

Testimony for SCR60

Jolyn M. Tenn

45-532 Halekou Road
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

**LATE
TESTIMONY** c

Committee Chairs Senator Green and Senator Baker and distinguished members of the joint committees:

It is appalling that you would even consider such a resolution. The fact that you are now equating tobacco products to explicit pornography is laughable. We must hide it from the children? Utter nonsense. The day you take on using the word ERECTION, and non subtle innuendo about sex in conjunction with Pharmaceutical products, even during children's TV programming, then maybe we can talk about "protecting" our children.

You must be 18 years of age to purchase tobacco products. They are all ready protecting the youth by keeping these products behind the counters, yet Alcohol is easily accessible in open refrigerators, openly available on grocery shelves and a minor could easily steal a can or bottle without much effort, and even consume it in the store for Pete's sake, yet you must be 21 to purchase that product.

Mom and Pop stores do not have the ability to move these legal products without a great deal of cost and effort. The price of commercial real estate is very high, the taxation you derive from the sale of Tobacco products is obscene and now you are demanding that they revise their entire floor plans, turn smokers into pariahs of society by treating them like back of the bus citizens, just so the children will not be able to see a legal product? When is the last time you had to meet your bottom line and balance your budget? How would you like it if we the people decided that you could no longer use the elevators at the Capitol, for example, because we would want you to set the example so Obese people, would be more likely to get their exercise? Silly right?

And let's revisit those "additional Health Care Costs". We pay more than our fair share. Through the Master settlement agreement taxes that have been passed onto smokers, and the endless greed of taxation that is heaped upon smokers by every agency you can imagine. We fund the Federal SChip program not to mention a whole host of other special interest groups. Is it the smoker's fault that the Government chooses to divert all the funds that are collected from smoker's to other pet projects instead of a savings account to assist in the treatment of Smoking related illnesses? There is no budget shortfall on this matter; there is a giant surplus that is being robbed from this group of tax paying citizens, who are the told in turn that they are a burden on society.

I am not an accountant, but I can definitely do the math on this one. I have researched the cost of so called smoking related illnesses, which by the way can not be tied solely to smoking, but must also consider lifestyle, ethnicity, basic genetic make up, etc., and the cost to the state of Hawaii is far less then the revenue that is generated by tobacco products. Please put aside any personal agendas, and/or lobbyist pressure and stop to this nonsensical and business damaging legislation.

Sincerely,

Jolyn M. Tenn
45-532 Halekou Road
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
808-721-8384

From: kkapahu@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 6:42 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: SCR60 testimony

Testimony

SCR60

Hearing on

Wednesday, April 13, 2011

9:00a.m.

Conf. room 229

State Capital

I'm **against** this "resolution". Who ever the lolo was that thought of this needs to write the 1st amendment to the constitution on a 3 by 5 card, post it on their mirror, and read it every morning while they shave. In this way they can reacquaint themselves with what it means.

Sincerely,
Kevin Kapahu
Waianae, HI

**LATE
TESTIMONY**

green2 - Kealaonalehua

From: Lisa Oshiro [lisayoshiro@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 6:23 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: scr-60 testimony

Health and Commerce Committee Hearing
April 13,2011.

Testimony

Opposed

SCR-60

From;
Lisa Oshiro
411 Hobron Ln.
Honolulu, HI 96815

Why on earth can't people see what tobacco products are offered? SCR-60 is one of the most retarded resolutions I've ever seen.

**LATE
TESTIMONY**



COALITION FOR A
TOBACCO-FREE HAWAII

To: The Honorable Josh Green, HTH Chair
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, HTH Chair
The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, CPN Vice Chair
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, CPN Vice Chair
The Senate Committee on Health and Commerce & Consumer Protections
Fr: Trisha Y. Nakamura, Policy and Advocacy Director
Hrg: April 13, 2011
Re: Strong Support for SCR 60, Urging the State of Hawaii to Adopt Policies that Reduce the Harm Caused by the Sale and Display of Tobacco

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in strong support of SCR 60, urging the State to adopt policies that reduce the harm caused by the sale and display of tobacco. This resolution moves us forward to make sure the next generations do not suffer the harms of tobacco products. This is an exciting step in having proactive policies that improve our public health.

The tobacco industry spends more than \$42 million alone on marketing its products to people in Hawaii. This marketing includes ads and product displays at the point of sale and in storefronts. Collectively, this impacts our children and those trying to quit.

In 2010, the Tobacco Alcohol and Advertising Survey¹ results were released. The results summarize data collected from more than 300 stores statewide. Results indicate that tobacco companies aggressively market its products at stores—through storefront ads and through the display of the products themselves. Tobacco products were regularly placed near candy and toys—products often enjoyed by children. 97% of stores had tobacco products at the point of sale and 90% had tobacco ads at the point of sale.

Tobacco ads play a major role in youth smoking. Worldwide and in the US, tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship entice young people to use tobacco, encourage smokers to smoke more, and decrease smokers' motivation to quit.²

Unlike other products which outreach to consumers at stores, tobacco is deadly when used as directed. Smoking cigarettes and tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease. We can end this by making sure youth never start and tobacco users have every opportunity to quit.

In 2009, President Obama signed the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act into law. This allows local and state governments the ability to address the way tobacco products are sold and advertised. This resolution will indicate our State's support to find new ways to reduce youth tobacco use and help tobacco users quit.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

The Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawaii (Coalition) is the only independent organization in Hawaii whose sole mission is to reduce tobacco use through education, policy and advocacy.

¹The Survey is the result of a partnership among the Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawaii, REAL—Hawaii's Youth Movement Exposing the Tobacco Industry, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and the State Department of Health (Alcohol Drug Abuse Division and Tobacco Prevention Education Program.

² World Health Organization Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic 2008: *The mpower Package*. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2008. <http://www.who.int/tobacco/mpower/en/>