

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

P. O. Box 3378
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doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on HB2171
RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE**

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: Mon, February 8, 2016 3pm Room Number: 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health (DOH) respectfully defers to the Governor's
2 Executive Budget for the DOH's appropriations and personnel priorities. HB 2171 appropriates
3 the amount of \$1,800,000.00 of general funds for fiscal year 2016-2017 to the DOH, Emergency
4 Medical Services & Injury Prevention System Branch for an additional ambulance unit including
5 vehicle, personnel, and equipment.

6 **Department Testimony:** The Department recognizes the significant challenges to providing
7 health care and emergency medical services to the expanding communities of Moanalua,
8 Aliamanu, Red Hill, Salt Lake, and Foster Village. This measure seeks to augment the Honolulu
9 emergency medical services system for the residents and visitors of the island of Oahu. DOH
10 contracts and funds Honolulu Emergency Medical Services Division to operate 20 ground
11 ambulances and 2 rapid response units on Oahu.

12 HB 2171 states that between 2011 – 2014 the response time slowed from 8.46 – 9.40 minutes.
13 Using data from the DOH pre-hospital emergency medical database, we examined county
14 ambulance response times for the 6-year period 2010-2015 for Zip code 96718 which
15 approximates the area in question. During the study period, 12% of the ambulance response
16 times exceed the contracted response time 10 minute limit threshold. Adding an additional
17 ambulance unit and personnel resources might improve these 911 response times and allow for
18 optimizing resources countywide.

19 The additional requested vehicle, personnel, and equipment are not in the DOH's fiscal year
20 2016-2017 budget. Should the legislature wish to add this additional unit for \$1.8 million, the

- 1 requisite funds would need to be added to the DOH, EMSIPSB budget for fiscal year 2016-2017
- 2 and beyond.
- 3 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
- 4 **Offered Amendments:** N/A

HONOLULU EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR

MARK K. RIGG
DIRECTOR

IAN T.T. SANTEE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 8, 2016

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Richard Creagan, Vice-Chair
Committee on Health
House of Representatives
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2016

Re: HB2171 Relating to Emergency Medical Care

Dear Chair Belatti, Vice-Chair Creagan, and Members:

The Honolulu Emergency Services Department, Emergency Medical Service Division, supports HB2171.

As of January 11, 2016, we have 18 EMS units and 2 Field Operation Supervisors providing coverage 24/7. The Honolulu District consists of 5 units: Charlie 1, Baker, Metro 1, Makiki and Pawa. Over the last 4 years, our total call volume overall has increased 16%. In 2015, we ran 89,699 calls. The 5 town units alone ran 35,244 calls. That is 40% of the call volume. If you include Wailupe and Aiea into that figure, because they are constantly covering the town area, it increases to 51%. Over half of our total call volume is run by 7 units. There is a definite need for another ambulance to help out the town units in the Moanalua, Aliamanu, Red Hill, Salt Lake and Foster Village areas.

Charlie 1 has the largest call area of all the town units. In the last year, there were 12,766 calls in Charlie 1's area. In the Metro 1/Makiki area, there were 13,029 calls. It is impossible for these units to run all the calls in their area, so everyone shifts over to help cover the area, whether it is another town unit, Wailupe or Aiea coming into town to help. This translates into longer response times and the unit's area being left open for another unit to cover.

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Richard Creagan, Vice-Chair
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In the Airport/Salt Lake/Moanalua area, there were 4,394 calls. By having another ambulance in that area, it would cut down on the amount of calls each unit has to take, allowing the units to have a little more time to restock and decontaminate their ambulance, and finish their charts before having to turn around and run another call. It will also cut down on the response times as well.

In the past 4 years, even though the call volume has increased 16%, the last time we had a new ambulance unit open was the Ewa Beach EMS on July 9, 2012. New units are slow in coming, but the demands of EMS continue to grow every year. Our call volume increased over 10,000 calls from 2013 to 2014, and it will continue to increase every year. In 2014 to 2015 increased by 2,142 calls. The amount of ambulances units that we currently have cannot sustain responding to the increasing amount of call volume that is occurring.

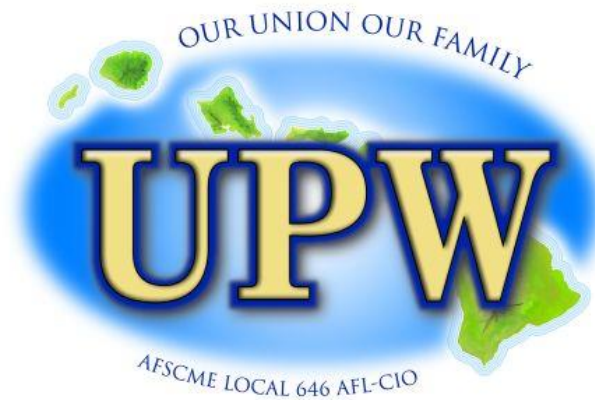
Our goal is to open a new BLS (Basic Life Support) ambulance station in the Moanalua, Aliamanu, Red Hill, Salt Lake and Foster Village areas by July 1, 2016. This year, 31% of our calls were BLS calls. Having a BLS ambulance will free up our ALS ambulances to respond to the critical and serious calls that need the quick response.

We, the Honolulu Emergency Services Department, support HB2171.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian T.T. Santee', with a stylized, looping flourish at the end.

Ian T.T. Santee
Deputy Director



THE HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
The Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2016

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Richard Creagan, M.D., Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: Monday, February 8, 2016
TIME OF HEARING: 3:00 p.m.
PLACE OF HEARING: State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Conference Room 329

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2171 RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE

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

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO. The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 12,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 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 HB2171 which provides funding to operate an additional emergency medical services unit in the Moanalua, Aliumanu, Red Hill, Salt Lake and Foster Village area. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

The UPW supports HB2171 which provides funding to operate an additional emergency medical services unit in the Moanalua, Aliumanu, Red Hill , Salt Lake and Foster Village area. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 5:20 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: joyamarshall0416@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2171 on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM*

HB2171

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joy Marshall	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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HLTtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 3:49 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2171 on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM*

HB2171

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 8, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	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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