

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA  
DIRECTOR

LEONARD HOSHIJO  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
[www.labor.hawaii.gov](http://www.labor.hawaii.gov)  
Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099  
Email: [dlir.director@hawaii.gov](mailto:dlir.director@hawaii.gov)

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Angus McKelvey, Chair  
Committee on Consumer Protection and  
Commerce  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 320  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair McKelvey:

Subject: House Bill (HB) 1172 Relating to Fireworks

I am Manuel P. Neves, Chair of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The SFC and the HFD support HB 1172, which proposes to clarify the probable cause in the arrest of individuals violating the Fireworks Control Law.

This bill enables law enforcement agencies the ability to arrest individuals violating the Fireworks Control Law based on probable cause, eyewitness accounts, photographs, and/or video recordings. Clarifying the enforcement of the Fireworks Control Law should promote public safety and property conservation.

The SFC and the HFD urge your committee's support on the passage of HB 1172.

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7105 or [sbratakos@honolulu.gov](mailto:sbratakos@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Manuel P. Neves".

MANUEL P. NEVES  
Chair

MPN/LR:cic

**Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.**  
Mayor



**Robert F. Westerman**  
Fire Chief

**Wallace G. Rezentes, Jr.**  
Managing Director

**Kilipaki K. F. Vaughan**  
Deputy Fire Chief

**KAUA'I FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i**  
4444 Rice Street, Suite 315, Lihu'e, Hawai'i 96766  
TEL (808) 241-4980 FAX (808) 241-6508

February 7, 2017

The Honorable Angus McKelvey, Chair  
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 320  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair McKelvey:

**Subject: House Bill (HB) 1172 Relating to Fireworks**

I am Robert F. Westerman, Vice-Chair of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Kauai Fire Department (KFD). The SFC and the KFD support HB 1172, which proposes to clarify the probable cause in the arrest of individuals violating the Fireworks Control Law.

This bill would enables law enforcement agencies the ability to arrest individuals violating the Fireworks Control Law based on probable cause, eyewitness accounts, photographs, and/or video recordings. Clarifying the enforcement of the Fireworks Control Law should promote public safety and property conservation.

The SFC and the KFD urge your committee's support on the passage of HB 1172.

Please call me at (808) 241-4975 should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert Westerman  
Fire Chief, County of Kaua'i

RFW/eld

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

ALII PLACE  
1060 RICHARDS STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
PHONE: (808) 547-7400 • FAX: (808) 547-7515

**LATE**

KEITH M. KANESHIRO  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



CHRISTOPHER D.W. YOUNG  
FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

**THE HONORABLE ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, CHAIR**  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE**  
**Twenty-Ninth State Legislature**  
**Regular Session of 2017**  
**State of Hawai`i**

February 9, 2017

**RE: H.B. 1172; RELATING TO FIREWORKS.**

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Ichiyama and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu ("Department") submits the following testimony in opposition to H.B. 1172.

The purpose of this bill is to establish guidelines regarding arrests and mechanisms to establish probable cause for offenses involving fireworks.

Currently, the laws that prohibit setting off fireworks or aerial devices do not require that a police officer actually witness the crime. Although the proposed amendments in H.B. 1172 have good intentions, they appear unnecessary. Currently, the rules of evidence address what is competent evidence at trial. The issue that arises to successfully prosecute cases involving fireworks is the introduction of sufficient evidence that prove the defendant discharged an "aerial device" or other devices that are defined in section 132D-2.

"Aerial device" means any fireworks containing one hundred thirty milligrams or less of explosive materials that produces an audible or visible effect and is designed to rise into the air and explode or detonate in the air or to fly about above the ground, and that is prohibited for use by any person who does not have a permit for display issued by a county under section 132D-16. "Aerial devices" classified as fireworks under UN0336 and UN0337 by the United State Department of Transportation as set forth in Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations include firework items commonly known as billet rockets, sky rockets, missile-type rockets, helicopters, torpedoes, daygo bombs, roman candles, flying pigs, and jumping jacks that move about the ground farther than a circle with a radius of twelve feet as measured from the point where the item was placed and ignited, aerial shells, and mines."

For a number of reasons, definitions such as "Aerial device" included in section 132D-2 routinely create roadblocks to effective prosecution. Once an aerial device detonates, the ability to recover evidence to prove necessary elements of the charge become difficult.

For the foregoing reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu oppose the passage of H.B. 1172. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



*improving the quality of lives of pets and their people.*

---

Testimony by Alicia Maluafiti, PDP Board President  
In strong support of HB 1172 - Relating to Fireworks

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce  
Thursday, Feb. 9, 2 pm, Rm. 329

Aloha Chair McElvey and Members of the Committee,

Poi Dogs & Popoki (PDP) is a nonprofit animal welfare organization with a mission to help people and their pets. We are in strong support of HB 1172.

Illegal fireworks – both aeriels and other legal fireworks used illegally (prior to New Year’s Eve) – started in Ewa Beach on Halloween. By Thanksgiving Day, it became a daily occurrence. It is difficult for people to grasp the fear and stress that some animals experience due to fireworks. Unless you are seeing it first hand, you will fail to understand the chaos it causes in our lives and the lives of our animals. For some people whose animals are not impacted by fireworks, they simply have no empathy. I used to be one of those people before I started doing animal rescue.

In 2015, I called HPD repeatedly to report my neighbors who set off illegal aeriels throughout the month of December. I even had video. And each time that they bothered to show up, I got a different response from the officer but most often it had to do with the fact that THEY – the HPD – had to see firsthand the violation before they could make an arrest or confiscate the fireworks. They did NOT always show up. But I continued to take the video.

2016 was the worst. Bombs every night for 2 months. Day and night. 5 am. 5 pm. Midnight. It was painful and sad to see the animals (all rescues) – with fear in their eyes, panting out of control, and able to climb 6 foot fences just to run, to get away, to hide. Even with medication similar to Xanax, they had no relief. For three weekends leading up to New Years, I resorted to full-on sedation of the largest dogs. All of these “solutions” come with risks. And all of them cost money. I spent over \$500 just to treat the animals. And it still didn’t help on most nights. On New Years Eve, I drove the circuit of Fort Weaver and Ewa Beach Roads (a loop) and saw at least 10 “parties” with people setting off illegal aeriels in the middle of the road. I had to literally stop my vehicle and wait for them to finish lighting the fireworks. Any officer could have made an arrest that night. But none did. The fireworks went on till 4:30 am. They started again at 5:30 am and went all day.

In Ewa Beach, I had to put up with fireworks through the second week of January. And then again on Chinese New Year. And again on Superbowl Sunday. The last bomb went off at 8:30 pm. I could hear it discharge from its container – it was that close. And then the bomb – so loud it rattled the windows. And then my 100 pound mastiff scaled the 6 foot fence of his dog run, panting like it was 120 degrees. When animals are scared, they are capable of anything. And sadly – this mastiff was so scared that before Christmas, after a series of bombs, he scaled the fence and killed one of my smaller dogs. Markie was in emergency care for 5 days before I had to euthanize him. It cost me \$12,000.

Today – we all have cell phones that take pictures and videos. In fact – you can find a video of Ewa Beach on New Year’s Eve. We need HB 1172 because it at least provides HPD with the tools to make the arrest and confiscate the fireworks and hopefully – make a conviction. We need relief.

And please – I am tired of the “its da cultcha” argument. My family has homestead in Papakolea so I know all about popping fireworks on New Year’s Eve. But I am older. And smarter (I think). And a lot more compassionate about the people and animals around me. Fireworks are out of control. And while our legislative bodies lack the political will to ban all fireworks (both state and county), please at least give us (and HPD) the tools to fight fire with fire. And that is – if my neighbors decide to use illegal fireworks, then they need to pay the consequences. At this point in my life – I have nothing to lose. And nothing to fear. Except another horrible year of illegal fireworks.

Entertainment does NOT trump quality of life. Please pass HB 1172.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 2, 2017 7:11 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** KarinNomura1@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1172 on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM

**HB1172**

Submitted on: 2/2/2017

Testimony for CPC on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karin Nomura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: For years now, have had to deal with fireworks starting before Halloween and not ending till after Chinese New Years – with several times intervals of only 3 minutes, same location, fireworks going off. Called police, and have even had a patrol car go through the area that the fireworks were going off, and going off when the cruiser went by, but no change in the amount of fireworks or places where they kept recurring. (I didn't see anyone, that time, only once, and that was the male who set it off in front of my home, just as I laid down to go to sleep...as I have a tree that blocks a bit of the bend, police might not have either, but it's not even a minute before I no longer see the vehicle, before more fireworks were set...) With of course as I call the police, especially when the fireworks/"bombs" type go off near my home, startling my pets, the start of "hate her" then fireworks being set – which I've reported. Then I have police officers coming by (with one time none going off at the same time they stopped to talk to me, which I found amazing), and all they can do is try, because their hands are tied – they heard the firework because they happened to be coming to my home, but without seeing the person who lit it...Then there's know which house, but not the individual(s) responsible...Though I hear groups of people...

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** KarinNomura1@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1172 on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM

**HB1172**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for CPC on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karin Nomura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As mentioned I've had fireworks from Halloween to Chinese New Years, with some during the superbowl - signifying touchdowns...but not the every 3 minutes, after midnight, some sounding like gun shots, and calling because of it, only to keep having the same issue not even a minute after the patrol cars lights leave my line of sight...so frustrated with it at this point, would even support a complete ban except for professional venues at this point...

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 5, 2017 10:54 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** JFroggin@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1172 on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM

**HB1172**

Submitted on: 2/5/2017

Testimony for CPC on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jackie G	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Bill HB1172 Please consider pictures, video taping of people doing illegal fireworks. There are so many people who are tired of illegal fireworks in their neighborhoods including myself. Unfortunately, some neighborhoods have it worse than others. Residents have to deal with large explosives going off in their neighborhood at all different times of the year and day. Those around these illegal fireworks have not time to prepare for such a noise. Pets suffer and those who have PTSD bring back memories from what they've have experience. I understand cops can't be there and everywhere when things like these happen, so why not a neighbor or someone close by who sees it and video tapes it...use this against the person setting them off and have them arrested. The illegal fireworks have to end. Its exhausting for us and for my pets who have to suffer.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 5, 2017 10:08 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** makahacondo@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1172 on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM

**HB1172**

Submitted on: 2/5/2017

Testimony for CPC on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joyce Sabin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Fireworks (explosives) are used all times of the year, not just at New Years or 4th of July. There were big explosives use for the Super Bowl in my neighborhood as well as all times of the year. My dog is so traumatized by these explosives when they are used outside of the designated holiday. On the holidays I have to sedate her and stay home and monitor her for days before and after. I feel sorry for the young lady that dies this year as a result of using firework explosions, what a waste of a life.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 9:58 AM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** gerraine.s@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1172 on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM

**HB1172**

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for CPC on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
gerraine	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB 1172 to enable police arrest illegal fireworks users. Pet owners and their pets suffer greatly, not only for one day but for weeks before and after as it continues. It's nearly impossible to arrest them with the current law.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 10:21 AM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** dean@HawaiiGoesFishing.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1172 on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM

**HB1172**

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for CPC on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dean Sensui	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Police officers can't be everywhere, but because of modern technology, cameras are. Photographic and video evidence are powerful tools in the efforts to enforce our laws and, in the process, make our communities safer.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 1:25 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** fu\_dog\_5@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1172 on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM

**HB1172**

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for CPC on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
robert	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This needs to pass! People blatantly disobeying the law.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 7:11 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** joyst1babe@msn.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1172 on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM

**HB1172**

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for CPC on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joy Inada	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Hello! My name is Joy Inada and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of myself and other pet owners. I own 2 older dogs,one who is so terrified of fireworks,that he chewed thru a metal screen door to get into our home. The vet has told us he's too old to be sedated,and may not wake up. I begin sedating him after Thanksgiving until after 3rd of January! All because of inconsiderate people who use fireworks. I start sedating him from 10am every day,and once fireworks are set off,its too late to sedate him because his heart rate needs to be normal or benadryl won't work. I have walked around my neighborhood trying to catch these individuals to no avail yet,but with the passing of this bill, I surely would be joined by others who have lost pets due to them getting scared and running away,some being hit by cars fatally. If you need more information from me,please contact me at 8083868147. I thank you for your time!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

**Testimony from Margaret Morris & Alan Feit, of Ewa Beach (Oahu), submitted online 2/7/16:**

Aloha,

I support HB 1172 Relating to Fireworks. The City & County of Honolulu's current law is unenforceable, thus measures to provide our law enforcement the tools needed (probable cause) are worthwhile.

Our quality of life is effected from Halloween until well past the New Year, up to and including Super Bowl Sunday, as those in our community with no respect for neighbors who might suffer from PTSD, who might be sick or trying to sleep, or who have animals that become frightened, damage property/themselves and/or run away, wreak havoc on our lives. Did I mention air quality?

On New Year's Eve 2015, our neighbors shot off fireworks NON-STOP from dusk to 1 AM. We closed all of our bedroom windows, turned on the A/C yet we felt like we were suspended inside of a disco ball as the colors & noise from their ILLEGAL aerial fireworks being shot off 20 feet away not only reverberated but lit up our bedroom to the point where each flash and boom had me physically shaking. New Year's Eve 2016 we spent almost \$300 for a dumpy condo in Waikiki – the most we've ever spent for the least we've ever gotten (and we are well traveled) but at least it was quiet. We learned that tourists don't buy illegal fireworks. They do what people do most places on the planet: They go to where a fireworks show is being held, watch, ooh and ah, then go to bed! HPD was able to provide fantastic traffic control afterwards-kudos to them too!

Please support HB 1172 which gives citizens and law enforcement a chance to work together to improve the health and safety of communities across Hawai'i.

Mahalo,

Margaret Morris & Alan Feit  
[morrisfeit@yahoo.com](mailto:morrisfeit@yahoo.com)  
91-392 Ewa Beach Rd  
Ewa Beach HI 96706

**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 7:19 AM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** lkakatsu@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1172 on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM

**HB1172**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for CPC on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lynn Murakami-Akatsuka	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB 1172 for passage. Our Hawaii residents are law abiding citizens; but a few who do not follow the law need to be prosecuted. The actions of those who use illegal fireworks endanger many lives and homes during the firework allowed holidays. The outcome can be tragic. Please pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**LATE**

Testimony in Support

Date: February 9, 2017  
Time: 2:00 p.m.  
Place: Conference Room 329

To: Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

Re: Testimony in Support of HB 1172  
RELATING TO FIREWORKS

Clarifies that probable cause for arrests by law enforcement officers of fireworks offenders may be established based on statements from witnesses; and photographs, video recordings, and other recordings that can be authenticated by one or more witnesses.

Aloha Chair McKelvey and Vice Chair Ichiyama, and members of this committee,

My name is Homelani Schaedel. I am a resident of Malu'ohai in Kapolei and very happy to have a dedicated and caring Representative as Sharon Har who listens to her constituents and have brought before you a bill on our behalf which we hope you will support.

Imagine sitting in your garage, reading a book, smoking a cigar, enjoying the evening breeze and all of a sudden BOOM! Watching your favorite program on TV, or just an evening walk...BOOM...BOOM...BOOM. This all starts from the beginning of November through the week after New Years'. The problem is, you never know when it's going to happen.

For someone who serve two (2) tours in Vietnam and was deployed at the onset of Desert Storm, and another who was deployed to Iraq, and another who was deployed to Iraq and Kuwait, these unexpected bursts of one (1) second have a far lasting effect.

For my husband and sons, it causes anxiety and anger. With my husband, it often triggers sleepless nights, unwanted memories or nightmares of his time in Vietnam. Many of our veterans in Hawaii suffer from PTSD, and I'm sure they too have the same or similar experiences.

As a wife and mother, it upsets me to see to my husband and sons go through or deal with the aftermath. So much so, that I've looked out my upstairs window, wait until another BOMB goes off, identify the direction, if it is near my home, go to the location and ask the people at the residence to stop setting off illegal fireworks. So, I would not have a problem being a witness as this bill proposes.

Even when HPD is called, by the time they get to the site, the people stop and wait till they leave, then start again. Existing laws relating to the purchase and use of illegal fireworks is quite frankly and according to HPD officers not enforceable. So, what's the point of having laws that cannot be enforced?

While I believe stopping the influx of illegal fireworks should be done at point of entry, we often hear there's no money to support additional resources. So where do the fees collected for the fireworks permit go to? It was estimated that over \$240,000.00 was collected for this pass New Year. That sum could potentially be used to support at minimum four (4) positions to check the containers coming into our ports. Some may say that's not enough, but it is a start!

Meanwhile, I strongly support this bill as a first step in addressing this problem and hope you will too. Mahalo for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Homelani Schaedel  
91-1016 Koanimakani St.  
Kapolei, HI 96707