

**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA  
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**  
S.B. NO. 1481, RELATING TO FIREWORKS.

**BEFORE THE:**  
SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND  
MILITARY AFFAIRS AND ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS

**DATE:** Wednesday, February 8, 2023      **TIME:** 3:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 225

**TESTIFIER(S):** Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or  
Adam S. Rosenberg, Deputy Attorney General

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Chairs Wakai and Lee and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

This bill amends chapter 132D, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), by adding a new section establishing conditions for the importation of fireworks. The new section proposes to authorize the county fire departments to inspect warehouses, piers, cargo, baggage, and personal effects of persons arriving in the state, without a warrant, to ascertain if they contain any fireworks. It also proposes to require importers of fireworks to file a written statement with the appropriate county fire department; to allow the county fire departments to take custody and possession of, and exercise jurisdiction over, illegally imported fireworks; to prohibit the importation of fireworks except through airports and seaports approved by the State Fire Council; to require the county fire departments to establish and maintain secure storage sites for illegally imported fireworks; and to require the counties to establish ordinances setting conditions for the importation of fireworks.

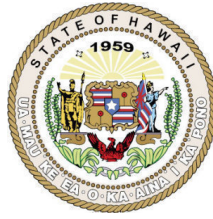
Unless an exception applies, random warrantless searches are unreasonable under the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution and article I, section 7, of the Hawaii State Constitution. The Hawai'i Supreme Court has also noted that, in comparison to the Fourth Amendment, article I, section 7, of the Hawaii State Constitution provides broader protection to individuals in Hawaii because it also protects

against unreasonable violations of privacy. State v. Dixon, 83 Hawai'i 13, 23, 924 P.2d 181, 191 (1996). Random warrantless searches of shipping containers or personal effects may be unreasonable and unconstitutional. We also note that the discretion of the authorized personnel conducting these searches may be subject to challenge. State v. Fedak, 9 Haw. App. 98, 101-102, 825 P.2d 1068 (1992), superseded by statute, State v. Claunch, 111 Hawai'i 59, 64, 137 P.3d 373, 378 (Haw. Ct. App. 2006).

We also note that the bill requires the State Fire Council (SFC) to designate airports and seaports through which fireworks and articles pyrotechnic are allowed entry. This requirement is beyond the functions assigned to the SFC in section 132-16, HRS. We, therefore, recommend amending section 132-16, HRS, to comport with the additional function of the SFC proposed by this bill. We recommend adding section 132-16(b)(3), HRS, as follows: (3) Designate and approve airports and seaports through which fireworks or articles pyrotechnic shall be allowed entry into the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN  
GOVERNOR



JORDAN LOWE  
DIRECTOR

MICHAEL S. VINCENT  
Deputy Director  
Administration

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT**  
*Ka 'Oihana Ho'opalekana Lehulehu*  
1177 Alakea Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
(808) 587-2562

**Vacant**  
Deputy Director  
Law Enforcement

No.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1481  
RELATING TO FIREWORKS.

Before the Senate Committees on  
Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
and  
Transportation and Culture and the Arts  
Wednesday, February 8, 2023; 3:00 p.m.  
State Capitol Conference Room 225, Via Videoconference

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

Chairs Wakai and Lee, Vice Chairs Elefante and Inouye, and members of the  
Committees:

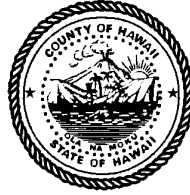
The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) supports Senate Bill 1481.

An inspection program is an important tool in addressing the illegal fireworks  
problem in the state and this bill complements Senate Bill 1339 or House Bill 1041,  
which are the Administration's comprehensive bills to establish an illegal fireworks task  
force to plan, coordinate, and engage in law enforcement operations to interdict illegal  
fireworks, develop a comprehensive strategic plan to stop the importation of illegal  
fireworks and explosives into Hawaii, promote compliance with the state fireworks  
control laws, and ensure the safety and security of the airports, harbors, and other  
facilities and institutions in the State against the discharge of illegal fireworks and  
explosives.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

**Mitchell D. Roth**  
Mayor

**Lee E. Lord**  
Managing Director



**Kazuo S. K. L. Todd**  
Fire Chief

**Eric H. Moller**  
Deputy Fire Chief

**County of Hawai'i**  
**HAWAII FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
25 Aupuni Street • Suite 2501 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720  
(808) 932-2900 • Fax (808) 932-2928

February 6, 2023

TO: SENATOR GLENN WAKAI, CHAIR  
FROM: KAZUO S.K.L. TODD, FIRE CHIEF  
SUBJECT: **SB1481 RELATING TO FIREWORKS**

Senators,

I am opposed to Bill SB1481 relating to fireworks.

I am opposed to this bill for the following reasons:

1. SB1481 gives fire departments police powers of searching in containers and bags and entering private property without warrant or judge approval. I do not feel this meets the intent of current law and disagree with the concept that fire personnel should be conducting search and seizure of personal property.
2. SB1481 requires each fire department to maintain a secure storage site for fireworks, without providing funding to pay for this mandate. Securable hazardous material storage buildings are extremely costly and currently not within the budget of the County of Hawaii or the Hawaii Fire Department's budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request, and please reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kazuo S.K.L. Todd".

KAZUO S.K.L. TODD  
Fire Chief



**SB-1481**

Submitted on: 2/3/2023 6:24:11 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Samuel Mitchell	Testifying for City & County of Honolulu Maikiki NB-10	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

MAKIKI/LOWER PUNCHBOWL/TANTALUS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO.  
10 Making Hawai'i a Safe & Sane Fireworks  
State

WHEREAS, fireworks contain toxic chemicals and it spreads heavy metals that contribute to Hawaii's air, water; and soil pollution;  
and

WHEREAS, fireworks are affecting the health and safety of dogs, cats, birds, fish, children, the elderly, and veterans with post traumatic stress disorder;  
and

WHEREAS, Honolulu residents have complained about illegal fireworks & skyrockets being fired off at all hours of the day and night;  
and

WHEREAS, fireworks cause a wide variety of health concerns such as cancer, respiratory and reproductive problems in humans and animals;  
and

WHEREAS, in Honolulu from Dec 31 2021 to Jan 1st, 2022 there more than 11 persons seriously injured by fireworks, including one child;  
and

WHEREAS, illegal fireworks are being stored in small stores, warehouses, and homes where they are a serious fire hazard;  
and

WHEREAS, people are now buying fireworks-making kits which are coming in by United States Postal Service ground and being shipped to Hawai'i by airmail;  
and

WHEREAS, the Nextdoor group Stop all illegal Fireworks group has allowed the local community to voice and share ideas on what the City, State, and Federal Government can do to correct Hawai'i's Fireworks problems; now,  
therefore

BE IT RESOLVE, the Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus Neighborhood Board No. 10 asks State and City Legislators to use its resources to stop illegal fireworks from entering Hawai'i by way of its Ports and Postal Services;  
and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus Neighborhood Board No. 10 asks the Legislature to improve its fireworks laws by assisting the counties in starting up a monetary reward program, that asks for the names & addresses of illegal fireworks shippers, distributors, and sellers;  
and

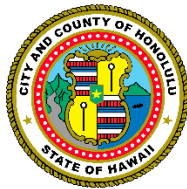
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be distributed to the Governor of Hawai‘i, the Lieutenant Governor of Hawai‘i, Representative Della Au Belatti, Representative Sylvia Luke, Senator Brian Taniguchi, and Senator Sharon Moriwaki.

IAN ROSS, CHAIR MAKIKI/LOWER PUNCHBOWL/TANTALUS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO.10 Adopted 3-17-2022

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

February 7, 2023

The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair  
Committee on Public Safety and  
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
The State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 407  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Wakai:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 1481 Relating to Fireworks

My name is Sheldon K. Hao, Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD), and I strongly oppose SB 1481, which establishes conditions for the importation of fireworks; authorizes the county fire departments to inspect warehouses, piers, cargo, baggage, and personal effects of persons arriving in the State of Hawaii; requires importers of fireworks to file a written statement with the appropriate county fire departments; allows the county fire departments to take custody and possession of and exercise jurisdiction over illegally imported fireworks; prohibits the importation of fireworks, except through airports and seaports approved by the State Fire Council; and requires each county fire department to establish and maintain a secure storage site for illegally imported fireworks.

SB 1481 gives fire departments policing powers to search containers and bags and enter private property without a warrant or approval of a judge. I do not feel this meets the intent of the current law and disagree with the concept that fire personnel should be conducting search and seizure of personal property.

SB 1481 also requires that each fire department maintain a secure storage site for fireworks without providing funding to pay for this mandate. Securable hazardous materials storage buildings are extremely costly and currently not within the City and County of Honolulu's or the Honolulu Fire Department's budget.

The HFD urges your committee's opposition of SB 1481.

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

Sincerely,

SHELDON K. HAO  
Fire Chief



The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair  
The Honorable Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair  
Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair  
Representative Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair  
Committee on Transportation and Culture and Arts

RE: **Senate Bill 1481 Relating to Fireworks**  
February 8, 2023, 3:00 PM  
Conference Room 225

Aloha Chairs Wakai and Elefante, Vice Chairs Lee and Inouye and members of the Committees:

American Promotional Events, Inc. (APE) offers **comments** on SB 1481 which establishes importation conditions including but not limited to authorizing county fire departments to inspect warehouses, piers, cargo, baggage and the personal effects of arriving ship passengers for illegal fireworks, and requiring firework importers to file written statements with county fire departments.

APE is the largest distributor of fireworks in the US and an importer and seller of legal and safe consumer fireworks in Hawaii. As a nationally recognized distributor who works hand in hand with federal, state, and county law enforcement agencies in many jurisdictions, we comply with regulatory laws to ensure the proper transport, storage and safeguard of items.

**SB 1481 fails to address illegal importation.** The measure establishes three parts from notification of arrival, authority to inspect, and request for importation and inspection. Lawful and licensed distributors operating in Hawaii are not importing products that violate Hawaii laws and ordinances.

**AMERICAN PROMOTIONAL EVENTS, INC.**  
2120 MILWAUKEE WAY • TACOMA, WA 98421  
TACOMA (253) 922-0800 • FAX (253) 830-2930  
[www.tntfireworks.com](http://www.tntfireworks.com)





Fireworks are an integral part of Hawaii families annual and cultural celebrations. Oahu's ban on fireworks has clearly not been effective and has driven consumers to the black market. APE supports efforts to stem to proliferation of illegal aerial fireworks and would like to participate in discussions to find practical solutions to address this issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Brian Trim  
Vice President

**AMERICAN PROMOTIONAL EVENTS, INC.**  
2120 MILWAUKEE WAY • TACOMA, WA 98421  
TACOMA (253) 922-0800 • FAX (253) 830-2930  
[www.tntfireworks.com](http://www.tntfireworks.com)

**SB-1481**

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 12:26:48 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maria Virginia M Lopez	Testifying for Hawaiian Humane Society	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Maria Virginia Lopez, resident of Honolulu for 14 years, on behalf of The Hawaiian Humane Society, support bill SB1481.



## Hawaiian Humane Society

People for animals. Animals for people.

2700 Waiialae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii 96826  
808.356.2200 • [HawaiianHumane.org](http://HawaiianHumane.org)

Date: Feb. 6, 2023

To: Chairs Sen. Glenn Wakai and Sen. Chris Lee  
Vice Chairs Sen. Brandon J.C. Elefante and Sen. Lorraine R. Inouye  
and Members of the Committees on  
Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs  
and Transportation and Culture and the Arts

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

RE: Testimony in support of SB 1481: Relating to Fireworks  
Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2023, 3 p.m., Room 225 & Videoconference

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On behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society, thank you for considering our support for Senate Bill 1481, which establishes conditions for the importation of fireworks; authorizes the county fire departments to inspect warehouses, piers, cargo, baggage, and personal effects of persons arriving in the State to ascertain if they contain any fireworks; requires importers of fireworks to file a written statement with the appropriate county fire department; allows the county fire departments to take custody and possession of and exercise jurisdiction over illegally imported fireworks; prohibits the importation of fireworks except through airports and seaports approved by the State Fire Council; requires each county fire department to establish and maintain a secure storage site for illegally imported fireworks; and requires that each county establish ordinances setting conditions for the importation of fireworks.

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. To make matters worse, these bombs increasingly go off for months at a time, making it impossible for pet owners to prepare and creating sustained stress on people and animals, which can do lasting damage to their emotional and physical health.

We urge the committees to pass this measure. Mahalo for your consideration.

Testimony of the Hawaii Harbor Users Group  
Support the Intent of SB1481  
Before the Committees on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs and  
Transportation, Culture, and Arts  
Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Dear Chair Wakai, Chair Lee, Vice Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Harbor Users Group (HHUG) is a non-profit maritime transportation industry group comprised of key commercial harbor users statewide. HHUG supports the intent of SB1481, Relating to Fireworks. This measure, among other things, authorizes the county fire departments to conduct random cargo container inspections for illegal fireworks and explosive and requires that the county fire departments take jurisdiction over illegally imported fireworks.

As an island state, Hawaii is very dependent upon our commercial harbors to ensure the continued and unimpeded flow of cargo in and out of our State. It is estimated that over 90 percent Hawaii's imported goods pass through our commercial harbors, including consumer goods, motor vehicles, construction materials, and fuel. Given the critical role of our commercial harbors, it is imperative that the State support safe, dependable, and efficient cargo transportation and logistics to timely service our residents and businesses who depend on these goods, vehicles, materials, and fuel on all major islands.

HHUG supports the provisions of this measure which require inspections conducted pursuant to this measure to occur at the cargo's final destination. Such language addresses concerns about allowing timely discharge of shipping containers at each of the commercial harbors and avoids unnecessary delays and traffic congestion. Several of our users' operations run twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week and Honolulu Harbor is at full capacity. Any random inspection that takes place within the already congested commercial harbors on each of the major islands could cause significant delays in offloading and out-gating of cargo and unsafe traffic congestion. As a result, these inspections must take place outside of the commercial harbors to avoid disruption of goods transported within the State and interference with the users' respective operations at these harbors. **HHUG respectfully requests an amendment to clarify that the cargo's final destination cannot be at a commercial harbor.**

HHUG also appreciates that measure address fireworks and explosives that enter the State through other modes of transportation beyond commercial shipping containers. On January 3, 2023, Hawaii News Now reported that an investigation was underway after nearly 100 pounds of illegal aerial fireworks were confiscated from a mailroom at Oahu Community Correctional Center. A corrections officer was suspected of having the boxes mailed to the jail using an inmate's name. All entities involved in moving cargo to the islands via other modes of transportation must be included in any proposed inspection mandate to make a meaningful impact on the importation of illegal fireworks.

Finally, HHUG supports that this measure defines who will carry out the random inspections and the entity that will take jurisdiction over any illegal fireworks discovered under these random searches. HHUG does not take a position on whether the county fire departments are the appropriate entities for either task but appreciates that your Committees have recognized the need for an agency to take jurisdiction.

Thank you for considering our testimony.

Testimony of Matson Navigation Company  
Support the Intent of SB1481  
Before the Committees on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs and  
Transportation, Culture, and Arts  
Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Dear Chair Wakai, Chair Lee, Vice Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Inouye and Members of the Committees:

Matson Navigation Company, Inc. (Matson) supports the intent of SB1481, Relating to Fireworks. This measure, among other things, authorizes the county fire departments to conduct random cargo container inspections for illegal fireworks and explosive and requires that the county fire departments take jurisdiction over illegally imported fireworks.

As an island state, Hawaii is very dependent upon our commercial harbors to ensure the continued and unimpeded flow of cargo in and out of our State. It is estimated that over 90 percent Hawaii's imported goods pass through our commercial harbors, including consumer goods, motor vehicles, construction materials, and fuel. Given the critical role of our commercial harbors, it is imperative that the State support safe, dependable, and efficient cargo transportation and logistics to timely service our residents and businesses who depend on these goods, vehicles, materials, and fuel on all major islands. Matson supports the intent of measures that control illegal fireworks in Hawaii while recognizing and supporting the need to ensure goods are available on shelves for Hawaii residents.

Matson supports the provisions of this measure which require inspections conducted pursuant to this measure to occur at the cargo's final destination. Such language addresses concerns about allowing timely discharge of shipping containers at each of the commercial harbors and avoids unnecessary delays and traffic congestion. Matson's operations run twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week and Honolulu Harbor is at full capacity. Any random inspection that takes place within the already congested commercial harbors on each of the major islands could cause significant delays in offloading and out-gating of cargo and unsafe traffic congestion. As a result, these inspections must take place outside of the commercial harbors to avoid disruption of goods transported within the State and interference with the users' respective operations at these harbors. **Matson respectfully requests an amendment to clarify that the cargo's final destination cannot be at a commercial harbor.**

Matson also appreciates that measure address fireworks and explosives that enter the State through other modes of transportation beyond commercial shipping containers. On January 3, 2023, Hawaii News Now reported that an investigation was underway after nearly 100 pounds of illegal aerial fireworks were confiscated from a mailroom at Oahu Community Correctional Center. A corrections officer was suspected of having the boxes mailed to the jail using an inmate's name. All entities involved in moving cargo to the islands via other modes of transportation must be included in any proposed inspection mandate to make a meaningful impact on the importation of illegal fireworks.

Matson supports that this measure defines who will carry out the random inspections and the entity that will take jurisdiction over any illegal fireworks discovered under these random searches. Matson does not have a position on whether the county fire departments are the appropriate entities for either task but appreciates that your Committees have recognized the need for an agency to take jurisdiction.

Thank you for considering our testimony.



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI, PRESIDENT  
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII  
February 8, 2023  
Re: SB 498 RELATING TO FIREWORKS**

Good afternoon, Chair Lee and Chair Wakai and members of the Senate Committee on Transportation & Culture & the Arts and the Senate Committee on Public Safety & Governmental & Military Affairs. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii was founded in 1901 and is a statewide, not for profit trade organization committed to supporting the growth and development of the retail industry in Hawaii. Our membership includes small mom & pop stores, large box stores, resellers, luxury retail, department stores, shopping malls, on-line sellers, local, national, and international retailers, chains, and everyone in between.

While we recognize the intent of the bill to curtail illegal fireworks coming into our State, RMH is OPPOSED to SB 498 Relating to Fireworks. This measure establishes the shipping container inspection program and shipping container inspection program special fund. Increases the maximum fine for each violation of the fireworks law. Requires PSD to submit reports to the legislature on implementation of the shipping container inspection program.

RMH is concerned about the timing of receiving goods from the docks if shipping containers have to be inspected that is not being delivered to the military, state or county agencies, and businesses registered to do business in the State. Instead of waiting a few days, could we have to wait weeks or maybe a month for the containers to be inspected. This would prolong retailers from receiving their merchandise. Currently retailers are already struggling to get their merchandise. There are still major shipping delays on the mainland and internationally that we do not see as being resolved anytime soon. This also attributes to the delays in shipping goods from the mainland to Hawaii

Shipping schedules have been reduced. And let's not forget some foods and beverage items shipped have an expiration date and cannot be sitting on a dock waiting for inspection for too long.

We also wonder if there are inspectors are trained to determine the legal fireworks from the illegal variety. There are legal fireworks used for commercial display. Will the containers be inspected in a secure site? We want to be sure that our goods are not compromised.

This process needs to be fully vetted as there are a lot of moving parts that affect more than just opening a container up and inspecting the contents.

Mahalo again for this opportunity to testify.

**SB-1481**

Submitted on: 2/3/2023 6:02:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support. Thank you.



**SB-1481**

Submitted on: 2/5/2023 2:35:10 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2023 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

support. anything helps.

**SB-1481**

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 12:58:27 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stephanie McLaughlin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important bill that will help Hawaii's animals and pets.

**SB-1481**

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 1:33:07 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Natalie Graham-Wood	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB1481.

**SB-1481**

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 7:27:14 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2023 3:00:00 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, Vice Chair, and Committee Members,

I Strongly Support SB1481 that establishes conditions for the importation of fireworks.

Authorizing county fire departments involvement will allow closer monitoring and oversight of the entire process in order to detect violators.

Having the shipper or consignee found in violation to pay all costs for storage, trucking, shipping, and disposal of illegally obtained fireworks, provides an excellent deterrence for further violations.

The need to curtail illegal fireworks from entering our state is necessary in order to effectively provide enforcement of other laws.

Please support SB1481.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**SB-1481**

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 8:43:44 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Chiwa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairpersons Wakai and Lee and Members of the Committees on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs and on Transportation and Culture and the Arts.

I am Jennifer Chiwa, have lived on Oahu my whole life and currently reside in Makiki.

Please support SB 1481. It's my understanding that this bill establishes conditions for importation of fireworks and gives counties, especially the county fire departments, specific powers to deter importation of fireworks. I hope passing this bill will lead to a complete ban on fireworks which would be supporting the police, fire fighters, EMT's and hospital workers who risk their lives for the health and safety of all community members.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and for your consideration in supporting SB 1481.

Jennifer Chiwa

Makiki

**SB-1481**

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 11:39:50 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Carole R. Richelieu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill provides proactive steps and authority to combat illegal fireworks and is long overdue.

Mahalo.



**LATE**

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

---

Testimony by Alicia Maluafiti  
Volunteer Board President, Poi Dogs & Popoki

In Strong Support of SB 1481 – Relating to Fireworks  
Senate Committees on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs and  
Transportation and Culture and Arts  
Wednesday, Feb. 8, 3 pm, Rm. 225

Aloha Chairs Wakai and Lee and members of the committees,

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 SB 1481.

With the ongoing proliferation of illegal fireworks in this state, it is refreshing to acknowledge the fire departments and their important role in protecting the public. Year after year – the fire departments have submitted testimony supporting various measures to curtail illegal fireworks. SB 1481 appropriately provides the agency with an elevated role. **We request only that the fire departments receive the necessary funding to manage this important program.**

Mahalo for continuing to provide legislative alternatives that could help provide our communities relief from illegal fireworks.

**SB-1481**

Submitted on: 2/8/2023 11:20:29 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2023 3:00:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Selene Mersereau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill.

Selene - Kailua



**SB-1481**

Submitted on: 2/8/2023 1:36:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2023 3:00:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chris Stankis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill should also include monies to fund the additional positions, infrastructure and equipment that will be involved with enacting and properly executing this bill. Don't create the bill, then force the county governments to fund and run a program for services that should already be taken care of by state and federal agencies who have oversight of activities at our harbors and airports where these items enter the state.