing  
9 ambulance contracts across the state for FY16 and FY17. Funding an additional unit would have  
10 a negative impact on existing services.

11 This measure seeks to augment the City and County emergency medical services system  
12 for the residents and visitors of the Moanalua, Aliamanu, Red Hill, Salt Lake, and Foster Village  
13 areas. The Honolulu City and County Emergency Medical Services currently operates 20 ground  
14 ambulances on the island of Oahu. The last unit added was Ewa Beach in fiscal year 2013.  
15 Honolulu City and County has budgeted funds to secure and administer a backup 911 contract  
16 with American Medical Response to aid with increased 911 calls.

17 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



THE HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
Regular Session of 2015

COMMITTEE ON SENATE HEALTH

The Honorable Senator Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, March 18, 2015  
TIME OF HEARING: 1:30 a.m.  
PLACE OF HEARING: Conference room 414  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**TESTIMONY ON HB1063 HD2 RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE**

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 recognizes the need for additional EMS services in the Moanalua-Aliamanu area, a densely populated area that is currently underserved. This measure will provide for one more emergency services unit to serve the area.

We ask that your committee pass HB1063 HD2.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

HONOLULU EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

3375 KOAPAKA STREET, SUITE H-450 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819-1869  
Phone: (808) 723-7800 • Fax: (808) 833-3934



KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR

MARK K. RIGG  
DIRECTOR

IAN T.T. SANTEE  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

March 16, 2015

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice-Chair  
Committee on Health  
The Senate  
Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2015

Re: HB 1063, HD2, Relating to Emergency Medical Care

Dear Chair Green, Vice-Chair Wakai and Members:

The Honolulu Emergency Services Department, Emergency Medical Service Division, is in strong support of the HB 1063, HD2.

The Emergency Medical Service Division responds to 911 calls for emergencies throughout the island of Oahu. We respond to calls and treat life-threatening conditions daily. Our paramedics and EMTs have to take care of people who are hurt and sick in the worst kinds of conditions. When responding to incidents and to the hospitals with lights and sirens, our personnel put themselves at risk every time. Yet everyday, every paramedic and EMTs go out there and make a difference.

As of today, the Honolulu Emergency Services Department, Emergency Medical Service Division, has 240 uniformed personnel. There are 78 females (32.5%) and 162 males (67.5%) that make up the uniformed personnel.

We have 18 EMS units that are 24-hours, 2 EMS units that are 16-hour units, and 2 non-transport response vehicles that are 16 hours.

The Honolulu District consists of 5 EMS units covering the area from the ocean to the mountain, and west of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue to east of Ala Lilikoi. The average response time is 8 minutes in urban Honolulu.

Over the last 4 years, our total call volume over all has increased 18%. Last year, we responded to 87,557 calls. We transported 52,977. The 5 metropolitan units

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice-Chair  
March 16, 2015  
Page 2

alone responded to 34,798 calls. That is 40% of the call volume. If you include adjacent units Wailupe and Aiea into that figure, since they are constantly covering the town area, it increases to 52%. Over half of our total call volume is run by 7 units. There is a definite need for another ambulance in the Salt Lake/Moanalua area to help out the town units.

The last time an EMS unit was added to the Metropolitan area was in 2005. The Salt Lake/Moanalua area responded to 4,418 calls in the past year. An additional ambulance would allow for more even distribution of the calls, and decrease overall response times.

We, the Honolulu Emergency Services Department, highly support the passage of HB 1063, HD2.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark K. Rigg".

Mark K. Rigg  
Director

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [csmorimoto@aol.com](mailto:csmorimoto@aol.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1063 on Mar 18, 2015 13:30PM\*  
**Date:** Monday, March 16, 2015 6:48:34 AM

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**HB1063**

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Curt S. Morimoto	Individual	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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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [joyamarshall0416@gmail.com](mailto:joyamarshall0416@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1063 on Mar 18, 2015 13:30PM\*  
**Date:** Friday, March 13, 2015 7:25:09 PM

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**HB1063**

Submitted on: 3/13/2015

Testimony for HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joy Marshall	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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