

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



ANNE E. PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO
DIRECTOR

JOANN A. VIDINHAR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.labor.hawaii.gov
Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dliir.director@hawaii.gov

February 7, 2022

The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,
and Military Affairs
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 214
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Committee on Health
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Nishihara and Keohokalole:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 2017, Relating to Emergency Medical Services

I am Steven Goble, Chair of the State Fire Council (SFC). The SFC supports SB 2017, which repeals section 453-34(d), HRS, which limits licensure as an emergency medical technician (EMT) 1 to individuals whose practice is performed in a county with a population of 500,000 or greater.

Approximately 1,400 EMTs in Hawaii are currently certified by the National Registry Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT), which is the standard for educational requirements in most states. Over 400,000 individuals are certified by the NREMT.

During the coronavirus pandemic over the past two years, the NREMTs across the state have clearly demonstrated their value by providing an additional level of patient care and services. This is particularly the case for Hawaii's neighbor island communities where resources in the pre-hospital environment are not as abundant as in Honolulu County and those resources are geographically dispersed in remote areas.

The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
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February 7, 2022

The SFC suggests the following revisions to SB 2017 to improve clarity and alignment with the National Registry (<https://www.nremt.org/>):

SECTION 1. Act 119, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, created an additional category for "emergency medical technician 1", which is an individual who is certified at a higher practice level than emergency medical [~~technicians~~ responders], but does not provide ambulance services.

The SFC urges the committees' approval of SB 2017 and the suggested revision to expand licensure to all NREMTs throughout the state.

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrative Specialist Gary Lum at 723-7169 or glum@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,



STEVEN GOBLE
Chair

SG/GL:

SB-2017

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 8:45:12 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/9/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Fire Chief Sheldon Hao	Testifying for Honolulu Fire Department	Support	No

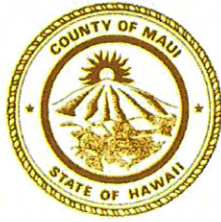
Comments:

The Honolulu Fire Department supports SB 2017 with the suggested revision to expand licensure to all National Registry of Emergency Technicians throughout the state.

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
Mayor

BRADFORD K. VENTURA
Fire Chief

GAVIN L.M. FUJIOKA
Deputy Fire Chief



DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & PUBLIC SAFETY

COUNTY OF MAUI
200 DAIRY ROAD
KAHULUI, HI 96732

February 7, 2022

The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,
and Military Affairs
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 214
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Committee on Health
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Nishihara and Keohokalole:

SUBJECT: SENATE BILL (SB) 2017, RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

I am Bradford Ventura, member of the State Fire Council (SFC) and the Fire Chief of the Maui Fire Department (MFD). The SFC supports SB 2017, which repeals section 453-34(d), HRS, which limits licensure as an emergency medical technician (EMT) 1 to individuals whose practice is performed in a county with a population of 500,000 or greater.

Approximately 1,400 EMTs in Hawaii are currently certified by the National Registry Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT), which is the standard for educational requirements in most states. Over 400,000 individuals are certified by the NREMT.

During the coronavirus pandemic over the past two years, the NREMTs across the state have clearly demonstrated their value by providing an additional level of patient care and services. This is particularly the case for Hawaii's neighbor island communities where resources in the pre-hospital environment are not as abundant as in Honolulu County and those resources are geographically dispersed in remote areas.

The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokaole, Chair
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The SFC suggests the following revisions to SB 2017 to improve clarity and alignment with the National Registry (<https://www.nremt.org/>):

SECTION 1. Act 119, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, created an additional category for "emergency medical technician 1", which is an individual who is certified at a higher practice level than emergency medical [~~technicians~~] responders, but does not provide ambulance services.

The SFC urges the committees' approval of SB 2017 and the suggested revision to expand licensure to all NREMTs throughout the state.

If you have questions, please contact SFC Administrative Specialist Gary Lum at (808) 723-7169 or glum@honolulu.gov.

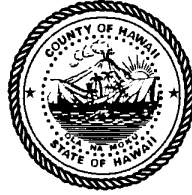
Sincerely,



BRADFORD K. VENTURA
Fire Chief

Mitchell D. Roth
Mayor

Lee E. Lord
Managing Director



Kazuo S. K. L. Todd
Fire Chief

Eric H. Moller
Deputy Fire Chief

County of Hawai'i
HAWAI'I FIRE DEPARTMENT
25 Aupuni Street • Suite 2501 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
(808) 932-2900 • Fax (808) 932-2928

LATE

February 8, 2022

The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,
and Military Affairs
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 214
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Committee on Health
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Nishihara and Keohokalole:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 2017, Relating to Emergency Medical Services

I am Kazuo S. K. L. Todd, Fire Chief of the Hawai'i Fire Department. I support SB 2017, which repeals section 453-34(d), HRS, which limits licensure as an emergency medical technician (EMT) 1 to individuals whose practice is performed in a county with a population of 500,000 or greater.

Approximately 1,400 EMTs in Hawaii are currently certified by the National Registry Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT), which is the standard for educational requirements in most states. Over 400,000 individuals are certified by the NREMT.

During the coronavirus pandemic over the past two years, the NREMTs across the state have clearly demonstrated their value by providing an additional level of patient care and services. This is particularly the case for Hawai'i's neighbor island communities where resources in the pre-hospital environment are not as abundant as in Honolulu County and those resources are geographically dispersed in remote areas.

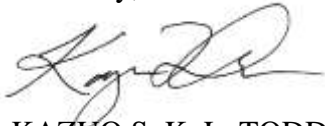
I suggest the following revisions to SB 2017 to improve clarity and alignment with the National Registry (<https://www.nremt.org/>):

SECTION 1. Act 119, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, created an additional category for "emergency medical technician I", which is an individual who is certified at a higher practice level than emergency medical [~~technicians~~] responders, but does not provide ambulance services.

I urge the committees' approval of SB 2017 and the suggested revision to expand licensure to all NREMTs throughout the state.

Should you have questions, please contact me at 808-932-2903 or kazuo.todd@hawaiicounty.gov.

Sincerely,



KAZUO S. K. L. TODD
Fire Chief
Hawai'i Fire Department

KT:lk

Testimony of the Hawaii Medical Board

**Before the
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, & Military Affairs
and
Senate Committee on Health
Wednesday, February 9, 2022
1:30 p.m.
Via Videoconference**

**On the following measure:
S.B. 2017, RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Chair Nishihara, Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Ahlani Quiogue, and I am the Executive Officer of the Hawaii Medical Board (Board).

The purpose of this bill is to repeal Hawaii Revised Statutes section 453-34(d), which limits licensure as an emergency medical technician 1 to individuals whose practice is performed in a county with a population of 500,000 or greater.

The Board will review S.B. 2017, Relating to Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact, at its next meeting, currently scheduled for Thursday, February 10, 2022. The Board will provide the Committees with updated information about its position following the meeting.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.