



Hawaiian Humane Society
People for animals. Animals for people.

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Date: March 16, 2022

To: Chair Rep. Henry Aquino
Vice Chair Rep. Greggor Ilagan
and Members of the Committee on Transportation

Submitted By: Stephanie Kendrick, Director of Community Engagement
Hawaiian Humane Society, 808-356-2217

RE: Testimony in support of SB 3343, SD2: Relating to Fireworks
Friday, March 18, 2022, 10:30 a.m., Room 423 and Videoconference

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Ilagan and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society, thank you for considering our support for Senate Bill 3343, SD2, which requires importers of fireworks to obtain a license from the Harbors Division of the Department of Transportation and requires an annual report to the Legislature.

Hawaiian Humane supports any attempt to remove fireworks from residential neighborhoods by keeping these dangerous products out of our state entirely and/or enhancing enforcement.

At what should be joyous times for local families, illegal fireworks fill our neighborhoods with unexpected explosions that terrorize pets and people alike. Animals who flee their homes are at enormous risk of injury and death. An average of eight stray dogs per day came into the Hawaiian Humane Society in 2021. As the new year arrived, that number spiked to 36 between Jan. 1-2.

Hawaiian Humane has long educated our community about keeping pets safe from the terror of fireworks around New Years and July 4, but these bombs increasingly go off for months at a time. That makes it impossible for pet owners to prepare and creates sustained stress on people and animals, doing lasting damage to their emotional and physical health. Neither people nor animals should have to take tranquilizers just to survive the impacts of illegal behavior by their neighbors.

We urge the committee to pass SB 3343, SD2. Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-3343-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2022 9:57:50 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/18/2022 10:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Maureen Andrade | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I am in support of this bill. Tracking all information from its initial port to the islands is a must. Getting the weight and total amount of fireworks that are being shipped from county to county is a start. Any discrepancies in weight should be of concern.

SB-3343-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 12:09:48 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/18/2022 10:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Beverly Heiser | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I support SB3343 SD2 that would require counties to share certain information concerning fireworks with the Harbors Division. I appreciate any bill that may reduce or somehow stop the flow of fireworks illegally entering the state.

The last line on the existing Hawaii State Statute's §132-8 (a) states:

“If the state fire council or county discovers at a later date that a licensee has been convicted of a felony under this chapter, the licensee’s license shall be revoked and no new license shall be issued to the licensee for two years.”

Why would we want to issue a convicted felon a new license at all?

Illegal fireworks have spiked to be out of control since banned in the year 2011. With the much louder booms it is evident that people are experimenting with making their own devices either by taking apart fireworks or somehow bringing in chemicals and kits. The internet provides a wealth of information.

Just this past New Year’s Eve an explosion in Ewa destroyed 2 vehicles, shattered windows, and caused an indentation in the road. This could have caused severe injuries or a fatality. No one should have to deal with this. The danger is evident that much more needs to be done. A single incident like this is one incident too many.

I favor a total ban except for religious or cultural ceremonies where a special permit would be required.

Fireworks contain toxins and heavy metals that are dispersed in the environment. It pollutes our air, water sources, and soils. Most debris are not biodegradable.

The focus should be on protecting the environment, individuals’ health, property, pets, and wildlife.

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

SB-3343-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 7:48:29 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/18/2022 10:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Gerard Silva | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

We will remeber who votes for this and take apropreat Action in November!!

SB-3343-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 9:40:26 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/18/2022 10:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Andrea Quinn | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

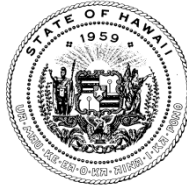
Please support SB3343.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei, Maui

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDUARDO P. MANGLALLAN
PATRICK H. MCCAIN
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 18, 2022
10:30 AM
State Capitol, Teleconference

**S.B. 3343, S.D. 2
RELATING TO FIREWORKS**

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation, Harbors Division (DOTH) **opposes** S.B. 3343, S.D. 2.

S.B. 3343, S.D. 2 proposes to require importers of fireworks to obtain a license from the Harbors Division of the Department of Transportation and requires an annual report to the Legislature.

The requirement to obtain a license from DOTH to import legal fireworks is unnecessary. The license to import would insert another layer, making it more difficult for those that are currently following the laws and legally importing fireworks.

The inspection capability is a federal authority whether it is U.S. Coast Guard for domestic goods or U.S. Customs and Borders Protection for international shipments.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.