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## RESOLUTION

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URGING THAT THE HONOLULU EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT OBTAIN A SECOND PROVIDER FOR BACK UP AMBULANCE SERVICE FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU.

WHEREAS, Councilmember Kymberly Marcos Pine and Councilmember Ron Menor held an Emergency Services Briefing on April 16, 2013 to address the deficiency of emergency services in West Oahu following the closure of St. Francis Medical Center in Ewa Beach; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Honolulu Emergency Services Department (HESD) presented a report of services at that briefing and confirmed that the City's ambulances are forced to travel from West Oahu to as far as Central Oahu when hospitals reach capacity; and

WHEREAS, HESD has added a City-supported Ewa Beach ambulance that operates 16 hours per day; and

WHEREAS, use of a City ambulance for non-911 patient transport makes that ambulance unable to immediately respond to 911 emergency calls, resulting in the next closest ambulance responding to provide emergency response, but from a farther location; and

WHEREAS, a single City ambulance cannot adequately serve the growing West Oahu region's population for both non-911 patient transport and 911 emergency calls due to the region's population size, geographic extent, and corresponding transport times to available emergency medical facilities; and

WHEREAS, the HESD presently contracts with a private ambulance provider to provide 911 emergency back-up ambulance service to the City and County of Honolulu; and

WHEREAS, the HESD also contracts with the same private ambulance provider to provide ambulance service for non-911 patient transport calls; and

WHEREAS, since 1995, there has been no competitive bidding for the HESD back-up service contract; and



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WHEREAS, the HESD data shows that for the months of March, April and May 2013 that about 1/3 of all calls to the current private ambulance provider for non-911 back-up patient transport services were turned down and referred back to the HESD; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for a second private ambulance service provider for the City and County of Honolulu to provide back-up services to the existing 911 emergency service; and

WHEREAS, the cost of ambulance service to the City and County of Honolulu could be decreased by the City contracting with a second private ambulance service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the Honolulu Emergency Services Department is urged to obtain a second private ambulance service provider to provide additional back-up services to better service the West Oahu region, lessen the impact of non-911 patient transport calls on the 911 emergency medical services system, decrease costs to the City, and ultimately save more lives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honolulu Emergency Services Department is requested to report to the Council their implementation plan, including the steps to be taken by the Department to decrease the impact of non-911 calls on the emergency medical services 911 system, and the steps taken to obtain a second ambulance provider to provide back-up services to lessen the impact of non-911 calls to the emergency medical services 911 system, within 90 days of adoption of this Resolution; and



RESOLUTION

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, and the Director of the Honolulu Emergency Services Department.

INTRODUCED BY:

*Shirley Pua*  
*For member*

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

JUL 9 2013

Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers