

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

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 25, 2015

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair  
Committee on Finance  
House of Representatives  
Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2015

Re: HB 464, Relating to Health

Dear Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members:

The Honolulu Emergency Services Department, Emergency Medical Service Division, is in strong support of the HB 464.

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, ever 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 Liliikoi. 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 Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair  
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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 Kakaako area to help out the town units.

The last time an EMS unit was added to the Metropolitan area was in 2005. The Kakaako/Ala Moana area responded to 7,463 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 464.

Sincerely,



Mark K. Rigg  
Director





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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: Friday, February 27, 2015  
TIME OF HEARING: 11:00 a.m.  
PLACE OF HEARING: Conference room 308  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**TESTIMONY ON HB464 HD1 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 that the population of Kakaako is growing rapidly. In order to support the increasing population, additional EMS services are required. This measure will provide for one more emergency services unit to serve the area.

We ask that your committee pass HB464 HD1.

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

**finance1-Kim**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 25, 2015 6:47 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** csmorimoto@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB464 on Feb 27, 2015 11:00AM\*

**HB464**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 27, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

<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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STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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**Testimony COMMENTING on HB 464 HD1  
Relating to Health**

REPRESENTATIVE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Hearing Date: February 27, 2015 11:00 AM Room Number: 308

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in fiscal years 2015-  
2 2016 and 2016-2017. The measure requests an additional ambulance unit including a vehicle,  
3 personnel, and equipment.

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 Kakaako Community. The Department is projecting a shortfall in  
8 general funds to fund the existing ambulance contracts across the state for FY16 and FY17.  
9 Funding an additional unit would have a negative impact on existing services.

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

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**LATE**

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 3:35 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: speedy\_bailey@amr-ems.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB464 on Feb 27, 2015 11:00AM\*

**HB464**

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 27, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Speedy Bailey	American medical Response	Support	Yes

Comments:

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