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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII ARMY NATIONAL GUARD TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY  
TRANSPORT SERVICES BY HELICOPTER TO INDIVIDUALS FROM  
LEEWARD OAHU AND COMMUNITIES IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY WHO  
REQUIRE IMMEDIATE TRAUMA CARE.

1           WHEREAS, at one time, Hawaii Medical Center's West Oahu  
2 facility provided medical services to a vast population that  
3 extended from Leeward Oahu to the Ewa plain; and  
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5           WHEREAS, however, in December 2011, the closure of Hawaii  
6 Medical Center's West Oahu facility in Ewa, as well as its East  
7 Oahu facility in Liliha, resulted in diminished access to  
8 medical care and treatment services for all Oahu residents and  
9 burdened existing medical facilities, which have had to  
10 accommodate a greater patient load due to the closures; and  
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12           WHEREAS, since December 2011, closures of these medical  
13 facilities have left the Ewa and Waipahu areas without access to  
14 an emergency room in the immediate vicinity, resulting in  
15 inundated emergency rooms at Wahiawa General and Pali Momi  
16 hospitals, a shortage of beds island-wide, and a loss of  
17 doctors' offices; and  
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19           WHEREAS, according to emergency medical services'  
20 officials, the closures of Hawaii Medical Center's two  
21 facilities has also led to an increase in 911 calls, thus taxing  
22 ambulance services island-wide; and  
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24           WHEREAS, residents in Leeward Oahu and communities in the  
25 immediate vicinity are particularly affected by substantially  
26 reduced access to healthcare and delayed access to emergency  
27 medical care since they must now be transported to The Queen's  
28 Medical Center, the only trauma care facility in the State, to  
29 receive such services; and



1           WHEREAS, alternatives to enable efficient and reliable  
2 emergency transport services must be pursued to provide Leeward  
3 Oahu and other affected communities with immediate access to  
4 critical emergency care services; and

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6           WHEREAS, one option is to have the Hawaii Army National  
7 Guard provide emergency transport services by helicopter from  
8 Leeward Oahu and other affected communities in the immediate  
9 vicinity to The Queen's Medical Center when immediate access to  
10 trauma care is needed; now, therefore,

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12           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
13 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
14 of 2012, that the Hawaii Army National Guard is urged to provide  
15 transport services by helicopter from Leeward Oahu and  
16 communities in the immediate vicinity to The Queen's Medical  
17 Center or other emergency services facility when immediate  
18 access to trauma care is needed; and

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20           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
21 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Adjutant  
22 General of the Hawaii National Guard.

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OFFERED BY:



FEB 21 2012

