



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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WRITTEN ONLY

Testimony COMMENTING on SB 1006
Relating to Health

SENATOR JILL TOKUDA, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date: March 2, 2015 9:00 AM Room Number: 211

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

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

- 6 The Department recognizes the significant challenges to providing health care and emergency services
- 7 to the Kakaako Community. The Department is projecting a shortfall in general funds to fund the
- 8 existing ambulance contracts across the state for FY16 and FY17. Funding an additional unit would have
- 9 a negative impact on existing services.

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

- 15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.