
HOUSE BILL 2911

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Representatives Entenman and Pollet

Read first time 01/31/20. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to charitable solicitation near public roadways;
2 adding a new section to chapter 19.09 RCW; and creating a new
3 section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

6 (a) For over fifty years, firefighters across Washington have
7 engaged in charitable fund-raising events to support medical research
8 of debilitating diseases such as muscular dystrophy; provide
9 comprehensive health care and support services, advocacy, and
10 education on behalf of children and adults with neuromuscular
11 diseases; and conduct summer camps for children with muscular
12 dystrophy;

13 (b) One of the most successful fund-raising events that
14 firefighters have employed is the signature "fill the boot" campaign,
15 which consists of firefighters asking passing motorists to contribute
16 by putting money into firefighter boots or similar such efforts; and

17 (c) Other nonprofit and charitable organizations may benefit from
18 the ability to solicit and accept donations in a similar manner.

19 (2) It is, therefore, the intent of the legislature to clarify
20 that local governments may, in their discretion, allow law
21 enforcement personnel and firefighters, other public safety

1 personnel, and nonprofit or charitable organizations to conduct fund-
2 raising activities near public roadways.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 19.09
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) A charitable organization may engage in a solicitation for
6 charitable purposes that involve persons standing in a public roadway
7 soliciting contributions from passing motorists, if the charitable
8 organization files an application with the city, county, or city and
9 county, as applicable, having jurisdiction over the location or
10 locations where the solicitation is to occur. The application shall
11 be filed not later than ten business days before the date that the
12 solicitation is to begin and shall include all of the following:

13 (a) The date or dates and times of day when the solicitation is
14 to occur;

15 (b) The location or locations where the solicitation is to occur;
16 and

17 (c) The manner and conditions under which the solicitation is to
18 occur.

19 (2) The city, county, or city and county shall approve the
20 application within five business days of the filing date of the
21 application, but may impose reasonable conditions in writing that are
22 consistent with the intent of this section and that are based on
23 articulated public safety concerns.

24 (3) By acting under this section, a city, county, or city and
25 county granting such approval do not waive or limit any immunity from
26 liability provided by any other provision of law.

27 (4) This section does not prevent a local agency from adopting an
28 ordinance regulating the time, place, or manner of charitable
29 solicitations in a public roadway by other persons or charities.

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