

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  
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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  
Page 2  
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](mailto:glum@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,



STEVEN GOBLE  
Chair

SG/GL:

**SB-2017**

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

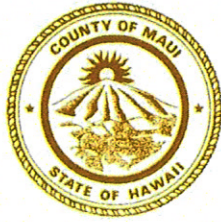
Testimony for PSM on 2/9/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
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  
Page 2  
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.

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

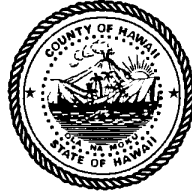
Sincerely,



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.

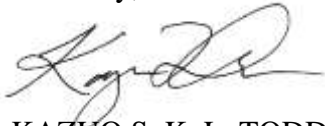
I suggest the following revisions to SB 2017 to improve clarity and alignment with the National Registry (<https://www.nremt.org/>):

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](mailto: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.