### 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 personal use of
2	fireworks in the state is a serious threat to public health,
3	safety, and welfare.
4	Although the legislature recognizes the popularity of
5	fireworks in Hawaii, the legislature nevertheless finds that the
6	costs of fireworks to society greatly outweigh any benefits
7	derived from its continued broad legalization.
8	The purpose of this Act is to prohibit all fireworks in the
9	state, except for public displays or religious or ceremonial
10	occasions.
11	SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
12	adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
13	as follows:
14	"CHAPTER
15	FIREWORKS
16	§ -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the
17	context requires otherwise:

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T	"Aerial common fireworks" means common fireworks that are						
2	designed	to rise into the air and explode or detonate in the air					
3	or to fly about above the ground.						
4	"Common fireworks" means explosive devices:						
5	(1)	Designed primarily to produce visible or audible					
6		effects by combustion, deflagaration, or detonation;					
7		and					
8	(2)	Classified as division 1.4G explosives by regulation					
9		of the United States Department of Transportation.					
10	"Council" means the state fire council.						
11	"Fireworks" includes common fireworks and special						
12	fireworks	. The term "fireworks" shall not include:					
13	(1)	Automotive safety flares;					
14	(2)	Toy pistols, toy cannons, toy guns, party poppers,					
15		pop-its, or other devices containing twenty-five					
16	,	hundredths of a grain or less of explosives substance;					
17		or					
18	(3)	Any explosives and pyrotechnics regulated under					
19		chapter 396.					
20	"Non	-aerial common fireworks" means common fireworks that					
21	are desig	ned to remain on or near the ground, and while					
22	stationar	y or spinning rapidly on or near the ground, emit					

- 1 smoke, a shower of colored sparks, whistling effects, flitter
- 2 sparks, or balls of colored sparks, and combination items that
- 3 contain one or more of these effects.
- 4 "Special fireworks" means explosive devices:
- (1) Designed primarily to produce visible or audible
   effects by combustion, deflagration, or detonation;
- 7 (2) Designed primarily for exhibition display; and
- 8 (3) Classified as division 1.3G explosives by regulation 9 of the United States Department of Transportation.
- 10 § -2 General prohibition of fireworks; exceptions. (a)
- 11 Fireworks shall not be possessed, set off, ignited, discharged,
- 12 or otherwise caused to explode within the state unless
- 13 specifically allowed by this chapter.
- 14 (b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to:
- 15 (1) The use of flares, noisemakers, or signals for
- warning, pest control, or illumination purposes by
- police and fire departments, utility companies,
- 18 transportation agencies, and other governmental or
- 19 private agencies or persons, including agricultural
- 20 operations, in connection with emergencies, their
- 21 duties, or business;

1 (2) The sale or use of blank cartridges for a show or 2 theater, or for signal, commercial, or institutional 3 purposes in athletics or sports; or The possession, storage, sale, or use of explosives 4 (3) 5 and combustibles in accordance with chapter 396. 6 -3 Permissible uses. (a) Special fireworks and 7 aerial common fireworks may be purchased, set off, ignited, or 8 otherwise caused to explode in the state for display purposes 9 only pursuant to a permit as set forth in section 10 Non-aerial common fireworks may be purchased, set off, 11 ignited, or otherwise caused to explode in the state for 12 religious or ceremonial purposes only pursuant to a permit as 13 set forth in section -5. 14 -4 License required; fees. (a) It shall be unlawful 15 for any person to: 16 (1) Import any fireworks into the state; **17** (2) Store; or Offer to sell or sell, at wholesale or retail, 18 19 any fireworks, unless the person has a valid license issued by

the council.

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1 The fee for the license shall not exceed \$ (b) for 2 each year or fraction of a year in which the licensee plans to 3 conduct business and shall be payable to the council. 4 Permit required, fees. (a) It shall be unlawful Ş 5 for any person to possess, set off, ignite, discharge, or 6 otherwise cause to explode fireworks at any time unless the 7 person has a valid permit issued by the county in which the 8 permitted activity is to occur. 9 The fee for the permit shall not exceed \$ for 10 each year or fraction of a year in which the permittee plans to 11 conduct business or participate in a religious or ceremonial 12 activity and shall be payable to the county in which the 13 permitted activity is to occur. 14 S Application for license. (a) The license 15 required under section -4 shall be nontransferable. 16 license shall specify the date of issuance and the date of **17** expiration, which shall be March 31 of each year. 18 application shall be made on a form setting forth: 19 The date upon which the importations are to begin; (1) **20** The address of the location of the importer; (2) 21 (3) The address of each location at which fireworks are

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stored;

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l	(4)	The name of the proprietor or, if a partnership, the
2		name of the partnership and the names of all partners
3		or, if a corporation, the name of the corporation and
1		the names of its officers.

- (5) The date upon which the storage, sale, or offers for sale are to begin;
- (6) The address of the location of the licensee; and
- The names of the person using the fireworks for religious or ceremonial purposes; the proprietor, the partnership, including the name of the partnership and the names of all partners; or the corporation, including the name of the corporation and the names of its officers.
  - (b) Each storage, wholesaling, and retailing site shall be required to obtain a separate license. The license shall specify the date of issuance and the date of expiration, which shall be March 31 of each year.
- 18 (c) Any license issued pursuant to this chapter may be
  19 revoked by the council if the licensee violates any provision of
  20 this chapter or if the licensee stores or handles the fireworks
  21 in such a manner as to present an unreasonable safety hazard.

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- 1 (d) It shall be unlawful for any person, other than a
- 2 wholesaler who is selling or transferring fireworks to a
- 3 licensed retailer, to sell or offer to sell any fireworks to any
- 4 person who does not present a permit duly issued as required by
- 5 section -5. The permit shall be signed by the seller or
- 6 transferor at the time of sale or transfer of the fireworks, and
- 7 the seller or transferor shall indicate on the permit the amount
- 8 and type of fireworks sold or transferred. No person shall sell
- 9 or deliver fireworks to any permittee in any amount in excess of
- 10 the amount specified in the permit.
- 11 (e) Any license issued pursuant to this chapter shall be
- 12 prominently displayed in public view at each licensed location.
- 13 § -7 Application for permit. (a) Any permit required
- 14 under section -5 shall be nontransferable. The permit
- 15 application shall be filled in with complete and correct
- 16 information and may be denied if the proposed use of fireworks
- 17 presents a substantial inconvenience to the public or presents
- 18 an unreasonable fire or safety hazard.
- 19 The permit shall specify the date of issuance and the date
- 20 of expiration but in no case for a period to exceed one year.
- 21 The application shall be made on a form setting forth:
- 22 (1) The dates for which the permit shall be valid;



1	(2)	The	location	at	which	the	permitted	activity	is	to
2		occu	ır; and							

- 3 (3) The name of the proprietor or, if a partnership, the
  4 name of the partnership and the names of all partners
  5 or, if a corporation, the name of the corporation and
  6 the names of its officers.
- 7 (b) Any permit issued pursuant to this chapter shall be
  8 prominently displayed in public view at the site.
- 9 § -8 Sale to minor; liability of parents or guardians.
- 10 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to offer for sale,
- 11 sell, or give any fireworks to minors, and for any minor to
- 12 possess, purchase, or set off, ignite, or otherwise cause to
- 13 explode any fireworks.
- 14 (b) The parents, guardian, and other persons having the
- 15 custody or control of any minor, who knowingly permit the minor
- 16 to possess, purchase, set off, ignite, or otherwise cause to
- 17 explode any fireworks, shall be deemed to be in violation of
- 18 this chapter and shall be subject to the penalties thereunder,
- 19 provided that:
- 20 (1) The parents or guardian may allow the minor to use
- 21 fireworks while under the immediate supervision and



1 .	control of the parent or guardian, or under the
2	supervision and control of another adult; and
3	(2) The parent, guardian, or other person having control
4	of the minor holds a permit allowing the use of
5	fireworks.
6	§ -9 Penalty. (a) Any person who:
7	(1) Imports fireworks into the state without first having
8	obtained a license as required by section -4; or
9	(2) Uses special fireworks or aerial common fireworks
10	without first having obtained a permit as required by
11	section -5,
12	shall be guilty of a class C felony.
13	(b) Except as provided in subsection (a), any person who
[4	violates any other provision of this chapter shall be guilty of
15	a petty misdemeanor.
16	§ -10 Rules. The council shall adopt rules pursuant to
17	chapter 91 to carry out the purposes of this chapter.
18	§ -11 Enforcement. This chapter shall be enforced by
19	the council and agencies designated by the council. The
20	counties shall enforce and administer the provisions of this
21	chapter."

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- SECTION 3. Chapter 132D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 1
- repealed. 2

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

4 INTRODUCED BY: JAN 2 1 2010

#### Report Title:

Regulation of Fireworks in Hawaii

#### Description:

Prohibits the use of all fireworks in Hawaii, except for public displays or for religious or ceremonial occasions.

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