

SCR80

Senator J. Kalani English, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs

Hearing date: March 30, 2009  
1:45 PM

Testimony in Support of SCR80.

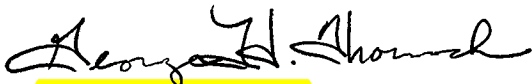
I **strongly support SCR80**, which urges nonprofit organizations and community groups to establish safety procedures for roadside solicitation of funds and donated goods.

I understand the need for non-profits and community groups to raise funds, although I'm not certain the method of collecting funds at the side of the road is really fundraising—it's more like begging. Whatever happened to providing a service in exchange for a donation!

However, the issue of "getting something for nothing" isn't the point of this resolution. SCR80 addresses the justifiable safety concern for those who are soliciting the donations. In their enthusiasm and zeal to collect the much needed funds, solicitors often stand very close to the roadway—even encroaching on the roadway at times. This is a dangerous practice. This is particularly true of young people, who seem to feel that they are invincible. It can be very disconcerting for motorists.

I urge your support of the resolution. I would hope that non-profits and community groups are already aware of the need for safety when conducting roadside solicitation of funds but it evidently isn't being communicated well enough to those who are soliciting at the side of the road.

Sincerely,



**George H. Thornock**  
95-589 Wailoa Loop  
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Senator J. Kalani English, Chair  
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair

Members of the Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

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I support SCR80.

SCR80 addresses a very real concern. We've recently seen an increase of solicitations at the side of the road for various charitable or community groups. Almost every Saturday, there are individuals with fish nets standing along the side of the road, generally near traffic signals, soliciting funds for some cause. In many instances, it presents a real traffic hazard.

Organizations who use this method of fundraising must be reminded that safety procedures should be in place and those procedures should be stressed to their volunteers. It would be very unfortunate for someone to be injured while participating in the collection of funds or donated goods.

Please support SCR80.

Aloha,



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