JAN 2 2 2021

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LITTER CONTROL.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the release of
- 2 balloons inflated with lighter-than-air gases poses a danger and
- 3 nuisance to the environment, particularly to wildlife and marine
- 4 animals. Many animals are attracted to the bright colors of
- 5 balloons and mistake them for food, which can cause an animal
- 6 severe injury or death. Animals are often found entangled in
- 7 balloon strings and as a result are injured or strangled to
- 8 death. The legislature further finds that several states,
- 9 including California, Connecticut, Florida, New Jersey,
- 10 Tennessee, and Virginia, as well as numerous counties in other
- 11 states have prohibited the release of balloons inflated with
- 12 lighter-than-air gases.
- 13 The purpose of this Act is to prohibit the intentional
- 14 release of balloons inflated with gas that is lighter than air.
- 15 SECTION 2. Chapter 339, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 16 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
- 17 and to read as follows:



S.B. NO. 313

1	"§339- Intentional release of balloons; prohibition.
2	(a) No person or entity shall intentionally release, organize
3	the release of, or otherwise cause the release of a balloon
4	inflated with a gas that is lighter than air, except for:
5	(1) A balloon released for scientific or meteorological
6	purposes, on behalf of a governmental agency or
7	pursuant to a governmental contract;
8	(2) A hot air balloon that is recovered after launching;
9	<u>or</u>
10	(3) A balloon that is released and remains indoors.
11	(b) Any person or entity who violates this section shall
12	be subject to a civil penalty of no more than \$500 for each
13	offense. For the purposes of this section, the release of
14	multiple balloons at one time shall be considered a single
15	offense."
16	SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
17	SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
18	INTERDRICED BY: Kul Mind
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S.B. NO. 313

Report Title:

Balloons; Intentional Release; Prohibition

Description:

Prohibits the intentional release of balloons inflated with a gas that is lighter than air.

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