

June 30, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate, and Members of the Senate Thirty-Third State Legislature State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 The Honorable Nadine Nakamura Speaker, and Members of the House of Representatives Thirty-Third State Legislature State Capitol, Room 431 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 30, 2025, the following bill was signed into law:

H.B. NO. 806, H.D. 1,

RELATING TO FIREWORKS.

S.D. 2, C.D. 1

**ACT 247** 

Mahalo,

Josh Green, M.D.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

on \_\_\_\_\_JUN\_3 0 2025

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025 STATE OF HAWAII ACT 247 H.B. NO. 806 H.D. 1 S.D. 2 G.D. 1

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FIREWORKS.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the widespread use
- 2 of illegal fireworks poses an extreme danger and lethal risk to
- 3 public health and safety, resulting in fires, serious burn
- 4 injuries, and fatalities to innocent bystanders. The cost to
- 5 the community far outweighs any intrinsic benefit, as numerous
- 6 lives have been lost over the years from the use of illegal
- 7 fireworks. In addition, the potential for wildfires in this
- 8 time of climate change is a real and present danger and is a top
- 9 priority for all levels of government today.
- The legislature further finds that fireworks-related
- 11 tragedies, including the Aliamanu New Year's Eve explosion of
- 12 2024 that claimed at least six lives, seriously impact entire
- 13 neighborhoods in urban Honolulu and across the State. Fireworks
- 14 also emit excessive smoke and other toxins into the air, making
- 15 breathing difficult for thousands of Hawaii residents with
- 16 respiratory ailments. Noise from loud fireworks traumatizes
- 17 many residents, particularly war veterans who may suffer from

2025-3365 HB806 CD1 HMSO

#### H.B. NO. 806 H.D. 1 S.D. 2

- 1 post-traumatic stress from being in combat. Pets and vulnerable
- 2 species in their natural habitats also suffer each holiday
- 3 season when fireworks noise and environmental pollution levels
- 4 are especially high.
- 5 The legislature recognizes that, with the increase in
- 6 fireworks-related calls, public safety agencies are heavily
- 7 strained to maintain adequate response levels for other critical
- 8 emergencies, which adds to the cost of state and county
- 9 resources that could be used for natural disasters and other
- 10 emergencies. These agencies are often overwhelmed and are not
- 11 able to stop the thousands of illegal fireworks being used,
- 12 making it a death trap for thousands of innocent lives who are
- 13 not involved in illegal fireworks use.
- 14 The legislature also finds that the State's communities
- 15 deserve to live in peace and security without the public safety
- 16 risk and disruptive impact of illegal fireworks. There can be
- 17 no more gray areas when lives are lost while this black market
- 18 flourishes.
- 19 The legislature believes that intelligence-led policing and
- 20 criminal surveillance of illegal fireworks can be effective
- 21 approaches in deterring the use of illegal fireworks. An

## H.B. NO. 806 H.D. 1 S.D. 2

- 1 investment of funds to conduct sting operations by law
- 2 enforcement to enforce fireworks ordinances or laws on Oahu is
- 3 one of the first steps to effectively reducing the use of
- 4 illegal fireworks in the State.
- 5 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
- 6 funds to the department of law enforcement for:
- 7 (1) Sting operations on Oahu to enforce fireworks
- 8 ordinances or laws; and
- 9 (2) An explosives and firearms laboratory on Oahu.
- 10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much
- 12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the
- 13 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
- 14 2026-2027 for the department of law enforcement to conduct sting
- 15 operations on Oahu to enforce chapter 132D, Hawaii Revised
- 16 Statutes.
- 17 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
- 18 of law enforcement for the purposes of this Act.
- 19 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
- 20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,000,000 or so much

## H.B. NO. 806 H.D. 1 S.D. 2

- 1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 for an
- 2 explosives and firearms laboratory on Oahu.
- 3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 4 law enforcement for the purposes of this Act.
- 5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

#### H.B. NO. 806 H.D. 1 S.D. 2 C.D. 1

APPROVED this 30th day of June , 2025

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

#### THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 30, 2025 Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025.

Nadine K. Nakamura

Speaker

House of Representatives

Will let

Muchie K. 1 hehr

Brian L. Takeshita

Chief Clerk

House of Representatives

## THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: April 30, 2025 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2025.

MMM. M.
President of the Senate

Clerk of the Senate