

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

H.B. NO. 2236, H.D. 2, RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Hearing: Tuesday, March 10, 2020, 9:30 a.m.

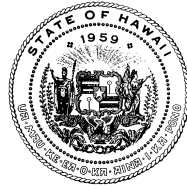
The Office of the Auditor takes **no position** on H.B. No. 2236, H.D. 2, and offers the following comments on Section 5 of the bill.

The bill requires the State Auditor to conduct an audit of the Emergency Medical Services Department of the City and County of Honolulu, a county agency operating under the oversight of the State of Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH).¹ We suggest the resources of our office, where possible, are best spent evaluating state programs and state agencies. The Office of the City Auditor, City and County of Honolulu, likely is better positioned to audit City and County of Honolulu agencies, such as the Emergency Medical Services Department.

We additionally note some of the work called for by the bill—specifically, recommending improvements “based on the evolving needs and efficiency of emergency medical services” and determining whether DOH should seek out public-private partnerships—are beyond our expertise and would likely require us to retain an expert consultant to assist in performing the work. We believe HRS § 321-224(a)(4) requires the DOH to collect and evaluate data for the continued evaluation of the State comprehensive emergency medical services system, and HRS § 321-230 allows DOH to contract for technical assistance and consultation. As the bill currently requires DOH to conduct both a study of the state emergency medical system workforce and a comprehensive cost analysis of the entire state emergency medical system, we suggest DOH is better suited to contract for this work.

Thank you for considering our testimony related to H.B. No. 2236, H.D. 2.

¹ The Department of Health is charged with the administration of the State's Comprehensive Emergency Medical Services system. HRS § 321-221. We understand emergency medical services are delivered through contracts with the Hawai'i County Fire Department, American Medical Response on Maui and Kaua'i, and the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Emergency Medical Services.



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



**Testimony in SUPPORT of H.B. 2236, H.D. 2
RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
xHearing Date: March 10, 2020 Room Number: 229 9:30am

1 **Fiscal Implications:** This bill appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds for fiscal
2 year 2020-2021 be appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii to the
3 Department of Health (DOH) to initiate a comprehensive workforce study and to conduct a
4 comprehensive cost analysis to improve the efficiency, quality, and cost effectiveness of the
5 state emergency medical services system. The measure also appropriates an unspecified
6 amount of general funds for fiscal year 2021 for collective bargaining increases and other
7 current expenses necessary to maintain the current state comprehensive emergency medical
8 services system. The DOH requests the following appropriations:

- 9 1. Section 6: \$25,000 for the workforce study;
- 10 2. Section 7: \$100,000 for comprehensive cost analysis to improve the efficiency,
11 quality, and cost effectiveness of Hawaii's Statewide EMS System;
- 12 3. Section 9: \$15,776,780 for collective bargaining; and
- 13 4. Section 10: \$3,997,494 for other current expenses.

14 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports H.B. 2236, H.D. 2, with
15 the requested appropriation amounts to be included. The Department takes no position on
16 Section 5 on page 4 of this measure. ACT 60 (2019) the Legislature required a comprehensive

1 review of the Hawaii EMS System. From October 14-18, 2019, the National Highway
2 Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) conducted a reassessment of the State EMS
3 System. The positive report made multiple recommendations to improve the system. H.B. 2236,
4 H.D. 2, addresses three recommendations from the report: 1) Conduct a comprehensive
5 Statewide workforce study reviewing the entire EMS System, the status of the workforce and
6 identify any gaps by county, 2) Conduct a comprehensive cost analysis of the entire EMS
7 System. Based on this analysis, revise the system to include looking at identification of
8 centralized purchasing and other possible cost-saving measures, and 3) Establish a sustainable
9 source of funding for the EMS and trauma system.

10 This measure directs the Department to conduct a comprehensive statewide workforce study of
11 the entire state emergency medical services system to identify strengths and issues and provide
12 recommendations to increase the emergency medical technician and paramedic workforce . The
13 results will be used to describe Hawaii's pre-hospital workforce, provide valuable information
14 for training priorities, and to ensure an adequate supply of care providers.

15 This measure also directs the Department to conduct a comprehensive cost analysis of the entire
16 state EMS system to identify strengths and any issues with the system and provide
17 recommendations to improve the economic function of the system. The comprehensive cost
18 analysis study is necessary to understand funding requirements and realities and answer
19 continuing questions about system cost.

20 The legislature appropriated funds to continue the operation of the comprehensive statewide
21 EMS services for FY 2020. H.B. 2236, H.D. 2, appropriates unspecified funding amounts for
22 FY 2021.

1 Passage of H.B. 2236, H.D. 2, with the appropriation amounts requested by the DOH, is critical
2 for the continuation of life saving emergency medical services at the current level. If the funds
3 are not provided to meet required collective bargaining increases and other current expenses, a
4 reduction in critical life saving services and essential personnel would be necessary to remain
5 within funding limits.

6 **Offered Amendments:** The DOH respectfully requests the legislature's consideration of
7 additional time to complete a comprehensive state emergency medical services system workforce
8 and cost analysis and report of findings.

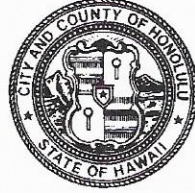
9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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

LATE

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



JAMES D. HOWE, JR.
DIRECTOR

IAN T.T. SANTEE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

March 10, 2020

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
And Members
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol, #229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: HB2236, HD2 Relating to Emergency Medical Services
Comments

The Honolulu Emergency Services Department manages both the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Ocean Safety Lifeguard Services Divisions (OSD) for the City and County of Honolulu.

The Department participated in the State of Hawaii Reassessment of the Emergency Medical Services System from October 14 – 18, 2019 conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The Department is actively engaged with the State of Hawaii Department of Health on implementing the recommendations of the system evaluation.

The Department concurs with the following recommendations from the report in relation to this bill:

1. REGULATION AND POLICY

Each State should embody comprehensive enabling legislation, regulations, and operational policies and procedures to provide an effective Statewide system of emergency medical and trauma care and should:

- Require comprehensive EMS system planning;
- Establish a sustainable source of funding for the EMS and trauma system.

2. HUMAN RESOURCES AND EDUCATION

Each State should ensure that its EMS system has essential trained and certified/licensed persons to perform required tasks. These personnel include: first responders (e.g. police and fire), communications specialists, physicians, nurses, hospital administrators, and planners. Each State should provide a comprehensive Statewide plan for assuring a stable EMS workforce including consistent EMS training and recruitment/retention programs with effective local and regional support. The State agency should:

- Conduct a comprehensive Statewide workforce study reviewing the entire EMS System, the status of the workforce and identify any gaps by county.

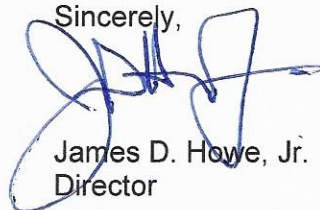
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
And Members
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
March 10, 2020
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- Conduct a comprehensive cost analysis of the entire EMS System. Based on this analysis revise the system to include looking at identification of centralized purchasing and other possible cost-saving measures.
- Develop a five-year strategic plan using the results from the work force and cost analysis studies.

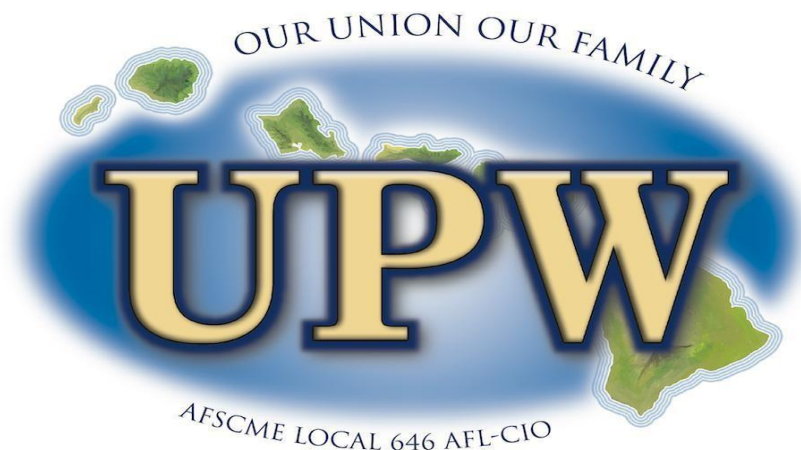
The Department has identified that the funding for the current level of services is critical to the continued medical well-being of the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on the issue of major importance to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James D. Howe, Jr.", is written over the printed name and title.

James D. Howe, Jr.
Director



HAWAII STATE SENATE

The Thirtieth Legislature
Regular Session of 2020

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee

Date of Hearing: Tuesday, March 10, 2020
Time of Hearing: 9:30 a.m.
Place of Hearing: Conference Room 229
State Capitol

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2236, HD2 RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,
State Director of the United Public Workers,
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO ("UPW")

The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 13,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and four counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members in the private sector.

HB2236, HD2 requires and appropriate funds for the department of health to conduct comprehensive workforce and cost analysis reviews with federal partners to improve efficiency, quality and cost-effectiveness. It also requires a management audit of the emergency medical services of the city and county of Honolulu. An appropriation is made for collective bargaining increases and other current expenses. The UPW supports this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

LATE

HB-2236-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 7:41:13 AM
Testimony for CPH on 3/10/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andy Ancheta	Testifying for American Medical Response	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2236-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 4:28:53 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/10/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Speedy Bailey	Testifying for American medical Response	Support	Yes

Comments:

LATE

HB-2236-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 10:34:58 AM
Testimony for CPH on 3/10/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tito Villanueva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to support HB2236 to appropriate funds for the department of health to conduct workforce and cost analysis review of the Hawaii EMS system.