

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



MIKE LAMBERT
DIRECTOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT GOVERNOR
KE KE'ENA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai

715 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

JARED K. REDULLA
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1483
RELATING TO FIREWORKS

Before the House Committee on
JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Thursday, February 6, 2025, 2:00 p.m.

State Capitol Conference Room 325, & Videoconference

Testifiers: Mike Lambert

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) supports House Bill 1483.

The establishment of an adjudication system and procedures to process fireworks infractions represents a significant step forward in addressing the ongoing challenges of illegal fireworks in Hawaii. This bill provides a more robust framework for enforcement and accountability.

The proposed heightened penalties for fireworks offenses, particularly in cases resulting in substantial bodily injury, serious bodily injury, or death, are critical deterrents that appropriately reflect the serious nature of these violations. These enhanced penalties will serve as a stronger deterrent and help protect our communities from the dangerous consequences of illegal fireworks use.

The DLE is concerned in one area of HB 1483 pertaining to the potential repeal of certain provisions in Section 17 of this bill that relate to the DLE's ability to assist the fire departments with conducting inspections of fireworks licenses.

Last year, the Legislature acted to give the DLE authority to assist the county fire departments with inspections of fireworks licenses. DLE sought that authority as a way of aiding the county fire departments and ensuring that the distribution system for legal fireworks in the state remains closed; except for those who hold valid licenses. The DLE believes that this authority is still needed and recommends that it remain in statute.

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



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 1483, RELATING TO FIREWORKS.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

DATE: Thursday, February 6, 2025 **TIME:** 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 325

TESTIFIER(S): Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or
Tricia M. Nakamatsu, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Tarnas and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) strongly supports this bill and offers the following comments and suggested amendments.

The purpose of this bill is to facilitate more effective enforcement of Hawaii's fireworks control laws, by: (1) amending definitions to reflect more common-sense standards; (2) strengthening and clarifying existing criminal offenses; (3) establishing new offenses; (4) establishing heightened penalties for repeat offenders and offenses that result in substantial or serious bodily injury or death; and (5) establishing non-criminal fireworks infractions for the lowest-level offenses.

Criminal statutes serve as a deterrent to illegal activity when they are effectively enforced and prosecuted. For many years, however, Hawaii's state laws regarding illicit fireworks have made it difficult for state and county agencies to enforce or prosecute these types of cases. When asked, prosecutors have repeatedly cited challenges posed by "gathering evidence and meeting the high burden of proof necessary for convictions",¹ as well as "stringent definitions [in statute, that] . . . routinely create roadblocks to effective prosecution."² Thus, only a small number of criminal fireworks

¹ See Legislative Reference Bureau of Hawaii, *Blast From the Past: An Update to the Report of the Illegal Fireworks Task Force to the Legislature for the Regular Session of 2011* at 13, 14 (December 2019) https://lrb.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019_BlastFromThePast.pdf (last visited January 20, 2025).

² *Id.*, at 14.

cases have been initiated by law enforcement, and an even smaller number have been prosecuted, resulting in a largely "ineffective deterrent" to the distribution and use of illicit fireworks.

This bill would largely address the concerns raised by prosecutors, and provide greater clarity and efficiency for law enforcement, prosecutors, and the courts that handle these cases.

The Department proposes the following amendments to strengthen the legislative intent of the bill. We recommend adding another offense to section 132D-A, "General fireworks or articles pyrotechnic prohibitions in the second degree" that would prohibit throwing, catapulting, or otherwise manually propelling ignited fireworks or articles pyrotechnic, when those acts do not meet the specific circumstances listed under section 132D-5(a)(1), HRS "General fireworks or articles pyrotechnic prohibitions in the first degree," as amended at page 47, lines 3-8. To do this, we recommend reorganizing section 132D-A(a) to read as follows:

(a) A person commits the offense of general fireworks or articles pyrotechnic prohibitions in the second degree if the person intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly [sets]:

- (1) Sets off, ignites, discharges, or otherwise causes to explode any aerial devices, display fireworks, or articles pyrotechnic:
 - ~~[(1)]~~ (A) Within one thousand feet of any operating hospital, licensed convalescent home, licensed home for the elderly, zoo, licensed animal shelter, or licensed animal hospital;
 - ~~[(2)]~~ (B) In any school building, or on any school grounds or yards without first obtaining authorization from appropriate school officials;
 - ~~[(3)]~~ (C) On any highway, alley, street, sidewalk, other public way, or public beach;
 - ~~[(4)]~~ (D) In any park or officially designated forest or wildlife preserve;
 - ~~[(5)]~~ (E) Within fifty feet of a canefield;
 - ~~[(6)]~~ (F) Within one thousand feet of any building used for public worship during the periods when services are held;
or
 - ~~[(7)]~~ (G) Within five hundred feet of any dwelling[-]; or
- (2) Throws, catapults, or otherwise manually propels ignited consumer fireworks, aerial devices, display fireworks, or articles pyrotechnic.

References to the renumbered offenses made in subsection (b) would need to be renumbered, accordingly.

We recommend clarifying the issue of strict liability. Looking again at "General fireworks or articles pyrotechnic prohibitions in the second degree," it appears section 132D-A(b) (page 31, line 13, to page 32, line 2) intends to establish strict liability for a defendant's knowledge that the defendant was within a designated distance from places for which a distance is specified, for purposes of this offense. If that is the intent, the Department recommends amending page 31, line 14, to say: "subsection (a)(1), [~~(3)~~, ~~(4)~~] (a)(5), (a)(6), and (a)(7) shall not be . . .".

Further, for clarity, the Department recommends the following changes.

On page 42, line 1, replace the phrase, ""Aerial devices" includes . . ." with the phrase, "Alternatively, "aerial device" may include but is not limited to any device . . ."

On page 43, line 2, replace the phrase, ""Consumer fireworks" [~~shall~~ ~~empty~~] includes any firework that . . ." with the phrase, "Alternatively, "consumer fireworks" may include but is not limited to any firework that . . ."

On page 43, lines 8-9, replace the phrase, ""Consumer fireworks" [~~include~~] further includes firework items . . ." with the phrase, ""Consumer fireworks" may include but need not be limited to firework items . . ."

On page 45, lines 5-6, the Department recommends the following changes (underscoring removed from new material in bill, to Ramseyer additional changes):

. . . including but not limited to aerial devices, consumer fireworks, or display fireworks[.] as defined by this section. "Fireworks" also includes but is not limited to aerial devices . . .

Finally, for penalties in which the level of offense depends on the weight of illicit fireworks or articles pyrotechnic, the Department recommends stating a minimum weight for each level but not stating a maximum weight to prevent issues of having to prove that the amount (of the thing in question) is indeed "less than" the maximum amount stated in statute. To address this concern, the Department recommends deleting the phrase, "but less than twenty-five pounds" from section 132D-B(c), HRS, on page 34, line 10.

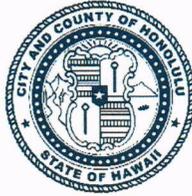
In section 132D-14(a)(2)(B), on page 58, line 20, to page 59, line 1, amend the wording there to state (changes highlighted): ". . . is ~~more than~~ twenty-five pounds ~~for more,~~ ~~but less than fifty pounds,~~ shall be guilty of a . . . "

In section 132D-14(a)(2)(C), on page 59, lines 5-6, amend the wording there to state(changes highlighted): ". . . is ~~less than twenty-five pounds,~~ ~~more than~~ five pounds ~~but less than twenty-five pounds,~~ or more, shall be . . ."

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT
KA 'OIHANA MĀKA'I O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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DEPUTY CHIEFS
HOPE LUNA NUI MĀKA'I

OUR REFERENCE JPHR

February 6, 2025

The Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair
and Members
Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
House of Representatives
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Tarnas and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 1483, Relating to Fireworks

I am Jerome Pacarro, Captain of the Narcotics/Vice Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports House Bill No. 1483, Relating to Fireworks.

The HPD supports this bill, which seeks to clarify the definitions of fireworks and improve enforcement.

The HPD also believes that better enforcement of the fireworks control laws is essential not only to safeguard property from preventable fire damage but also to protect the community from injuries related to fires and explosions, respiratory issues caused by air pollution, and ongoing trauma experienced by individuals due to loud explosions.

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 1483, Relating to Fireworks.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,


Arthur J. Logan
Chief of Police


Jerome Pacarro, Captain
Narcotics/Vice Division



Hawaiian Humane Society

People for animals. Animals for people.

Date: Feb. 3, 2025

To: Chair Rep. David Tarnas
Vice Chair Rep. Mahina Poepoe
and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

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

RE: Testimony in support of HB 1483: Relating to Fireworks
Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025, 2 p.m., Room 325 & Videoconference

On behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society, thank you for considering our support for House Bill 1483, which establishes an adjudication system and procedures to process fireworks infractions; amends multiple definitions and penalties for fireworks offenses, including heightened penalties if another person suffers substantial bodily injury, serious bodily injury, or death as a result of the fireworks offenses; establishes various criminal offenses and penalties related to fireworks or articles pyrotechnics; and appropriates funds.

Hawaiian Humane supports any attempt to restrict fireworks from residential neighborhoods. Despite tragic deaths and injuries spanning many years - and reaching a new level of horror on O'ahu this year - the crime of using illegal fireworks is rarely punished. This comprehensive measure aims to increase enforcement against fireworks infractions by creating a new system of adjudication and new penalties to address the current failures of our legal system.

These bombs increasingly go off without regard to date and terrorize pets and people alike. The unpredictable barrage makes it impossible to prepare and creates sustained stress, which can do lasting damage to emotional, mental and physical health.

Please pass HB1483 and hold the perpetrators of these crimes accountable. Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:54:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marian Hussenbux	Animal Interfaith Alliance in Britain	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Relating to Fireworks aims to increase enforcement against fireworks infractions by creating a new system of adjudication and new penalties.

We are very much in support of this Bill.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HB1483 AS CURRENTLY WRITTEN

Hearing Date: February 6, 2025
Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

My name is **Joshua Duhaylonsod**, and I am writing on behalf of **Hawaii Pyrotechnics and Explosives LLC (HiPyro)**, Hawaii's only professional, licensed fireworks company. For over 30 years, HiPyro has produced **safe, family-friendly productions** for all to enjoy—from **weekly Friday night Outrigger Hotel fireworks to Fourth of July celebrations**. It has been our joy to help **kama'āina and visitors** create unforgettable memories.

As a **small, locally owned business**, **HB1483, as written, would severely impact our ability to operate**. I strongly urge the committee to amend HB1483 to ensure that **professional, licensed fireworks companies are properly categorized and allowed to continue operating legally**.

1. Amend Section 132D-6 to Include “Professional Licensed Fireworks Productions”

Currently, **Section 132D-6** provides exceptions only for fireworks used in **movies, television, and theatrical productions**. However, this **excludes professional, licensed fireworks companies** like HiPyro, which operate under strict **state and federal regulations** and provide **safe, permitted fireworks displays for private events, community celebrations, corporate functions, and public performances**.

To ensure clarity, I respectfully request that “**Professional Licensed Fireworks Productions**” be explicitly added to **Section 132D-6** as an exempt category, allowing us to continue providing regulated fireworks displays without unnecessary restrictions.

2. Ensure 132D-6 Defined Entities Can Continue Flying Pyrotechnics with Planes

As written, **Section 132D-B** could unintentionally prohibit **132D-6 defined entities (including professional licensed fireworks productions) from conducting permitted pyrotechnic effects via aircraft**. This practice is already **highly regulated** and requires **strict federal and state permitting** to ensure safety and compliance.

To prevent unintended restrictions, I request that **entities covered under Section 132D-6 be explicitly allowed to continue conducting permitted pyrotechnic effects via aircraft, as already regulated under existing laws**. This ensures that **legal, professionally managed pyrotechnic operations can continue without disruption**.

Conclusion

While I support reasonable regulations to ensure public safety, **HB1483, as written, does not account for the essential role of professional, licensed fireworks companies and their ability to conduct permitted pyrotechnic effects via aircraft.** Without these amendments, this bill will **unintentionally restrict legally permitted operations, impacting businesses, community events, and large-scale productions in Hawaii.**

I respectfully urge the committee to amend HB1483 to:

- **Add “Professional Licensed Fireworks Productions” to Section 132D-6**
- **Ensure entities covered under Section 132D-6 can continue conducting permitted pyrotechnic effects via aircraft under existing regulations**

Mahalo for your time and consideration. I am happy to answer any questions and provide further insight into Hawaii’s professional fireworks and pyrotechnics industry.

Joshua Duhaylonsod
Hawaii Pyrotechnics and Explosives LLC
(808) 782-3602



Hawaii Representatives & Senators:

On behalf of the Libertarian Party of Hawaii, I am writing to express our strong opposition to any prohibitions and enforcement measures targeting fireworks. We believe Hawaiians have the right to pursue and engage in any activities that bring them joy and fulfillment.

Fireworks prohibitions and regulations infringe upon the freedom of our citizens to partake in this time-honored custom, diminishing the spirit of celebration and unity that fireworks bring.

Implementing strict enforcement measures to crack down on fireworks usage would only serve to burden law enforcement resources, and divert needed attention away from more pressing issues. Prohibitions and heavy enforcement will lead to unnecessary conflict between police and citizens, eroding trust and creating an atmosphere of fear and animosity. Causing harm against another person is already illegal, and crimes can already be prosecuted without these new tyrannical enforcement measures.

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii stands firm in our support of individual freedom and opposes any measures that encroach upon our citizens' rights.

In Freedom,

Abbra Green

Executive Secretary, Libertarian Party of Hawaii

lphisecretary@gmail.com

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:40:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gordon B. Lindsey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB1483

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:30:24 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strontly oppose

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:34:11 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kanoë Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 11:15:30 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marianne R Bickett	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB 1483 because we need tougher laws and the ability to enforce those laws for those citizens who willingly ignore the laws regarding fireworks. We need funds to back up the talk that we are going to prevent tragedies like we saw in the Salt Lake area of Honolulu I'm happy to pay higher taxes so that on New Year's Eve we can rest assured we are safe from terrifying noises and explosions. Thank you!!!

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 11:44:32 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hopefully, this will be another efficient tool in the toolbox to punish those who commit fireworks infractions. Enough is enough already, with people and pets killed, injured, houses burned, and emergency responders overtaxed. It is time to stop talking and start acting. The excuse that fireworks are cultural does not cut it any longer. The harm greatly outweighs culture. All fireworks should be provided by licensed organizations.

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 6:18:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
JOANNE PARKER	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am one who loves New Years Eve and played with the firecrackers. My father served with HFD and we did it carefully.

For the past many years, however, there have been way too many aerials and bombs going off at all times of the year.

When innocent children are hurt or killed, the illegal use and acquisition of the fireworks must be stopped. These irresponsible adults must be dealt with, severely.

Please support this bill and make it work

Mahalo

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:13:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Serena Stefanic-Phillip	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of Bill HB1483.

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:44:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicholas Zehr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong OPPOSITION to HB1483, which expands the adjudication system for fireworks infractions, increases penalties, and criminalizes additional aspects of fireworks use. This bill represents yet another unnecessary expansion of government power, infringing upon personal freedoms and disproportionately punishing individuals for victimless acts.

The use of fireworks, especially for cultural and celebratory purposes, is a long-standing tradition in Hawai'i. This bill would escalate penalties and create new criminal offenses, further entangling peaceful individuals in the criminal justice system. Government should not be in the business of micromanaging personal behavior when there is no direct harm to others. Instead of criminalizing more activities, lawmakers should focus on reducing unnecessary government interference in the lives of Hawaiians. Many law-abiding residents use fireworks responsibly to celebrate these traditions. Expanding law enforcement's role in policing these activities criminalizes peaceful celebrations and sets a dangerous precedent for further government overreach in private affairs.

The creation of an adjudication system and additional criminal offenses **will inevitably require more law enforcement resources**. This opens the door to increased surveillance, invasive searches, and more aggressive policing tactics—all for the "crime" of possessing or using fireworks. Instead of prioritizing real public safety threats, this bill **diverts resources to enforcing regulations against individuals where there is not necessarily harm to person or property**. This is an inefficient and heavy-handed approach.

This bill proposes an **indefinite appropriation of taxpayer money** to establish and maintain a new enforcement division, adding salaries, equipment, and operational expenses to an already bloated state budget. The cost of maintaining this unit will only grow over time, diverting critical resources away from **more pressing public concerns**, including: **Hawai'i's housing crisis, rising cost of living, failing infrastructure, and violent crime and property crime**.

At a time when residents are struggling to afford basic necessities, it is **fiscally irresponsible** to dedicate large sums of money to further criminalizing an activity that is, in most cases, a **victimless crime**. The enforcement of fireworks bans disproportionately impacts **working-class families** who may not have access to expensive, government-sanctioned fireworks events.

The bill proposes heightened penalties if another person is injured or killed as a result of fireworks use. However, existing laws already provide sufficient recourse for cases where harm occurs due to recklessness or negligence. Adding more penalties under the guise of public safety is merely punitive, not preventative. The state should not increase criminal penalties based on hypotheticals when civil remedies already exist.

Creating a permanent fireworks enforcement division sets a dangerous precedent. Historically, when the government expands enforcement powers, **it rarely scales them back**—even when the policies prove ineffective. This bill risks:

- Selective enforcement, where certain communities are disproportionately targeted.
- Increased fines and penalties, adding financial burdens on working families.
- Unnecessary confrontations between citizens and law enforcement, leading to further tensions in the community.

Hawai‘i already has **some of the strictest fireworks regulations in the country**, yet illegal fireworks persist. Further enforcement crackdowns will not stop the underground market; rather, they will **drive up demand for illicit sales**, much like prohibition-era policies have done in other contexts (e.g., the War on Drugs).

Instead of heavy-handed enforcement measures, the Legislature should consider alternative solutions that respect individual liberty while addressing legitimate concerns such as fire hazards and noise complaints. These could include:

- Designated community fireworks zones where individuals can legally celebrate in a safe environment.
- Public education and fire safety campaigns rather than increased criminal penalties.
- Decriminalization of consumer-grade fireworks, allowing responsible individuals to purchase and use them legally while maintaining safety regulations on large commercial explosives.

This bill is a classic example of **big government overreach** that restricts personal freedoms while doing little to improve public safety. The Legislature should reject this unnecessary expansion of the criminal code and instead seek solutions that respect individual rights while encouraging responsible use of fireworks.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Nicholas Zehr

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:14:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephanie McLaughlin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this important bill that will help Hawai'i's animals.

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:23:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Committee Members,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB1483.

After a slight decrease in illegal fireworks in 2023, thanks to the Illegal Fireworks Task Force making several large seizures at the docks, there was a significant increase in 2024. It has been noted that current laws are weak, does not provide deterrence, are difficult to enforce and virtually almost impossible to prosecute. Having individuals take videos, risking retaliation, assaults, and getting injured from fireworks, have proved useless because once fireworks explodes there is no evidence, and many are not willing to testify. It was identified that one of the main roadblocks to enforce and prosecute illegal fireworks was the way these type of fireworks were defined.

HB1483 provides an excellent solution by providing clear definitions and implementing a dedicated adjudication system for fireworks infractions similar to traffic infractions. This will make it easier for officers to increase enforcement of end-use violators and make it easier and faster to adjudicate cases in a district or family court. An exorbitant amount is spent on fireworks, so hopefully fines will be hefty enough and escalate as needed until a point of deterrence is achieved.

In the area where I live, aerals were most prominent this past New Year’s Eve. These aerals come not from a nearby neighbor, but from a street or two over. What I found most disturbing is the use of more plastics. When these tubes explode parts of it shatters, scattering small sharp pieces of plastic in the grass. The goal is to reduce plastics but aerals that have no useful purpose scatter it everywhere. Restaurants and consumers, diligently purchase reusable bags, environmentally friendly containers and utensils while aerals are allowed to continue polluting the environment. It takes patience each year cleaning up debris that we had nothing to do with. It’s troubling for people who have to pay for damages caused by illegal fireworks because there is no evidence and proof who did it. A post this past New Year’s Eve showed a gaping hole in a Waipahu roof where debris landed on furniture and the floor. We cringe when we hear an aerial hit our roof. My neighbor has a nice garden and plants vegetables to eat. This past New Year’s Eve she actually covered what she could of her garden so firework chemicals and debris would not contaminate her plants and soil.

You would think the Aliamanu incident would make people think twice, but I still hear illegal fireworks every now and then, not to mention another recent incident on 1/28/25 where a 27 year-old woman sustained serious multiple shrapnel injuries after igniting fireworks.

Please pass **HB1483** to prevent another Aliamanu tragedy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 12:56:00 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Taurie Kinoshita	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Honorable Committee,

I am writing in support of HB1483.

There needs to be better enforcement against fireworks infractions and a new system of adjudication, with new penalties.

We have all seen and know the horror and damage fireworks can cause....

Stronger penalties and more enforcement is paramount.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Taurie Kinoshita

lifelong voter and resident!

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:03:16 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Chiwa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Representative Tarnas, Vice Chair Representative Poepoe and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs.

Please vote for HB 1483, which I strongly support, to increase enforcement against fireworks infractions.

Mahalo.

Jennifer Chiwa

Makiki and life long resident of Oahu

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 11:47:38 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bill Dixon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Bill Dixon, and I live with my wife in Kaneohe. We believe it's time to demilitarize our neighborhoods, eliminate deadly impacts on children and families, and protect our islands from fires by banning most fireworks and increasing penalties for the use of illegal fireworks.

HB1483 Relating to Fireworks will clamp down on illegal fireworks in multiple ways, including:

Consolidating the adjudication process for fireworks offenses.

Increasing penalties for those whose illegal fireworks injure or kill others.

Making it a crime to send fireworks on airplanes and to remove the explosive materials from fireworks.

Establishing penalties for storing illegal fireworks at a residence.

Allowing citizens to bring nuisance complaints against properties used to commit fireworks related offenses.

This bill makes it possible to appropriately punish those who flout the law and put the people and environment of our community at risk. I urge the committee to endorse and advance the bill.

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 12:06:10 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Natalie Graham-Wood	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in favor of HB1483. My name is Natalie Graham-Wood and I live at Sunset Beach, Oahu.

HB-1483

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 8:10:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/6/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynn Murakami Akatsuka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the passage of HB 1483 "Relating to Fireworks" this session. The bill establishes various criminal offenses and penalties related to illegal fireworks.

Long term disability and death of our residents are not acceptable for using illegal fireworks without bearing the consequences of those actions.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in strong support of HB 1483.