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February 4, 2008

To: Senate Committee on Intergovernmental & Military Affairs Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair / Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair

By: Richard C. Botti, President or Lauren Zirbel, Gov't Relations

Re: SB 1965 RELATING TO FIREWORKS.

We oppose SB 1965.

Under the current law, we have tight controls over fireworks sales, and the times allowed for their use, which includes the three major cultural events annually. The total hours currently allowed per year add up to 24 hours, with half of those hours tailored to Chinese New Year's Day.

This measure, even if the permit fee were only \$1, would cause more enforcement problems that we now have with a stringent law with major limits on the use of fireworks, limits on where they can be used, limits on who can use them, and limits on the amount of firecrackers that can be purchased with a permit.

Granted, the businesses that we represent do sell and make a profit off the products, but the times allowed each year for selling the product is a mere ten days per year.