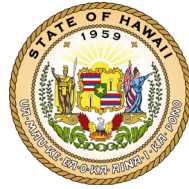


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



ANNE E. PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO  
DIRECTOR

JOANN A. VIDINHAR  
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)

March 16, 2022

The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair  
Committee on Consumer Protection  
and Commerce  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 436  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Johanson:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 2923 Relating to Fireworks

I am Steven Goble, Chair of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC). The SFC supports SB 2923, which increases the maximum fine that may be assessed per fireworks-related violation from \$2,000 to \$5,000, provided that the fireworks violation does not otherwise have a specific penalty enumerated in statute.

There is a general sense that the use of illegal fireworks and improvised explosive devices have substantially increased in recent years. A search of youtube.com using the term "aerial fireworks Hawaii New Years" reveals pervasive use of illegal fireworks in many neighborhoods. As a consequence, serious injuries, property damage, and fatalities have occurred.

The illegal fireworks task force established by Act 170, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010, recommended that the legislature consider increasing fireworks violation fines to deter the use of illegal fireworks. The general welfare, public safety, and property protection are priorities for the SFC and we respectfully request your committee's passage of SB 2923.

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrative Specialist Gary Lum at 723-7169 or [glum@honolulu.gov](mailto:glum@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Steven Goble.

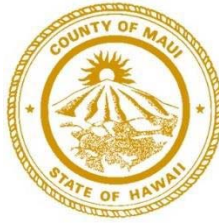
STEVEN GOBLE  
Chair

SG/GL

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO  
Mayor

BRADFORD K. VENTURA  
Fire Chief

GAVIN L.M. FUJIOKA  
Deputy Fire Chief



**DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & PUBLIC SAFETY**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 DAIRY ROAD  
KAHULUI, HI 96732

March 16, 2022

The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair  
Committee on Consumer Protection  
and Commerce  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 436  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Johanson:

**SUBJECT: SENATE BILL (SB) 2923 RELATING TO FIREWORKS**

I am Bradford K. Ventura, member of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Maui Fire Department (MFD). The SFC supports SB 2923, which increases the maximum fine that may be assessed per fireworks-related violation from \$2,000 to \$5,000, provided that the fireworks violation does not otherwise have a specific penalty enumerated in statute.

There is a general sense that the use of illegal fireworks and improvised explosive devices have substantially increased in recent years. A search of youtube.com using the term "aerial fireworks Hawaii New Years" reveals pervasive use of illegal fireworks in many neighborhoods. As a consequence, serious injuries, property damage, and fatalities have occurred.

The illegal fireworks task force established by Act 170, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010, recommended that the legislature consider increasing fireworks violation fines to deter the use of illegal fireworks. The general welfare, public safety, and property protection are priorities for the SFC and we respectfully request your committee's passage of SB 2923.

If you have questions, please contact SFC Administrative Specialist Gary Lum at (808) 723-7169 or [glum@honolulu.gov](mailto:glum@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad Ventura".

BRADFORD K. VENTURA  
Fire Chief

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

636 South Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5007  
Phone: 808-723-7139 Fax: 808-723-7111 Internet: [www.honolulu.gov/hfd](http://www.honolulu.gov/hfd)

RICK BLANGIARDI  
MAYOR



SHELDON K. HAO  
FIRE CHIEF

JASON SAMALA  
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

March 16, 2022

The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair  
Committee on Consumer Protection  
and Commerce  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 436  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Johanson:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 2923 Relating to Fireworks

My name is Sheldon K. Hao, Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The HFD supports SB 2923, which increases the maximum fine that may be assessed per fireworks-related violation from \$2,000 to \$5,000, provided the fireworks violation does not otherwise have a specific penalty enumerated in statute.

A search of aerial fireworks in Hawaii via a major video-sharing website reveals pervasive use of illegal aerial fireworks in many neighborhoods thereby confirming the use of illegal fireworks and improvised explosive devices have substantially increased in recent years. As a consequence, serious injuries, property damage, and fatalities have occurred.

The illegal fireworks task force established by Act 170, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010, recommended the legislature consider increasing fireworks violation fines to deter the use of illegal fireworks.

The general welfare, public safety, and property protection are priorities for the HFD, and we respectfully request your committee's passage of SB 2923.

Should you have questions, please contact Administrative Specialist Gary Lum at 808-723-7169 or [glum@honolulu.gov](mailto:glum@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sheldon K. Hao".

SHELDON K. HAO  
Fire Chief

SKH/GL:cn

**SB-2923**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 4:01:56 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support

**SB-2923**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 3:09:05 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support anything you can do to decrease the use of illegal fireworks.

**SB-2923**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 4:59:26 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

anything that will help get fireworks under control, especially the illegal ones, is welcome.

please do not add a defective effective date. all they do is put the kiss of death on bills.

**SB-2923**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 5:07:50 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Samuel M Mitchell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB-2923 which increases the fine for illegal fireworks use. Because the persons who are shooting off skyrockets are spending a lot of money and we need to hit them in the pocketbook if we're going to stop their dangerous actions.

Samuel Mitchell (Nextdoor Stop all illegal fireworks group)

**SB-2923**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 8:50:14 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Beverly Heiser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee Members,

I strongly support SB2923 that increases maximum fines for fireworks violations from \$2,000 to \$5,000. Anything that can deter and stop the use of illegal fireworks is appreciated.

Aerial types of fireworks were banned in 2011. This is not just about a few individuals using fireworks during unauthorized times that is a nuisance but also the many island-wide using illegal fireworks during New Year's Eve.

My family does NOT do fireworks of any kind, yet every New Year's day DEBRIS from ILLEGAL fireworks from New Year's Eve lay scattered over our entire yard. Some land on our roof and wash down gutters. I have dogs and TOXIC chemicals from debris can cause illness or injury if ingested. Thus I spend hours cleaning up the mess.

Toxins and heavy metals that are dispersed from fireworks in our environment also pollute our air, water, and soil. Much of the debris are not biodegradable. They cause harm to people, pets, and wildlife.

The problem has increased over the years and is out of control. There is increased noise destruction of property, fires, life changing injuries, and even fatalities. Tradition should not sound or look like a war zone.

I favor a TOTAL BAN on all types of fireworks except by permit for cultural or religious reasons but at the least this type of ILLEGAL activity should be stopped.

Individuals who have voiced frustrations and are seeking resolution have formed a group on the social networking neighborhood platform NextDoor called "STOP All (Illegal) Fireworks" aka "Pau Fireworks Now".

Thank you for allowing me to testify. Please help to advance this bill.



**LATE**

**SB-2923**

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 2:01:46 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maureen Andrade	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of raising the fine from \$2000 to \$5000.

**LATE**

**SB-2923**

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 8:57:08 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stop RIPPING THE PEOPLE OFF!!

**LATE**

**SB-2923**

Submitted on: 3/17/2022 7:47:57 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cory Chun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and committee members,

I am submitting testimony in support of SB 2923, on behalf of the Waipahu Neighborhood Board. At our February 24, 2022 meeting, the Waipahu Neighborhood Board adopted a resolution on illegal fireworks. Illegal fireworks continue to be a significant concern for the Waipahu community. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this important issue.

Mahalo for your consideration.