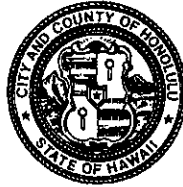


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HONOLULU EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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February 6, 2016

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2016

Re: SB2779, Relating to Community Paramedic Services

Dear Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Kidani and Members:

The Honolulu Emergency Services Department, Emergency Medical Services Division (EMS), would like to provide the following comments on SB2779.

The EMS received nearly 90,000 calls in 2015 and will continue to increase in the upcoming years. To maintain quality and timely emergency medical services for the community, it is necessary to decrease the number of non-emergent and frequent 911 medical calls.

We would like to recommend the funding be appropriated to create a stakeholder group to train qualified Hawaii licensed paramedics to become community paramedics and develop a community paramedicine pilot project for the City and County of Honolulu.

Thank you for allowing EMS to provide comments on SB2779.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ian T. T. Santee".

Ian T. T. Santee
Deputy Director