
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LITTER CONTROL.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the release of
2 balloons inflated with lighter-than-air gases poses a danger and
3 nuisance to the environment, particularly to wildlife and marine
4 animals. Many animals are attracted to the bright colors of
5 balloons and mistake them for food, which can cause an animal
6 severe injury or death. Animals are often found entangled in
7 balloon strings and, as a result, are injured or strangled to
8 death. The legislature further finds that several states,
9 including California, Connecticut, Florida, New Jersey,
10 Tennessee, and Virginia, as well as numerous counties in other
11 states, have prohibited the release of balloons inflated with
12 lighter-than-air gases.

13 The purpose of this Act is to prohibit the intentional
14 release of balloons inflated with gas that is lighter than air.

15 SECTION 2. Chapter 339, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
17 and to read as follows:



1 "§339- Intentional release of balloons; prohibition.

2 (a) No person or entity shall intentionally release, organize
3 the release of, or otherwise cause the release of a balloon
4 inflated with a gas that is lighter than air, except for:

5 (1) A balloon released for scientific or meteorological
6 purposes, on behalf of a governmental agency or
7 pursuant to a governmental contract;

8 (2) A hot air balloon that is recovered after launching;
9 or

10 (3) A balloon that is released and remains indoors.

11 (b) Any person or entity who violates this section shall
12 be subject to a civil penalty of no more than \$500 for each
13 offense. For the purposes of this section, the release of
14 multiple balloons at one time shall be considered a single
15 offense."

16 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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



Report Title:

Balloons; Intentional Release; Prohibition

Description:

Prohibits the intentional release of balloons inflated with a gas that is lighter than air. (SD1)

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