

MAR 10 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENTS TO DEPLOY EXPLOSION
DETECTION TECHNOLOGY TO LOCATE AND RESPOND TO THE ILLEGAL
USE OF FIREARMS AND FIREWORKS.

1 WHEREAS, the people of the State deserve to live in peace
2 and security, without the public safety risks, health hazards,
3 and traumatic impacts of illegal gunfire and illegal fireworks
4 use; and

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6 WHEREAS, the use of illegal fireworks has caused brush
7 fires, structural fires, injuries, and death despite various
8 local, state, and federal laws governing the manufacture,
9 transportation, distribution, sale, and use of fireworks that
10 continue to be violated at what appears to be an increasing
11 rate; and

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13 WHEREAS, the deployment of new technologies may help county
14 police departments better enforce existing fireworks and
15 firearms laws by allowing law enforcement officers to instantly
16 detect and locate the geographic origin of explosions caused by
17 gunfire or illegal fireworks; and

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19 WHEREAS, according to a police lieutenant in Denver,
20 Colorado, his department's use of this technology allows police
21 to receive notification of gunshots within forty seconds and
22 respond to within twenty-five feet of an actual crime scene; and

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24 WHEREAS, although these technologies were originally
25 developed to assist law enforcement in detecting gunshots, the
26 technology may also equip police departments with the ability to
27 enforce fireworks laws; and

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29 WHEREAS, one such service, ShotSpotter, has been deployed
30 in more than one hundred twenty cities; and

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32 WHEREAS, law enforcement agencies that have adopted
33 explosion detection technology have been able to deploy their
34 officers more efficiently and effectively, which is especially
35 important as law enforcement agencies across the country report



1 officer shortages and have been forced to cut back on
2 neighborhood patrols in certain areas; and

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4 WHEREAS, similarly, explosion detection technology may help
5 county police departments in the State to address their officer
6 shortages; now, therefore,

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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
9 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023,
10 that county police departments are requested to deploy explosion
11 detection technology to assist in locating and responding to
12 explosions caused by the illegal use of firearms and fireworks;
13 and

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the respective Chief of Police
16 of each county police department is requested to ensure that
17 appropriate training is provided to police officers in the use
18 of explosion detection technology; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the respective Mayors and
21 County Councils are requested to provide to the police
22 departments any resources needed to purchase and deploy
23 explosion detection technology; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
26 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayors, County Council
27 Chairpersons, and Chiefs of Police of the City and County of
28 Honolulu and Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui.

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31 OFFERED BY: Kurt Favelle