

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2017

RE: S.B. No. 453

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2017  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,  
to which was referred S.B. No. 453 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL SERVICES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate  
funds for one ambulance unit each for the County of Kauai and the  
County of Hawaii, including equipment, supplies, and personnel  
costs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Office of the Mayor, Kauai County; Hawaii Fire  
Department, County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i State Association of  
Counties; Maui County Council; American Medical Response; Kauai  
Paramedics Association; Kauai County Council; Hawaii Fire Fighters  
Association; Hawai'i Pacific Health; and fifteen individuals. Your  
Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of  
Health.

Your Committee finds that inadequate resources for emergency  
medical services can severely impact people's health, and can even  
be a matter of life and death. Your Committee further finds that  
the critical nature of emergency medical service is especially  
strong in many of the rural areas of the Island of Kauai and the  
Island of Hawaii.

Your Committee further finds that despite significant  
population increases over the past fifteen years, the last time

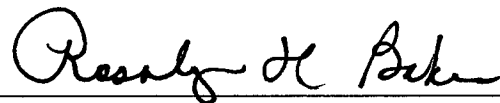


Kauai County received an additional ambulance was in 1992 and Hawaii County has not received an additional ambulance since 2005. The Department of Health Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention Branch meets regularly with all Hawaii emergency service providers to review the State's 911 response capabilities and system challenges. This group has identified Puna and the surrounding areas of Hawaii County as well as Kauai County as the highest areas of need for additional ambulance units to meet the areas' growing health and safety needs.

Your Committee notes that although the appropriation in this measure is blank, the Department of Health submitted testimony indicating that the requisite funds needed are \$1,500,000 per year for an ambulance unit for the County of Kauai and \$1,500,000 per year for an ambulance unit for the County of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 453 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer  
Protection, and Health,



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ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health**  
**CPH**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB453</b>	Committee Referral: <b>CPH, WAM</b>	Date: <b>2/8/17</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>en</i> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	/			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (VC)	/			
CHANG, Stanley	/			
ESPERO, Will	/			
IHARA, Jr., Les				/
KIDANI, Michelle N.	/			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.				/
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>			<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Clarence K. Nishihara</i>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes