



p. 8 Reso 13-158

AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE®

August 6, 2013

The Honorable Council Chair
Ernest Y. Martin
The Honolulu City Council
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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CITY CLERK
HONOLULU, HAWAII

RE: Opposition to Resolution 13-158 – Back Up ambulance Service

Dear Chair Martin:

This testimony is in opposition to Resolution 13-158 with regards to Back-up Ambulance Service. There is no need to obtain a second private ambulance service provider to provide additional back up services for the City and County of Honolulu.

American Medical Response (AMR) has provided ambulance services on Oahu and the State of Hawaii for greater than 30 years. Throughout our tenure, we have provided back-up services to the City and County of Honolulu.

The resolution is incorrect as follows:

1. The HESD has added 34 City-supported ambulance hours in West Oahu since the closure of HMC West.
2. The back-up services contract has been competitively bid (10) times since 1995 alone, most recently in March 2011. The City has not contracted with its current provider on a "sole source" basis.
3. There is no data to support that there is an emerging need for a second private ambulance provider for the City and County of Honolulu to provide back-up services to the existing 911 emergency service. In fact, the City has cancelled the (2) AMR ambulances contracted for back-up services since the HMC closure effective September 1, 2013.

In AMR's tenure providing back-up services to the City and County of Honolulu, there have been no documented contractual, compliance or patient care citations. In fact:

In a letter dated February 26, 2013, Mark Rigg, Director of the HESD wrote, "HESD values the critical partnership that AMR has been party to under this Contract", and "HESD appreciates your cooperation and assistance in this matter, and looks forward to our continued working relationship".

In a letter dated, July 30, 2013, Director Rigg states, "AMR's continued support in the provision of 911 Emergency Medical Services to our residents and visitors has been invaluable".

AMR is meeting the need for 911 back up service and non-911 ambulances services and is available to add (as in the HMC West closure) services to the C&C if necessary.

In addition, (6) State Health Planning Committees (SHPDA) have met and reviewed two separate Certificate of Need applications for the addition of another private ambulance in West Oahu and each committee voted in opposition to the applications.

There is no unmet need!

Sincerely,



Speedy Bailey, General Manager
American Medical Response