



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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WRITTEN

Testimony COMMENTING on HB 1063 HD 2
Relating to Health

SENATOR JILL TOKUDA, CHAIR

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date: Wed., April 6, 2015 9:05 AM Room Number: 211

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.