
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that residents of the
2 island of Hawaii would greatly benefit from the addition of two
3 advanced life support ambulances to augment the Hawaii county
4 emergency medical services system for residents of the Puna and
5 Makalei areas. The populations of these areas have
6 significantly increased over the years, which has corresponded
7 with a steady increase in calls for emergency medical services.

8 The legislature further finds that access to primary health
9 care in Puna and Makalei is challenging for the communities.
10 For many residents, primary care services are as many as thirty
11 miles away. Coupled with economic and transportation
12 challenges, emergency medical services have become the access
13 point for health care to many residents.

14 Due to the lack of resources, it has become common for
15 medics to have up to ten transports in a twenty-four hour shift.
16 The potential for fatigue resulting in errors in judgment,
17 driving, and overall safety are of great concern for personnel
18 and residents.



1 The legislature further finds that new advanced life
2 support ambulances will help reduce death and disability among
3 residents and visitors on the island of Hawaii. A timely
4 response to a 911 call is critical to increase the likelihood of
5 successful outcomes for injured or sick individuals. Given the
6 island's significant growth and aging population, two advanced
7 life support ambulances are needed and will be cost-effective.

8 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for two
9 advanced life support ambulances to be based in the Puna and
10 Makalei areas on the island of Hawaii and to be used during
11 daily peak hours from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., including the
12 acquisition of vehicles, equipment, and personnel costs for
13 state-certified emergency medical service personnel.

14 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for two
17 advanced life support ambulances to be:

- 18 (1) Based in Puna and Makalei on the island of Hawaii; and
19 (2) Used during daily peak hours from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00
20 p.m.,



1 and to include the acquisition of vehicles, equipment, and
2 personnel costs for state-certified emergency medical service
3 personnel.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
5 health for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2015.



Report Title:

Emergency Medical Services; Advanced Life Support Ambulances;
Appropriation

Description:

Makes an appropriation for two advanced life support ambulances to be based in Puna and Makalei on the island of Hawaii and to be used during daily peak hours from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., and to include vehicles, equipment, and personnel costs. Effective January 1, 2015. (HB1722 HD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

