

RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

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

1	PART I
2	SECTION 1. Section 321-222, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
3	amended by adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted
4	and to read as follows:
5	""Emergency aeromedical services" means a secondary
6	response system that provides immediate critical care and
7	transport by rotary-wing aircraft of a patient to a facility
8	that provides specialized medical care."
9	SECTION 2. Section 321-224, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10	amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:
11	"(a) In addition to other functions and duties assigned
12	under this part, the department shall:
13	(1) Regulate ambulances and ambulance services;
14	(2) Establish emergency medical services throughout the
15	State, including emergency aeromedical services, which
16	shall meet the requirements of this part, subject to
17	section 321-228.

1	(3)	Review and approve the curricula and syllabi of
2		training courses offered to emergency medical services
3		personnel who provide basic, intermediate, and
4		advanced life support, consult and coordinate with the
5		University of Hawaii, or any other accredited
6		community college, college, or university, or any
7		professional organization that provides emergency
8		medical services training, regarding the training for
9		basic, intermediate, and advanced life support
10		personnel, as provided in section 321-229;
11	(4)	Collect and evaluate data for the continued evaluation
12		of the state system, subject to section 321-230;
13	(5)	Coordinate emergency medical resources and the
14		allocation of the state system's services and
15		facilities in the event of mass casualties, natural
16		disasters, national emergencies, and other
17		emergencies, ensuring linkage to local, state, and
18		national disaster plans, and participation in
19		exercises to test these plans;
20	(6)	Establish, administer, and maintain a communication
21		System for the state grater

1	(7)	Assist each county in the development of a "911"
2		emergency telephone system;
3	(8)	Secure technical assistance and other assistance and
4		consultation necessary for the implementation of this
5		part, subject to section 321-230;
6	(9)	Implement public information and education programs to
7		inform the public of the state system and its use, and
8		disseminate other emergency medical information,
9		including appropriate methods of medical self-help and
10		first-aid, and the availability of first-aid training
11		programs in the State;
12	(10)	Establish standards and provide training for
13		dispatchers in the state system, and maintain a
14		program of quality assurance for dispatch equipment
15		and operations;
16	(11)	Establish a program that will enable emergency service
17		personnel to provide early defibrillation;
18	(12)	Establish within the department the emergency medical
19		service system for children;
20	(13)	Consult with the advisory committee on matters
21		relating to the implementation of this part, and

1	(14) Establish and maintain standards for emergency medical
2	services course instructor qualifications and
3	requirements for emergency medical services training
4	facilities."
5	SECTION 3. Section 321-228, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6	amended to read as follows:
7	"§321-228 Emergency medical services; counties. The
8	department [ef health] shall determine, in consultation with the
9	advisory committee under section 321-225, the levels of
10	emergency medical services [which] that shall be implemented in
11	each county. The department [ef health] may contract to provide
12	emergency medical services, including emergency aeromedical
13	services, or any necessary component of a county emergency
14	services system in conformance with the state system. In the
15	event any county shall apply to the department to operate
16	emergency medical ambulance services within the respective
17	county, the department [ef health] may contract with the county
18	for the provision of [such] those services. The department
19	shall operate emergency medical ambulance services or contract
20	with a private agency in those counties which do not apply to it
21	under this section. Any county or private agency contracting to
22	provide emergency medical ambulance services under this section

- 1 shall be required by the department to implement [such] those
- 2 services in a manner and at a level consistent with the levels
- 3 determined under this section."
- 4 SECTION 4. Section 321-230, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 5 amended to read as follows:
- 6 "§321-230 Technical assistance, data collection,
- 7 evaluation. (a) The department [of health] may contract for
- 8 technical assistance and consultation, including but not limited
- 9 to categorization, data collection, and evaluation appropriate
- 10 to the needs of the state system. The collection and analysis
- 11 of statewide emergency medical services data, including
- 12 pediatrics, trauma, cardiac, medical, and behavioral medical
- 13 emergencies, [is] shall be for the purpose of improving the
- 14 quality of services provided.
- The department [of health] may implement and maintain a
- 16 trauma registry for the collection of information concerning the
- 17 treatment of critical trauma patients at state designated trauma
- 18 centers, and carry out a system for the management of that
- 19 information. The system may provide for the recording of
- 20 information concerning treatment received before and after a
- 21 trauma patient's admission to a hospital or medical center. All
- 22 state designated trauma centers shall submit to the department

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- 1 of health periodic reports of each patient treated for trauma in
- 2 the state system in such manner as the department shall specify.
- For the purposes of this [section,] subsection,
- 4 "categorization" means systematic identification of the
- 5 readiness and capabilities of hospitals and their staffs to
- 6 adequately, expeditiously, and efficiently receive and treat
- 7 emergency patients.
- 8 (b) The department shall establish, administer, and
- 9 maintain an aeromedical emergency medical services system
- 10 designed to collect and analyze data to measure the efficiency
- 11 and effectiveness of each phase of an emergency aeromedical
- 12 program.
- 13 The aeromedical emergency medical services system shall
- 14 serve the emergency health needs of the people of the State by
- 15 identifying:
- 16 (1) The system's strengths and weaknesses:
- 17 (2) The allocation of resources; and
- 18 (3) The development of rotary-wing emergency aeromedical
- 20 provided that emergency helicopter use, including triage
- 21 protocols, shall be based on national aeromedical triage and
- 22 transport guidelines established by the Association of Air

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- 1 Medical Services, the American College of Surgeons and the
- 2 National Association of Emergency Medical Service Physicians.
- 3 The department, in the implementation of this subsection, shall
- 4 plan, coordinate, and provide assistance to all entities and
- 5 agencies, public and private, involved in the system.
- 6 (c) The department shall use an emergency aeromedical
- 7 services quality improvement committee comprised of
- 8 representatives of trauma, emergency, and tertiary care
- 9 physicians and providers to analyze information collected from
- 10 the aeromedical quality improvement performance measures as
- 11 established by the American College of Surgeons, and to
- 12 recommend system standards and resources to maintain and improve
- 13 the Hawaii emergency aeromedical services system."
- 14 PART II
- 15 SECTION 5. The legislature finds that Hawaii, an island
- 16 state, is dependent upon the aeromedical transportation of
- 17 patients from neighbor island medical facilities who require
- 18 specialized care at tertiary hospitals in Honolulu. The rural
- 19 nature of neighbor island communities also requires long ground
- 20 transport times to medical facilities with the capability to
- 21 stabilize and treat critical medical conditions. An emergency
- 22 aeromedical system must assure timely transport of seriously ill

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- 1 and injured persons to definitive medical facilities based on
- 2 national aeromedical standards meeting medical necessity
- 3 criteria.
- 4 In particular, Maui county is in need of emergency
- 5 aeromedical services provided by a helicopter aeromedical unit
- 6 to complement and augment emergency ground ambulance and fixed-
- 7 wing transport services. Residents of the islands of Maui,
- 8 Molokai, and Lanai are without an adequate emergency aeromedical
- 9 system to meet the American College of Surgeons performance
- 10 measure of four hours from the time a serious head injury
- 11 patient arrives at the initial receiving facility until arrival
- 12 at a facility capable of providing appropriate medical care. In
- 13 addition, there is not an adequate measure of the delay from the
- 14 time of the trauma or serious illness to arrival at a facility
- 15 capable of providing appropriate and potentially life-saving
- 16 care.
- The purpose of this part is to establish for the county of
- 18 Maui a helicopter critical care emergency aeromedical service
- 19 which operates twenty-four hours a day, and is staffed by
- 20 medical personnel to provide rapid transport to appropriate
- 21 medical care facilities. Establishment of the emergency
- 22 helicopter unit is intended to respond to intra-county

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- 1 emergencies; integrate ground, rotor, and fixed-wing transport
- 2 with the 911 response system; augment aeromedical services that
- 3 fixed-wing transport cannot provide; and enhance critical
- 4 emergency rapid transport options for seriously, critically ill
- 5 patients especially those from remote areas such as Lanai,
- 6 Molokai, and Hana. It is not the intent of this part to
- 7 supplant existing ground or fixed-wing transport, especially for
- 8 routine or non-time sensitive inter-facility transportation.
- 9 The emergency helicopter unit shall utilize triage protocols to
- 10 ensure the medically appropriate dispatch of the unit.
- 11 Helicopter utilization shall be based on national aeromedical
- 12 triage and transport guidelines as established by the
- 13 Association of Air Medical Services, the American College of
- 14 Surgeons, and the National Association of Emergency Medical
- 15 Services Physicians.
- SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
- 17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$611,500, or so much
- 18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2004-2005, to fund
- 19 the provision of emergency aeromedical helicopter services for
- 20 the county of Maui; provided that no funds shall be made
- 21 available under this part unless the county of Maui provides
- 22 \$611,500 for the purpose for which this sum is appropriated; and

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- 1 provided further that emergency aeromedical helicopter services
- 2 shall use triage protocols and be based on national aeromedical,
- 3 triage, and transport guidelines established by the Association
- 4 of Air Medical Services, the American College of Surgeons, and
- 5 the National Association of Emergency Medical Services
- 6 Physicians.
- 7 In establishing this service, the department of health is
- 8 encouraged to partner with the county of Maui, health care
- 9 providers, and the private sector, to ensure that this necessary
- 10 service is provided in the most cost efficient manner, utilizing
- 11 all available resources.
- 12 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general
- 13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$388,500, or so much
- 14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2004-2005, to
- 15 integrate additional ground ambulance services with the
- 16 emergency aeromedical helicopter services.
- 17 SECTION 8. The sums appropriated in section 6 and 7 of
- 18 this Act shall be expended by the department of health through
- 19 its emergency medical service system for the purposes of this
- 20 Act.

21 PART III

- 1 SECTION 9. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 3 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
- 4 provided that sections 6 and 7 of this Act shall take effect on
- 5 July 1, 2003.

Report Title:

Emergency Medical Services

Description:

Requires the Department of Health to integrate emergency aeromedical services into statewide emergency medical services. (CD1)