



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on HB 1676**  
RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN M. MIZUNO, CHAIR  
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing Date: January 24, 2018 10:00AM Room Number: 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** We appreciate the intent of HB 1676, and defer to the Governor's  
2 Executive Budget request for the Department of Health's (DOH) appropriations and personnel  
3 priorities. HB 1676 requests an unspecified amount of general funds for fiscal year 2018 - 2019  
4 be appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii to the DOH for the purchase  
5 of an ambulance vehicle and the operational costs for one ambulance unit. Operational costs  
6 include equipment, supplies, and personnel costs for state-certified emergency medical services  
7 personnel. This ambulance unit is to be a twenty-four-hour, seven-days-a-week service for the  
8 county of Kauai.

9 **Department Testimony:** The Department recognizes the significant challenges to providing  
10 health care and emergency medical services to the expanding county of Kauai. This measure  
11 seeks to augment Kauai County emergency medical services system for the residents and visitors  
12 of the county. DOH contracts with American Medical Response (AMR) to provide 24/7 911  
13 ambulance services for Kauai County. AMR operates five ground ambulances in Kauai county.  
14 According to US Census figures, between 2010 and July 1, 2016, the population grew 4.9% from  
15 67,090 to 70,447. No additional ambulances have been authorized for Kauai County since 1992.  
16 The DOH Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention Branch meets regularly with all of  
17 Hawaii's emergency service providers to review Hawaii's 911 response capabilities and system  
18 challenges. This EMS Provider group discusses the current deployment of 911 ambulance  
19 resources statewide and assesses the need for any additional ambulance units to meet the

1 growing health and safety needs of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Based on these discussions,  
2 the group identified Kauai County as an area of high need.

3 This finding was confirmed by examining Kauai County ambulance response time data from the  
4 DOH pre-hospital EMS database. The mandated DOH contracted response times for Hanalei  
5 and the surrounding area located in Kauai County is 20 minutes or less. In 2016, Kauai County  
6 response times in Hanalei and environs exceeded the 20 minute threshold 34% of the time.  
7 Adding an additional ambulance unit and personnel resources to Kauai County would improve  
8 response times.

9 The State's investment in 911 ambulance services statewide in contracts with the counties for  
10 EMS services totals approximately \$75 million with almost \$42 million from billing being  
11 returned to the State's General fund in FY 2017. Should the Legislature wish to increase the  
12 Kauai County EMS resources, the requisite funds needed are estimated to be \$1.5 million per  
13 year.

14 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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

3375 KOAPAKA STREET, SUITE H-450 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819-1814  
Phone: (808) 723-7800 • Fax: (808) 723-7836



KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR

JAMES D. HOWE, JR.  
DIRECTOR

IAN T.T. SANTEE  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

January 23, 2018

The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair  
The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair  
House Committee on Health and Human Services  
House of Representatives  
Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2018

Re: HB1676 Relating to Emergency Medical Services

Dear Chair Mizuno, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and Members:

The Honolulu Emergency Services Department, Emergency Medical Services Division, is in support of HB1676 with amendments.

The City and County of Honolulu Emergency Services Department is the contracted provider to the State of Hawaii Department of Health for Emergency Medical Services for the 992,605 residents and 5,461,880 (2016) visitors who live on and visit Oahu.

As one of the three contracted providers in the State we work cooperatively with the other providers to ensure the proper function and timely delivery of EMS services to all citizens and visitor in our State.

As a group we have determined that the current needs to ensure the timely and proper functioning of EMS services include new 24 hour ambulance units on Kauai, Hawaii, and Oahu. This determination of need is based primarily on the need to increase service to meet the increasing demands for service due to the following three populations:

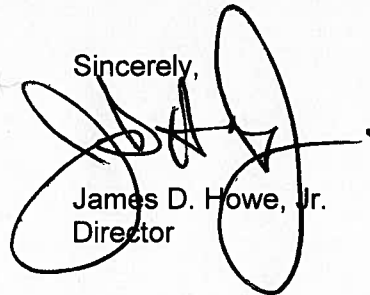
- Continual annual increases in visitor arrivals and subsequent injuries sustained by this group while visiting our State requiring pre-hospital medical services (increased 10.45% since 2012 on Oahu),
- The annual increase in our senior population 65 years and older, our State policy of aging in place, and the significantly higher demand for pre-hospital emergency medical services as this population group ages (37.4% of total population on Oahu), and
- The high use demand placed on EMS services by our Homeless Population (4,940 on Oahu).

The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair  
The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair  
January 23, 2018  
Page 2

The current level of EMS service on Oahu has absorbed this increase in demand over the past 6 years but is experiencing annual declines in response time capability. Response time is critically important in survival outcomes for many pre-hospital medical emergencies including cardiac arrest, stroke, and major trauma.

As such the Honolulu Emergency Services Department is in support of HB1676, however, we would request that the Bill be amended to include one EMS unit for the Island of Oahu to meet the pressing need for increased pre-hospital emergency medical services as identified above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James D. Howe, Jr.', is written over the typed name. The signature is stylized with large loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

James D. Howe, Jr.  
Director

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Mel Rapozo, Chair  
Ross Kagawa, Vice Chair  
Arthur Brun  
Mason K. Chock  
Arryl Kaneshiro  
Derek S.K. Kawakami  
JoAnn A. Yukimura



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, County Clerk  
Scott K. Sato, Deputy County Clerk

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**Council Services Division**  
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209  
Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766

January 22, 2018

**TESTIMONY OF MEL RAPOZO**  
**COUNCIL CHAIR, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**ON**  
**HB 1676, RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**  
**House Committee on Health & Human Services**  
**Wednesday, January 24, 2017**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Conference Room 329**

Dear Chair Mizuno and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1676, Relating to Emergency Medical Services, which is included in the 2018 Kaua'i County Legislative Package. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as Council Chair of the Kaua'i County Council.

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate moneys to the Department of Health to purchase an ambulance vehicle and fund the costs associated with operating the ambulance on a basis of 24-hour a day, 7-days-a-week on the island of Kaua'i. Kaua'i's residents and visitors would greatly benefit from the additional fully-equipped, state-certified ambulance unit to provide emergency medical services, which are crucial to the survival rate for anyone in an emergency situation.

For the reasons stated above, I urge the House Committee on Health & Human Services to support this measure. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188.

Sincerely,

MEL RAPOZO  
Council Chair, Kaua'i County Council

AMK:mn

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Mel Rapozo, Chair  
Ross Kagawa, Vice Chair  
Arthur Brun  
Mason K. Chock  
Arryl Kaneshiro  
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January 22, 2018

**TESTIMONY OF ARRYL KANESHIRO**  
**COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**ON**  
**HB 1676, RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**  
**House Committee on Health & Human Services**  
**Wednesday, January 24, 2017**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Conference Room 329**

Dear Chair Mizuno and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1676, Relating to Emergency Medical Services, which is included in the 2018 Kaua'i County Legislative Package. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Kaua'i County Council.

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate moneys to the Department of Health to purchase an ambulance vehicle and fund the costs associated with operating the ambulance on a basis of 24-hour a day, 7-days-a-week on the island of Kaua'i. Kaua'i's residents and visitors would greatly benefit from an additional fully-equipped, state-certified ambulance unit to provide emergency medical services, which are crucial to the survival rate for anyone involved in an emergency situation.

For the reasons stated above, I urge the House Committee on Health & Human Services to support this measure. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188.

Sincerely,

**ARRYL KANESHIRO**  
Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council

AMK:mn

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Mel Rapozo, Chair  
Ross Kagawa, Vice Chair  
Arthur Brun  
Mason K. Chock  
Arryl Kaneshiro  
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January 22, 2018

**TESTIMONY OF MASON K. CHOCK**  
**COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**ON**  
**HB 1676, RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**  
**House Committee on Health & Human Services**  
**Wednesday, January 24, 2017**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Conference Room 329**

Dear Chair Mizuno and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1676, Relating to Emergency Medical Services, which is included in the 2018 Kaua'i County Legislative Package. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Kaua'i County Council.

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate moneys to the Department of Health to purchase an ambulance vehicle and fund the costs associated with operating the ambulance on a basis of 24-hour a day, 7-days-a-week on the island of Kaua'i. Kaua'i's residents and visitors would greatly benefit from an additional fully-equipped, state-certified ambulance unit to provide emergency medical services, which are crucial to the survival rate for anyone involved in an emergency situation.

For the reasons stated above, I urge the House Committee on Health & Human Services to support this measure. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188.

Sincerely,

**MASON K. CHOCK**  
Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council

AMK:mn

Wednesday, January 24, 2018; 10:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 329

**House Committee on Health & Human Services**

To: Representative John Mizuno, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson  
Vice President – Government Relations & Community Affairs

**Re: HB 1676 – Testimony in Support**

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My name is Michael Robinson, and I am the Vice President of Government Relations and Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system with over 70 locations statewide including medical centers, clinics, physicians and other caregivers serving Hawai'i and the Pacific Region with high quality, compassionate care. Its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox – specialize in innovative programs in women's health, pediatric care, cardiovascular services, cancer care, bone and joint services and more. Hawai'i Pacific Health is recognized nationally for its excellence in patient care and the use of electronic health records to improve quality and patient safety.

I am writing in support of HB 1676 which appropriates funds for a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week ambulance unit for the County of Kaua'i, including equipment, supplies, and personnel costs. Timely access to life-saving health care is essential for our community. The availability of ambulances and emergency medical personnel are critical components in making sure patients are transported to hospitals as quickly as possible and greatly improves outcomes. The appropriation provided in this measure will enhance the delivery of emergency medical services and remove some of the barriers to obtaining needed services.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



January 24, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 339

**House Committee on Health & Human Services**

To: Representative John Mizuno, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

From: Jen Chahanovich  
CEO, Wilcox Medical Center

**Re: Testimony in Support – HB 1676**

My name is Jen Chahanovich and I am the chief executive officer of Wilcox Medical Center. Founded in 1938, Wilcox Medical Center is a not-for-profit hospital dedicated to providing the Kaua'i community with accessible, quality health care. Wilcox is the largest medical facility on Kaua'i and has been recognized as one of the nation's best small hospitals. With 185 physicians on staff, Wilcox Medical Center offers island residents and visitors expert diagnosis and treatment for more than 22 specialties. It is a state-of-the-art acute care facility with a full suite of services including emergency, OB/GYN, pediatrics, cardiology, gastroenterology, ophthalmology, pulmonology, nephrology, orthopedics, neurology, internal medicine and family practice.

I am writing in **support** of HB 1676 which appropriates funds for a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week ambulance unit for the County of Kaua'i, including equipment, supplies, and personnel costs. Timely access to life-saving health care is essential for our community. The availability of ambulances and emergency medical personnel are critical components in making sure patients are transported to hospitals as quickly as possible and greatly improves outcomes. The appropriation provided in this measure will enhance the delivery of emergency medical services and remove some of the barriers to obtaining needed services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



January 22, 2018

To: Representative John Mizuno, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Re: HB 1676: Relating to EMS

My name is Speedy Bailey and I am the Regional Director for American Medical Response (AMR) in Hawaii.

I am in strong support of HB 1676. AMR provides 911 services on Kauai, serving the residents and visitors with access to high quality pre-hospital emergency care through a contract with Department of Health, Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention Branch (EMSIPSB).

Passage of HB 1676 would add significantly to the level of care to our visitors and residents as well as having faster response time during their emergency needs. The need for pre-hospital emergency medical response has been increasing and continues to increase due to Hawaii's population growth, aging demographic and an increase in the number of households and visitors.

According to US Census figures, between 2010 and July 1, 2015, the population of Kauai grew 6.9% from 67,090 to 71,735. The last time a new emergency medical services ambulance unit was added on Kauai was in 1992, immediately after Hurricane Iniki. The population for Kauai at that time was ~ 50,000. There have been no additional rapid response or ambulance units since. It is anticipated that Kauai's population demographic will change and include an aging population over the next few years. This increase demand for services requires additional resources.

The DOH Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention Branch (EMSIPSB) meet regularly with all of Hawaii's EMS providers to review Hawaii's 911 response capabilities and system challenges. The EMS Provider group discusses the current deployment of 911 ambulance resources statewide and assesses the need for any additional ambulance units to meet the growing health and safety needs of Hawaii's residents and visitors. Based on these discussions, the group identified Kauai, Hawaii County and Honolulu as the areas of highest need.

These priorities were confirmed by examining Hawaii and Kauai County ambulance response time data from the DOH pre-hospital EMS database. The mandated DOH contracted response times for Puna, Hawaii and Hanalei, Kauai respectively is 20 minutes or less. The data demonstrates that over the 7-year period (2010 - 2016) the Puna area response times exceeded the mandated 20 minute threshold between 16% - 39% of the time. Kauai County response times in Hanalei and environs exceeded the 20 minute threshold 34% of the time. Adding additional ambulance units and personnel resources to these districts will improve response times.

Adding an ambulance unit to the existing resources on Kauai will significantly help reduce death and disability among residents.

I respectfully urge your committee's passage of HB 1676 to appropriate funds to establish a twenty-four -hour, seven-days-a-week emergency medical services ambulance unit for Kauai.

January 22, 2018

To: Representative John Mizuno, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

FROM: Tito Villanueva  
Kauai EMS Chief  
Operations Manager, American Medical Response—Kauai County

RE: SUPPORT TESTIMONY HB 1676

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Tito Villanueva. I am the operations manager for American Medical Response- ambulance service provider on Kauai.

I am in agreement and fully support the Emergency Medical Services Provider Group's recommendation for additional ambulance unit for Kauai County. DOH Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention Branch confirmed these priorities by examining ambulance response time data from the pre-hospital EMS database.

The last time a new ambulance unit was added on Kauai was in 1992, immediately after Hurricane Iniki. Since then our population has increased significantly. According to US Census figures, between 2010 and 2015, the population of Kauai grew from 67,090 to 71,735- a 6.9% increase. It is anticipated that Kauai's population demographic will change and include an aging population over the next few years. This increased demand for services will require additional resources. A timely response to an emergency is critical to increase the likelihood of a good outcome for a sick or injured individual.

| Kauai County Population  | Year | Number of residents |
|--|------|---------------------|
| Resident population  | 1990 | 51,676              |
| De facto population  | 1990 | 68,558              |
| Resident population  | 2015 | 71,400              |
| De facto population  | 2015 | 89,500              |
| Projected resident pop   | 2025 | 80,000              |
| Projected de facto pop   | 2025 | 99,800              |
|  |      |                     |
| Source: DBEDT<br><a href="http://hawaiieconomicdata.com/">http://hawaiieconomicdata.com/</a> |      |                     |

The North Shore of Kauai is a large district which covers Moloaa, Kilauea, Princeville, Hanalei, Wainiha, and Ke'e Beach Park. It takes forty (40) minutes or more to reach the only acute hospital on Kauai. There's one unit in Kilauea that covers the entire district.

Total transport from the Hanalei area (area code 96714 only not including Princeville and Kilauea/Moloa) in a six year period (2010 – 2015) were nine hundred seventeen (917), three hundred nine (309) of these calls took greater than 20 minutes for the ambulance to arrive on scene. Thirty four percent (34) of these calls exceeded the mandated response time of twenty (20) minutes. This is largely due to the greater 120 minute turnaround time in the district.

Additionally, other ambulance units respond from other districts to Hanalei eleven (11) percent of the time.

Similarly, the ambulance unit on the west district covers Eleele, Hanapepe, Kaumakani, Waimea, Kekaha, Polihale Beach Park, and large area of Kokee State Park. Transport times to the only Level 3 Trauma and Stroke center (Wilcox Hospital) on Kauai may even take longer. If the ambulance that responds to a call for emergency medical service must respond from an out-of-district location, the response time is even longer. The movement of ambulances from their own district creates a domino effect to other service areas.

Adding an additional ambulance unit and personnel resources to Kauai County will improve response times. This unit will also be a resource for the Hanalei district during flashflood conditions when the Hanalei Bridge is closed. Currently, AMR provides an additional ambulance service for the Hanalei district when access to the area is closed, at no cost to the County or State.

I respectfully urge your committee's passage of HB1676 to appropriate funds to establish a twenty-four –hour, seven-days-a-week emergency medical services ambulance unit for Kauai County.

**HB-1676**

Submitted on: 1/23/2018 10:41:50 AM

Testimony for HHS on 1/24/2018 10:00:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>       | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Andy Ancheta        | American Medical Response | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

**HB-1676**

Submitted on: 1/22/2018 11:10:34 PM

Testimony for HHS on 1/24/2018 10:00:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Scott Foster        |                     | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Mahalo,

Scott Foster, Chair

The Kupuna Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i

**HB-1676**

Submitted on: 1/22/2018 9:22:45 PM

Testimony for HHS on 1/24/2018 10:00:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| patti               | amr                 | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

**HB1676**

**My name is Errol McGowan,**

**I have lived and worked here on Kauai for 10 years. I am a Paramedic here on Kauai as well. I am writing in SUPPORT of Bill HB1676**

**I see first hand every single shift how important an additional 911 Ambulance and Station would be for the residence and visitors of Kauai. Due to a large increase in our visitors and increase in population, we stretch our current resources daily. If you are sick or injured on a busy day you may not get Advanced Life Support care for up to an additional ½ or so depending where our 5 units are for the day. On top of running 911, a few of our 911 units also have to provide non emergent transfer services during the evening and day if we do not have a transfer crew. The last time a new emergency medical services ambulance unit was added on Kauai was in 1992, immediately after Hurricane Iniki. The North Shore of Kauai is a large district which covers Moloaa, Kilauea, Princeville, Hanalei, Wainiha, and Ke'e Beach Park. Outside the Kilauea Unit, the nearest ambulance station is located Kapaa. The time line to reach the only acute hospital on Kauai can be forty minutes or more. Similarly, the ambulance unit on the west district covers Eleele, Hanapepe, Kaumakani, Waimea, Kekaha, Polihale Beach Park, and up Kokee State Park. Response and transport times to the only Level 3 trauma center on Kauai may even take longer. If the ambulance that responds to a call for emergency medical service must respond from an out-of-district location, the response time is even longer. The movement of ambulances with patients from their own district creates a domino effect of lack of emergency medical services to other areas. A timely response to an emergency is critical to increase the likelihood of a good outcome for a sick or injured individual. AMR has been continuously providing optimum EMS services above and beyond the funding it receives from the State. During flash flood conditions where Hanalei Bridge is closed, AMR provides additional ambulance unit to cover the Hanalei to Ke'e areas at no cost to the County or State. I respectfully urge your committee's passage of HB1676 to appropriate funds to establish a twenty-four-hour, seven-days-a-week emergency medical services ambulance for Kauai.**

**Respectfully**

**Errol S. McGowan**



**HB-1676**

Submitted on: 1/22/2018 11:37:27 AM

Testimony for HHS on 1/24/2018 10:00:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Curt S. Morimoto    |                     | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

The resident & visitor population of Kauia has increased as has the volume of EMS ambulance responses. The last ambulance station that was added on Kauai was in 1992. More EMS resources allows for faster response times to critical emergencies. Please support and approve HB1676. Thank you.

**LATE**

**HB-1676**

Submitted on: 1/23/2018 4:12:48 PM  
Testimony for HHS on 1/24/2018 10:00:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Byron Vance         |                     | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

The Island of Kauai is in great need of another 24/7 ALS ambulance. Please fund and pass HB1676

Community paramedic programs have been shown to be integral parts of forward-looking EMS systems. They appreciate the intersection of public health and emergency services. Nationally and internationally, however, the structure and functionality of these programs vary greatly. This working group will ensure that Hawaii develops a community paramedic program that is well-suited to our state and effective in improving health and safety in the community. Thank you for your consideration.

Byron and Jodi Vance

**LATE**

**HB-1676**

Submitted on: 1/23/2018 5:55:52 PM

Testimony for HHS on 1/24/2018 10:00:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>                               | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jillian Kelekoma    | AMR Air Hawaii/EMS<br>Coordinator Kauai<br>County | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Kauai has long been known as a County that has been able to make ends meet, and always provide EXCELLENCE in emergency medical care, regardless of the budget or resources available. We currently have (5) 24hr-7 day a week advanced life support ambulances for our County, and these units are tasked with covering the ENTIRE COUNTY. Mind you, the amount of resources we are able to coordinate and use does not fluctuate with the increase of visitors and residents to our island. But, we still provide an amazing service. HB1676 and HB1790 will appropriate funding, equipment, supplies, operational costs, and personnel costs for an additional advanced life support ambulance.

This impacts Kauai in many ways. First, we can keep our highly trained personnel that are born and raised on Kauai, here, in Kauai. Second, we WILL improve our response time to the County of Kauai with an advanced life support ambulance and providers. Lastly, and most importantly, it allows us to care for each other, our neighbors, our families, our visitors, in a way we have been longing to provide for many years. Kauai, her residents, and her visitors deserve that. I respectfully request for your support of HB1676 and HB1790.

Mahalo for your time,

Jillian Kelekoma

**LATE**

**HB-1676**

Submitted on: 1/24/2018 6:58:32 AM

Testimony for HHS on 1/24/2018 10:00:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>          | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Milo Spindt         | Kauai Paramedics Association | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Kauai has not had an ambulance unit added since 1992 and our population has grown by almost 40% since that time. Our average daily visitor population has also grown by about 40% during that time. The increase in the island's daily population plus the increase in traffic has created greater demand and transport times. While Kauai's call volume is not the highest, the challenges of serving a growing rural population with quality emergency medical response require that we add another ambulance unit as soon as possible.

Thank you and Aloha,

Milo Spindt