

Harry Kim
Mayor



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February 21, 2020

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members:

RE: SB 2618, SD1 Relating to Ambulances

SB 2618, SD1 would provide an ALS ambulance for the Makalei Fire Station, which is several miles from the nearest existing ambulance and half an hour or more from the nearest hospital.

I believe such an ambulance is warranted and hope you can find room in your budget to act favorably on SB 2618, SD1.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harry Kim". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Harry Kim
MAYOR

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 12:47:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melanie Keolanui	Testifying for Hawaii Fire Department	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to testify in support of adding ambulance services with a dedicated medic unit to the Makalei District of the Big Island of Hawaii. By adding this additional Advanced Life Support Unit to West Hawaii, the Hawaii Fire Department will be able to provide the highest level of medical services with a shorter response time. This is important as the population is always growing, and our services have remained unchanged for many years. The primary response unit which is the medic out of Kailua Fire Station is always busy and with the long transport to Kona Community Hospital, it leaves the district open for longer amounts of time. If the Kailua ambulance is on a call, the next in would be Keauhou, Captain Cook, or South Kohala which increase the response times dramatically. Adding an additional unit to Makalei will ensure that HFD response times will be reduced to more acceptable amounts of time. The health and well being of our community is of the utmost importance and

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Melanie Keolanui

Fire Captain, Central Fire Station

Hawaii Fire Department

Hawaii Fire Department

LATE

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 2:53:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Robello	Testifying for Hawaii fire department	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 2:59:53 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
steven tabura	Testifying for hawaii county fire dept.	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 3:11:59 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel James Carvalho	Testifying for Hawaii Fire Department	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 5:49:10 PM

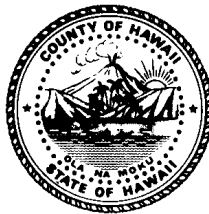
Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathon Ucker	Testifying for HFD	Support	No

Comments:

Karen Eoff
Council Vice Chair
Council District 8, N. Kona



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HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i
West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A
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Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740



February 25, 2020

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

Re: Testimony in support of SB 2618, Relating to Ambulances;
Hearing: February 25, 2020 at 12:40 p.m., Conference Room 211

On behalf of myself and the constituents of Council District 8 in North Kona, I would like to express support of above referenced bill, and submit a brief testimony as follows:

This bill will provide an appropriation for an advanced life support ambulance, a vehicle, equipment and personnel costs to be based in Makalei, in North Kona. Residents would benefit greatly because the population has increased significantly over the years, with a steady increase in calls for emergency medical services.

I strongly urge the enactment of SB 2618, SD1.

Sincerely,

KAREN EOFF, Council Member
District 8, North Kona

KE.wpb

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2020 5:23:55 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elena Cabatu	Testifying for Hilo Medical Center	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 11:01:32 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matt Loper	Testifying for Hawaii Fire Department	Support	No

Comments:

February 23, 2020

Honorable Senators,

Re: I support SB#2618, Ambulance for Makalei Fire Station.

I have been a firefighter for the County of Hawaii these past 10 years and I support the proposed SB#2618 concerning an ALS Ambulance for Makalei Fire Station.

The district that Makalei Fire Station covers is in need of an ALS Ambulance. I am stationed at Makalei Fire Station and have been on calls where response times of an ALS unit have been too long. The Ambulance that normally responds is located at Station 7 Kailua. If they are available to respond, our response times are adequate. Due to Kailua's call volume, they may already be on another call. This makes the next district (Keauhou) pull their ALS unit to respond. This significantly increases the response time due to the distance they must travel. Keauhou can be and have been on calls at the same time which makes them unavailable and pulls the next available ambulance from Captain Cook. This makes response times way to long and leaves other districts without an ALS ambulance. Makalei Fire Station has been in need of an ALS ambulance for some time. Emergency medical service call volume is growing every year with population increase.

Thank you very much for allowing me to submit testimony. Your support of this bill is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

FEO Matt Loper

Monday, February 24th, 2020

In Support of S.B. NO. 2618

Committees on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health (CPH) and Ways and Means (WAM)

Benjamin Agdeppa

74-5075 Kumakani Street

Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

Support for S.B. NO. 2618 - Appropriation of Funding for Life Support Ambulances for Makalei and Puna

Aloha Senators, My name is Benjamin Agdeppa, I am a lifelong resident of Kailua-Kona on the island of Hawaii. I fully support S.B. NO. 2618, which would appropriate funding for Life Support Ambulance for Makale, North Kona.

As a personal witness, who has ridden along with the men and women of the Hawaii Fire Department from the Kailua-Kona Fire Station in the past, I have seen the true need for another ambulance in the North Kona District. Once, the unit from Kailua-Kona was dispatched, the next available ambulance is at least 10 minutes or more away in Keauhou and Captain Cook or far as North from the South Kohala and Waikoloa Fire Stations. The average travel time to the Kalaoa/Makalei area from Kailua-Kona was at least 10 minutes or more, depending on traffic and the time of the day. The same also goes for if someone was to personally drive to the Kona Community Hospital in Kealahou, travel time is greater 30 mins, which in those times can ultimately lead someone losing their life. The need for frontline life support ambulance has grown substantially with not only the population growth of North Kona but also the rise in tourism to Kona as well.

Providing funding for this a life support ambulance in Makalei would not only cut down on ambulance response times and save lives for the Makalei area but also save on the wear and tear of the ambulances units themselves and personnel that are also assigned to them.

I urge you to support S.B. NO. 2618. Mahalo for considering my testimony in strong support for this measure.

Mahalo,

Benjamin Agdeppa

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 5:42:56 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emily T Gail	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Every time over last 10 years or more I am so aware of the density of traffic from years ago on the upper road 190 on the Big Island in West Hawaii. I try to avoid 190 and when I cannot I think about the need for an ambulance at the Makalei Station. That's just one reason for the need for ambulance it's all the residents it would serve in other emergencies as well. It's time. Please give us your voice. Emily T Gail

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 9:18:31 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kazuo Todd	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB 2618 would provide an ALS ambulance for the Makalei Fire Station, which is several miles from the nearest existing ambulance and half an hour or more from the nearest hospital. I believe this ambulance would provide for better medical response to the residents of Norht Kona, and ask for your favorable support of this bill.

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 10:32:38 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gerald Kosaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony.

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 10:37:30 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. Frank H. Sayre, D.D.S.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

While testifying as an individual, I am also the Chair of the Board of Governors of the Daniel Sayre Memorial Foundation, whose mission is to support the Hawaii County Fire Department. This is accomplished by raising funds for the purchase of lifesaving equipment and training that the County's budget cannot support. Our County is huge and our population grouping is disbursed. North Kona is one of the fastest growing districts here. Currently we are served by the ambulance at the Kailua station - the busiest on the Island. If they are already out on a call the back-up ambulance is either from Keauhou, South Kohala or Captain Cook stations. The response time from any of these stations can be from 30 to 45 minutes. This can result in very bad outcomes. From a moral standpoint this is unacceptable. From a legal standpoint it's very dangerous for the State and the County. Mahalo.

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 12:19:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Riley Ehukai Archibald	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2020 4:39:06 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randall Masutomi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the critically needed ambulance and staffing for the Makalei area of North Kona. Doing so would provide North Kona with the emergency medical needs the community deserves. The current responding ambulance from Kailua town can generally respond within 10-15 minutes if they are available. They are the 2nd busiest unit on the island and that said, the next closest medic unit is from South Kona Keauhou 15-25 minutes away. Thank you for your consideration.

Randall Masutomi

SB-2618-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2020 12:55:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rayne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: