
Local Government Committee

HB 2911

Brief Description: Concerning charitable solicitation near public roadways.

Sponsors: Representatives Entenman and Pollet.

<p style="text-align: center;">Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allows charitable organizations to solicit donations while standing in a public roadway, when the charitable organization properly files an application with the local jurisdiction.
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Hearing Date: 2/4/20

Staff: Robbi Kesler (786-7153).

Background:

Local governments are authorized to enact ordinances to abate nuisances. Many municipalities have long had laws that place specific restrictions on begging or soliciting, such as laws that restrict begging by major roads, within a certain distance of an outdoor eating area or ATM, or that restrict begging at night.

Summary of Bill:

A charitable organization may engage in solicitation for charitable purposes while standing in a public roadway and to solicit contributions from passing motorists if the charitable organization files an application with the local government that has jurisdiction over the location where the solicitation will occur. The application must be filed no later than 10 business days before the date the solicitation will begin and must include the date(s) and times of day, location(s), and manner and conditions under which the solicitation is to occur.

The local jurisdiction must approve the application within five business days after receiving the application, but may impose reasonable conditions in writing, that articulate public safety

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concerns. The local jurisdiction does not waive or limit any immunity from liability by granting approval. A local jurisdiction is not prohibited from adopting an ordinance regulating the time, place, or manner of charitable solicitations in a public roadway by other persons or charities.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 31, 2020.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.