
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF AN ILLEGAL FIREWORKS TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN TO STOP THE IMPORTATION OF ILLEGAL FIREWORKS AND EXPLOSIVES IN THE STATE, PROMOTE COMPLIANCE WITH STATE FIREWORKS CONTROL LAWS, AND ENSURE THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF THE AIRPORTS, HARBORS, AND OTHER FACILITIES AND INSTITUTIONS IN THE STATE AGAINST THE DISCHARGE OF ILLEGAL FIREWORKS AND EXPLOSIVES.

1 WHEREAS, illegal use of fireworks in Hawaii has caused
2 brush fires, structural fires, injuries, and even death despite
3 the various local, state, and federal laws governing the
4 manufacture, transportation, distribution, sale, and use of
5 fireworks that continue to be violated at what appears to be an
6 increasing rate; and

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8 WHEREAS, while law enforcement efforts to control illegal
9 fireworks in Hawaii have had limited results, a concerted multi-
10 jurisdictional approach is needed to address the illegal
11 fireworks problem in Hawaii; and

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13 WHEREAS, establishing a task force to develop a
14 comprehensive strategic plan to stop the importation of illegal
15 fireworks and explosives into Hawaii would promote compliance
16 with the state fireworks control laws and ensure the safety and
17 security of the airports, harbors, and other facilities and
18 institutions in the State against the discharge of illegal
19 fireworks and explosives; now, therefore,

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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
22 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
23 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that this body requests
24 the convening of an Illegal Fireworks Task Force to develop a
25 comprehensive strategic plan to stop the importation of illegal
26 fireworks and explosives in the State, promote compliance with



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1 state fireworks control laws, and ensure the safety and security
2 of the airports, harbors, and other facilities and institutions
3 in the State against the discharge of illegal fireworks and
4 explosives; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Illegal Fireworks Task
7 Force be established within the Department of Law Enforcement
8 for administrative purposes; and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Illegal Fireworks Task
11 Force is requested to use findings from the Legislative
12 Reference Bureau's 2019 report, "Blast from the Past: An Update
13 to the Report of the Illegal Fireworks Task Force to the
14 Legislature for the Regular Session of 2011", as the basis for
15 developing its comprehensive strategic plan; and

16
17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Law Enforcement
18 or the Director's designee is requested to be the Chair of the
19 Illegal Fireworks Task Force; and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals serve
22 as members of the Illegal Fireworks Task Force:

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24 (1) Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee;
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26 (2) Deputy Director of the Harbors Division of the
27 Department of Transportation or the Deputy Director's
28 designee;
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30 (3) Chief of Police of each county police department or
31 the Chief of Police's designee;
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33 (4) Prosecuting Attorney of each county or the Prosecuting
34 Attorney's designee;
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36 (5) Two representatives of the shipping and trucking
37 industry, to be invited by the Chair of the task
38 force; and
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40 (6) Two representatives of the fireworks industry, to be
41 invited by the Chair of the task force; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the Illegal
2 Fireworks Task Force is requested to invite representatives of
3 the following federal entities to serve as members of the task
4 force:

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- 6 (1) United States Attorney's Office, District of Hawaii;
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- 8 (2) United States Department of Homeland Security;
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- 10 (3) Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and
11 Explosives;
- 12
- 13 (4) Federal Bureau of Investigation;
- 14
- 15 (5) United States Coast Guard;
- 16
- 17 (6) United States Customs and Border Protection; and
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- 19 (7) United States Drug Enforcement Administration; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Illegal Fireworks Task
22 Force is requested to submit a report of its comprehensive
23 strategic plan, including findings, recommendations, and any
24 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty
25 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024; and
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the United States
29 Secretary of Homeland Security; Director of the United States
30 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; Director
31 of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; Commandant of the United
32 States Coast Guard; Acting Commissioner of the United States
33 Customs and Border Protection; Administrator of the United
34 States Drug Enforcement Administration; United States Attorney
35 of the United States Attorney's Office, District of Hawaii;
36 Attorney General; Director of Transportation; Chief of Police of
37 each county; and County Prosecutor of each county.
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OFFERED BY:



MAR 10 2023

