

JAN 22 2021

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 gas 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 certain
9 municipalities in New Jersey have prohibited the release of
10 balloons inflated with lighter-than-air gas.

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

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

16 "§339- Intentional release of balloons; prohibition.

17 (a) No person or entity shall intentionally release, organize



1 the release of, or otherwise cause the release of a balloon
2 inflated with a gas that is lighter than air, except for:

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

6 (2) A hot air balloon that is recovered after launching;
7 or

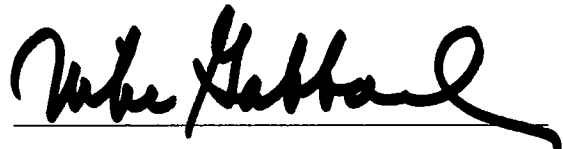
8 (3) A balloon that is released and remains indoors.

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

14 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

16 INTRODUCED BY:



S.B. NO. 347

Report Title:

Balloons; Intentional Release; Prohibition

Description:

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

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