

## Maureen Andrade

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 04, 2010 7:53 AM  
**To:** PBStestimony  
**Cc:** reiziss@hawaiiintel.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2114 on 2/4/2010 8:30:00 AM

# LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for PBS 2/4/2010 8:30:00 AM HB2114

Conference room: 309  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Stann W. Reiziss, Ph.D.  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [reiziss@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:reiziss@hawaiiintel.net)  
Submitted on: 2/4/2010

### Comments:

Justification for supporting HB2114:

- Between December 31 through January 2, 2010, one hundred and twelve persons were injured by fireworks; seven admitted a hospital. These numbers only account for reported injuries.
- The ages of those injured by fireworks ranged from two years old to eighty two.
- More children under sixteen years old were hurt from fireworks during this time frame than the entire month of injuries from auto accidents, poisonings, and assaults combined.
- No accurate account was even attempted to account for pets and wildlife emotionally traumatized or injured as a result of fireworks.
- Forty million, two hundred fifty thousand (8050 permits X 5000 firecrackers) were discharged. This number only accounts for fireworks requiring a permit. It obviously excludes all illegal discharges.
- According to the American Lung Association, there are at least 175,000 people in Hawaii with some type of lung disease.
- On a typical day in Honolulu, particulate matter ranges from 4 to 15 micrograms per cubic meter.
- On January 1st, 2010 the particulate matter from the fireworks explosions was measured by the Health Department as high as 632 micrograms per cubic meter. Far in excess of Federal standards.
- Surely even those living beings with healthy lungs were in jeopardy.
- Add to all this, the property damage from fireworks caused fires, the compression impact damage to property, and hearing damage caused by the numerous bottle bomb devices that punctuated the night.

- The Secret Service was put on alert in order to protect our vacationing President Obama and his family in case they were in danger of harm from fireworks, intentionally or inadvertently .

\* If this isn't terrorism, a clear State security risk, please explain to me what is.

Plainly, all the ingredients and opportunities are omnipresent under the guise of "celebrating" the New Year and scaring away "evil" spirits through fireworks.

What could be more "evil" than the devastating effects of fireworks as outlined above?

- In my opinion, and in the opinion of the majority of the Hawaiian Island residents, fireworks must be banned for use by amateurs, and stringent laws of enforcement must be implemented.

- I implore you to immediately take every action you are empowered to use in order to mitigate, and preferably eradicate this clear, present, and continuing dangerous problem.

**aquino1-Ruffalyne**

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**From:** Tom [reelcom1@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2010 5:43 PM  
**To:** PBStestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony: HB2909, HB2271, HB2068, HB2114,

Citizen Testimony

I am are FOR **HB2909, HB2271, HB2068, HB2114**

**I will not be able to attend.**

Haven't we had enough!?

We lost a 13 year member of our family this New Years. Our cat 'Shadow', while already frail, just could not deal with all the bombs and smoke. We miss her beyond words.

It is time to BAN all personal aerial fireworks and explosive percussive devices in Hawaii during the next legislative session and at the City/County level. My wife and I went thru the 'celebration' where the windward side looked and sounded like WWII. My lungs, eyes and ears still hurt! The problem is not just on Oahu however our dear friend Karen Jennings lost her Dog of 10 years due to fireworks.

I am all for celebration, you know we Irish love to party, but how much longer will we allow a rabid few who won't follow the law harm the lungs and peace of mind of the rest of us? Where are those that say they care about the aina and kai?

A few other points to consider....

- 1) In addition to several cats and dogs dying from fireworks, a horse died on NY Eve, too. Also, service dogs upon whom the disabled depend for lifesaving tasks can be permanently injured or killed themselves, leaving the disabled person up the creek without a paddle for an indefinite period of time, exposing them to danger, and incurring great expense to replace the service dog.
- 2) Fireworks contain, in addition to lead and arsenic, radioactive barium, carcinogenic perchlorate, and MANY other highly toxic compounds that stay in the environment indefinitely, and have been shown to contaminate drinking water.
- 3) The percussive blasts of even legal fireworks are enough to cause permanent hearing damage. The blast levels from the illegal \_military grade explosions\_ can cause traumatic brain injuries or death, as have been sustained by many of our troops.
- 4) Endangered species are put at risk from fireworks displays. Between the noise, lights, debris, and toxic air and runoff the potential for damage is very likely. Sea turtles in Florida have been known to ingest fireworks debris that ends up in the ocean, and with increasing numbers of our critically endangered monk seals breeding in the main islands, they are being put in even more danger, too.
- 5) The term "cultural purposes", as it pertains to fireworks use, opens up a HUGE loophole that will undoubtedly be used by those who want to set off fireworks indiscriminately. It needs to be deleted from the bill.

Today's modern aerial fireworks are a threat to public safety, the environment and our health. Please contact your representatives and let your voice be heard. Never again should the citizens of Hawaii and Oahu have to put up with this. And I look forward to actively campaigning against any public official who refuse to see the wisdom of this course

Sincerely,

Tom McAuliffe  
Hawaii Citizen  
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