

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
Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

March 15, 2021

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) 513, Senate Draft (SD) 1 Relating to the Enforcement of Laws

I am Steven Goble, Vice Chair of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC). The SFC supports SB 513, SD 1, which proposes to increase fireworks display permit fees, increase fines for certain fireworks violations, require the Attorney General to establish an explosion detection technology working group, and require the Department of Public Safety to develop and implement a web-based fireworks reporting tool.

The SFC fully supports increased fines for fireworks violations and collaboration with other government agencies to reduce the use of fireworks by the general public. The widespread use of fireworks endangers the public, not only when it is being used, but also when it is transported throughout the state. Deaths and serious injuries have occurred along with property damage. Neighborhoods are impacted by noise and pollution, veterans are reminded of combat conditions, and animals are traumatized for weeks and sometimes months preceding these holiday celebrations. While fireworks injuries occur primarily to children, an adult male who lived on Kauai succumbed to fatal injuries sustained from a fireworks explosion on December 31, 2020. Hawaii news media reports at least seven others, including juveniles, were injured from fireworks misuse on New Year's Eve 2020.

The increase in fines may deter individuals from the illegal use of fireworks and the proposed multiagency effort to increase scrutiny of fireworks violations will curtail this growing problem. The general welfare, public safety, and property protection are

The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
Page 2
March 15, 2021

priorities for the SFC, and we respectfully request your committee's passage of SB 513, SD 1.

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrative Specialist Lloyd Rogers at 723-7176 or lrogers@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Goble', with a stylized flourish at the end.

STEVEN GOBLE
Vice Chair

SG/GL:st



Hawaiian Humane Society

People for animals. Animals for people.

2700 Waiialae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii 96826
808.356.2200 • HawaiianHumane.org

Date: March 12, 2021

To: Chair Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson
Vice Chair Rep. Lisa Kitagawa
and Members of the
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Submitted By: Stephanie Kendrick, Public Policy Advocate
Hawaiian Humane Society, 808-356-2217

RE: Testimony in support of SB 513, SD1: Relating to The Enforcement of Laws
Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 2 p.m., Capitol Room 329

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society, thank you for considering our support for Senate Bill 513, SD1, which Increases the fine for fireworks violations, requires the Attorney General to establish an explosion detection technology working group, and authorizes the Sheriff Division to enforce the fireworks control law, among other provisions.

Hawaiian Humane supports any attempt to remove fireworks from residential neighborhoods, to increase penalties, and to enhance enforcement. At what should be joyous times for local families, illegal fireworks fill our neighborhoods with unexpected explosions that terrorize pets and people alike. Making matters worse, these bombs increasingly go off for weeks at a time.

Animals who flee their homes in fear are at enormous risk of injury and death. Good Samaritans often bring deceased pets to the Hawaiian Humane Society with the goal of providing closure to their owners. That number averages 1-2 a day. Between New Year's Day and Jan. 2 the number spikes. This year we received 13 deceased animals within that timeframe, last year 14 and in 2019 seven. Even when families keep their pets safely indoors, the loud noises fireworks produce cause fear, anxiety and stress in animals. This anxiety can do lasting damage to a pet's 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 this measure. Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-513-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2021 6:20:20 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you!