

# Hawai`i State Association of Counties (HSAC)

Counties of Kaua`i, Maui, Hawai`i and City & County of Honolulu

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February 21, 2017

TO: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Stacy Crivello  
HSAC President

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 23, 2017; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 453, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the Hawaii State Association of Counties in **support** of this measure. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for one ambulance unit each for the County of Kauai and County of Hawaii, including equipment, supplies and personnel costs.

This measure is included in the 2017 Hawaii State Association of Counties Legislative Package. Therefore, I submit this testimony on HSAC's behalf.

HSAC **supports** this measure for the following reasons:

1. This legislation is consistent with the recommended proposal by officials of the Department of Health Emergency Medical Services Injury Prevention Branch, during their presentation to HSAC on Sept. 26, 2016. It is consistent with an agreement among provider agencies that Kauai County and Hawaii County are prioritized to receive new ambulances.
2. According to the state EMS department, Hawaii County and Kauai County have the highest areas of need for additional ambulance units to meet the districts' growing health and safety needs.

Mahalo for your consideration.

*HSAC:FY2017:17Testimony:SB453b\_mkz*