

JAN 17 2020

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AMBULANCES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that residents of the  
2 island of Hawaii would greatly benefit from the addition of an  
3 advanced life support ambulances to augment the Hawaii county  
4 emergency medical services system for residents of the Makalei  
5 area. The population of this area has significantly increased  
6 over the years, which has corresponded with a steady increase in  
7 calls for emergency medical services.

8           The legislature further finds that access to primary health  
9 care in Makalei is challenging for the community. For many  
10 residents, primary care services are as far as thirty miles  
11 away. Coupled with economic and transportation challenges,  
12 emergency medical services have become the health care access  
13 point for many residents.

14           Due to the lack of resources, it has become common for  
15 paramedics to respond to as many as ten calls for emergency  
16 medical transportation during a twenty-four hour shift. The  
17 potential for fatigue resulting in errors in judgment, driving,



1 and overall safety are of great concern for personnel and  
2 residents.

3 The legislature also finds that a new advanced life support  
4 ambulance will help reduce death and disability among residents  
5 and visitors on the island of Hawaii. A timely response to a  
6 911 call is critical to increasing the likelihood of successful  
7 outcomes for injured or sick individuals. Given the island's  
8 significant growth and aging population, one new advanced life  
9 support ambulance is needed and will be cost-effective.

10 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to  
11 establish one advanced life support ambulance to be based in the  
12 Makalei area on the island of Hawaii, including the acquisition  
13 of a vehicle and equipment and personnel costs for state-  
14 certified emergency medical services personnel.

15 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the emergency  
16 medical services special fund the sum of \$500,000 or so much  
17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to  
18 establish and fund one advanced life support ambulance based in  
19 Malakei on the island of Hawaii, including the acquisition of  
20 the vehicle and equipment and personnel costs for state-  
21 certified emergency medical services personnel.



# S.B. NO. 2618

1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
2 health for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

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INTRODUCED BY:

  
Karl Rhoads  
D.C. [unclear]  
Michelle N. [unclear]  
Clarence [unclear]  
Francis R. [unclear]

# S.B. NO. 2618

**Report Title:**

Emergency Medical Services; Advanced Life Support Ambulance;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Makes an appropriation to establish and fund one advanced life support ambulance based in Makalei on the island of Hawaii, including acquisition of a vehicle, equipment, and personnel costs.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

