

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

99

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 2015

RE: S.B. No. 1016

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2015  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 1016  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds to establish an advanced life support ambulance to be based in Puna on the island of Hawaii, including the acquisition of a vehicle and equipment and personnel costs for state-certified emergency medical services personnel.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Fire Department; Honolulu Emergency Services Department, Emergency Medical Services Division; Hawaii Fire Fighters Association, Local 1463; United Public Workers; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that Puna community residents on the island of Hawaii are in great need of an additional advanced life support ambulance to augment the current Hawaii County Fire Department's Emergency Medical Services System. Puna has become the fastest growing district in the State, with a current population of more than 45,000 individuals and a projected population to surge to approximately 75,000 individuals within the next 15 years.



Your Committee further finds that the ongoing lava flow has exacerbated the need to serve the nearly 10,000 residents within the projected impact area. Critical transportation infrastructure continues to be affected, which will result in delayed emergency medical care for the residents of Puna if additional resources are not provided. The travel time to Hilo, once the flow crosses Highway 130, is expected to increase from the current average of thirty minutes to two hours.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1016 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Health,



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JOSH GREEN, Chair



