



COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Rep. Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair

Rep. Adrian K. Tam, Vice Chair

SCR24 SD 1

POSITION: SUPPORT

Hearing Date: April 13, 2022; Hearing Time 10:00am

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam, and Committee Members:

Aloha United Way would like to express its full support for SCR24 SD1, which designates April 17-23 as Volunteer week throughout the State of Hawaii.

Aloha United Way has long recognized the critical and irreplaceable role volunteers fill for our non-profit sector and its ability to effectively help to meet community needs such as tutor and educational help, emergency response, environmental clean ups, homelessness and food distribution programs, sports leagues, animal shelters and so much more. AUW in fact provides resources and a centralized database to match volunteers to opportunities of interest and where there is need, and we solicit and support hundreds of volunteers to serve their community and causes each year.

The value of volunteers and the unpaid work and donated time and services they offer reaches into the billions nationally. Without them, many of the wonderful services provided in Hawaii would shrink or disappear. Volunteerism strengthens the foundation of neighborhoods and communities, connects people to others they may not otherwise meet, and when managed well, can add significant capacity to a non-profit service and its reach.

Supporting and increasing volunteerism and the public's understanding of the incredible value volunteers add to the State and our communities should be celebrated, recognized and promoted, and **AUW supports SCR24 SD1** as a mechanism to help build volunteerism in Hawaii.

Thank you for considering this testimony and for your support of **SCR24 SD1** to designate April 17-23 as Volunteer Week for the State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Suzanne Skjold".

Suzanne Skjold
Chief Operating Officer

TESTIMONY OF

LARRY S VERAY

TO THE COMMITTEE ON:
CULTURE, ARTS & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

MOST STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR 24 SD1

RELATING TO VOLUNTEER MONTH

APRIL 12, 2022

Aloha, Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and committee members. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony on SCR 24. Although I am Chair for the Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21, I am submitting this testimony as an individual.

I totally support SCR 24 and its intent to designate the month of April as Volunteer Month to recognize the thousands of volunteers who sacrifice their personal family time to support others for always a good cause. This past two years during the pandemic, many citizens stood up to help others supporting Department of Health vaccine centers, providing food and water to our elderly, families and the homeless; The Pearl City Lions Club volunteered their time to support blood drives and even donating much needed blood, Many church groups assisted in facilitating food drives and collecting food from the community for the needy. Lastly, many military and civilian volunteer groups, working side-by-side assisted in keeping our island clean by picking up trash off the Pearl Harbor Historic Bike Trail, from our parks and on off roadways. This volunteerism was observed throughout all the island communities while spreading their Aloha to others.

I most strongly urge you to support and approve SCR 24 SD1 because it is the right thing to do to recognize our special volunteers in Hawaii. Mahalo!

Very respectfully,

Larry S. Veray

SCR-24-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 11:06:22 AM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keone Kealoha	Kanu Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair, Vice-Chair and Committee Members,

We support this resolution and stand on our submitted testimony.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Keone Kealoha

Executive Director, Kanu Hawaii