A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

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

PART I

SECTION 1. This part shall be known and may be cited as "Keo's Law".

SECTION 2. The legislature finds that the department of health is responsible for administering and maintaining the comprehensive state emergency medical service system, or state emergency medical system. Administration of the system by a state agency ensures that all emergency services, including ground and air ambulance services conducted by or under the authorization of the department of health or any county, are consistent with part XVIII of chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

As required by Act 60, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, the department of health contracted with the United States National Highway Traffic Safety Administration under the guidance of a steering committee to conduct a study of the state emergency medical system. This review was conducted on October 14 to 18,
2019. The United States National Highway Traffic Safety Administration identified the State's emergency medical system as an essential public health service for both the State's residents and visitors, which is a finding with which the legislature concurs.

To fulfill the duties of its emergency medical services and injury prevention system branch, it is imperative that the department of health strive to ensure that the state emergency medical system is efficiently maintained and effectively provides emergency services.

Therefore, the purpose of this part is to:

(1) Require the department of health to work with the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, or other qualified entity, to conduct a comprehensive statewide workforce study reviewing the entire state emergency medical system to identify strengths and issues and provide recommendations to increase the emergency medical technician and paramedic workforce;

(2) Conduct a comprehensive cost analysis of the entire state emergency medical system to identify strengths and any issues with the system and provide
recommendations to improve the economic function of
the system, including but not limited to centralized
purchasing and other cost-saving measures; and

(3) Require the auditor to conduct a comprehensive
management audit of the emergency medical services
department of the city and county of Honolulu.

SECTION 3. (a) No later than September 30, 2020, the
department of health shall work with the National Registry of
Emergency Medical Technicians, or other qualified entity, to
conduct a study of the state emergency medical system workforce.

(b) The purpose of the study shall be to identify
strengths and any issues with the system and provide
recommendations to increase the emergency medical technician and
paramedic workforce.

(c) The department of health shall submit a report of its
findings and recommendations, including any proposed
legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
to the convening of the regular session of 2021.

(d) The department of health shall invite a representative
of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technician study
team to brief the members of the legislature once the written
report is finalized.

SECTION 4. (a) No later than September 30, 2020, the
department of health shall conduct a comprehensive cost analysis
of the entire state emergency medical system.

(b) The purpose of the cost analysis shall be to identify
strengths and any issues with the system and provide
recommendations to improve the economic function of the system,
including but not limited to centralized purchasing and other
cost-saving measures.

(c) The department of health shall submit a report of its
findings and recommendations, including any proposed
legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
to the convening of the regular session of 2021.

(d) The department of health shall invite a representative
from the cost analysis team to brief the members of the
legislature once the written report is finalized.

SECTION 5. (a) The auditor shall conduct a comprehensive
management audit of the emergency medical services department of
the city and county of Honolulu. The audit shall include but
not be limited to the actions, initiatives, and performance of
the emergency medical services department's duty to:
(1) Provide quality pre-hospital emergency medical care
and services to residents and visitors of Oahu,
twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week;
(2) Prevent injuries and promote safer, healthier
lifestyles; and
(3) Educate the public about emergency medical services.
(b) The audit shall recommend improvements to update,
redefine, or realign the emergency medical services department's
mission and organization based on the evolving needs and
efficiency of emergency medical services. The audit shall also
consider whether the emergency medical services department
should be afforded greater autonomy or seek out public-private
partnerships to increase efficiency and performance.
(c) In conducting the audit, the auditor shall solicit
comprehensive and, as necessary, confidential feedback from the
State's emergency medical services stakeholder community.
(d) The auditor shall submit a report to the legislature
of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed
legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of 
the regular session of 2021.

SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general 
revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $25,000 or so much 
thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the 
comprehensive workforce study of the state emergency medical 
system workforce pursuant to section 3 of this Act. 
The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of 
health for the purposes of this part.

SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general 
revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $100,000 or so much 
thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the 
comprehensive cost analysis of the entire state emergency 
medical system pursuant to section 4 of this Act. 
The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of 
health for the purposes of this part.

PART II

SECTION 8. The purpose of this part is to appropriate 
funds for the expenses of the state emergency medical system.

SECTION 9. There is appropriated out of the general 
revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $15,776,780 or so
much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
program ID HTH 730 to meet the collective bargaining
requirements and recurring personnel costs for service providers
contracted to provided pre-hospital emergency medical services
necessary to maintain the current level of pre-hospital
emergency medical system services.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
health for the purposes of this part.

SECTION 10. There is appropriated out of the general
revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $3,997,494 or so much
thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
program ID HTH 730 to meet other current expenses.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
health for the purposes of this part.

PART III

SECTION 11. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.
Report Title:
Emergency Medical Services; Cost Analysis; Workforce Development; Collective Bargaining; Audit; Appropriation

Description:
Requires and appropriates funds for the department of health to conduct comprehensive workforce and cost analysis reviews with federal partners to improve efficiency, quality, and cost-effectiveness. Requires the auditor to conduct a comprehensive management audit of the emergency medical services department of the city and county of Honolulu. Appropriates funds for collective bargaining increases and other current expenses. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

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