House Study Bill 171 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS BILL BY CHAIRPERSON VANDER LINDEN)

A BILL FOR

- An Act relating to the possession, sale, transfer, purchase,
 and use of fireworks, providing penalties, and including
- 3 effective date provisions.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 DIVISION I 2 FIREWORKS REGULATION 3 Section 1. Section 100.1, subsection 4, paragraph b, Code 4 2017, is amended to read as follows: 5 b. The storage, transportation, handling, and use of 6 flammable liquids, combustibles, fireworks, and explosives; Sec. 2. Section 100.1, Code 2017, is amended by adding the 7 8 following new subsection: 9 NEW SUBSECTION. 8. To order the suspension of the use 10 of consumer fireworks, display fireworks, or novelties, as 11 described in section 727.2, if the fire marshal determines that 12 the use of such devices would constitute a threat to public 13 safety. Sec. 3. 100.19 Consumer fireworks seller 14 NEW SECTION. 15 licensing — penalty — fund. 16 1. As used in this section: a. "APA 87-1" means the American pyrotechnics association 17 18 standard 87-1, as published in December 2001. b. "Community group" means a nonprofit entity that is open 19 20 for membership to the general public which is exempt from 21 federal income taxation pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the 22 Internal Revenue Code or a fraternal benefit society, as that 23 term is defined in section 512B.3. 24 с. "First-class consumer fireworks" means the following 25 consumer fireworks, as described in APA 87-1, chapter 3: (1) Aerial shell kits and reloadable tubes. 26 27 (2) Chasers. 28 (3) Helicopter and aerial spinners. 29 (4) Firecrackers. (5) Mine and shell devices. 30 31 (6) Missile-type rockets. 32 (7) Roman candles. 33 (8) Sky rockets and bottle rockets. 34 (9) Multiple tube devices under this paragraph c'' that are 35 manufactured in accordance with APA 87-1, section 3.5.

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1 d. "Retailer" means as defined in section 423.1.

2 e. "Second-class consumer fireworks" means the following
3 consumer fireworks, as described in APA 87-1, chapter 3:

4 (1) Cone fountains.

5 (2) Cylindrical fountains.

6 (3) Flitter sparklers.

7 (4) Ground and hand-held sparkling devices, including
8 multiple tube ground and hand-held sparkling devices that are
9 manufactured in accordance with APA 87-1, section 3.5.

10 (5) Ground spinners.

11 (6) Illuminating torches.

12 (7) Toy smoke devices that are not classified as novelties 13 pursuant to APA 87-1, section 3.2.

14 (8) Wheels.

15 (9) Wire or dipped sparklers that are not classified as 16 novelties pursuant to APA 87-1, section 3.2.

17 2. a. The state fire marshal shall establish a consumer 18 fireworks seller license. An application for a consumer 19 fireworks seller license shall be made on a form provided 20 by the state fire marshal. The state fire marshal shall 21 adopt rules consistent with this section establishing minimum 22 requirements for a retailer or community group to be issued a 23 consumer fireworks seller license.

b. A person shall possess a consumer fireworks seller
license under this section in order to sell consumer fireworks. *a.* The state fire marshal shall establish a fee schedule
for consumer fireworks seller licenses as follows:

(1) For a retailer at a permanent building who devotes fifty percent or more of the retailer's retail floor space to the sale or display of first-class consumer fireworks, an annual fee of one thousand dollars.

32 (2) For a retailer at a temporary structure who devotes 33 fifty percent or more of the retailer's retail floor space 34 to the sale or display of first-class consumer fireworks, an 35 annual fee of five hundred dollars.

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1 (3) For a retailer who devotes less than fifty percent of 2 the retailer's retail floor space to the sale or display of 3 first-class consumer fireworks, an annual fee of four hundred 4 dollars.

5 (4) For a community group that offers for sale, exposes for 6 sale, or sells first-class consumer fireworks, an annual fee 7 of four hundred dollars.

8 (5) For a retailer or community group that offers for sale,
9 exposes for sale, or sells second-class consumer fireworks,
10 but not first-class consumer fireworks, an annual fee of one
11 hundred dollars.

12 b. A license issued to a retailer or community group 13 pursuant to paragraph "a", subparagraph (1), (2), (3), or (4), 14 shall allow the licensee to sell both first-class consumer 15 fireworks and second-class consumer fireworks.

16 4. The state fire marshal shall adopt rules to:

17 a. Require that any retailer or community group offering 18 for sale at retail any consumer fireworks, as described in APA 19 87-1, chapter 3, shall do so in accordance with the national 20 fire protection association standard 1124, published in the 21 code for the manufacture, transportation, storage, and retail 22 sales of fireworks and pyrotechnic articles, 2006 edition.

23 b. Require that a retailer or community group to be issued 24 a license pursuant to this section provide proof of and 25 maintain commercial general liability insurance with minimum 26 per occurrence coverage of at least one million dollars and 27 aggregate coverage of at least two million dollars.

28 c. Permit a retailer or community group issued a license 29 pursuant to this section to sell consumer fireworks, as 30 described in APA 87-1, chapter 3, at the following locations 31 as specified:

32 (1) At a permanent building that meets the requirements of 33 paragraph a'', between June 1 and July 8 and between December 10 34 and January 3 each year, all dates inclusive.

35 (2) At a temporary structure that meets the requirements of

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l paragraph "a" between June 13 and July 8 each year, both dates 2 inclusive.

3 *d*. A retailer or community group shall not transfer consumer 4 fireworks, as described in APA 87-1, chapter 3, to a person who 5 is under eighteen years of age.

6 5. a. The state fire marshal shall adopt rules to provide 7 that a person's consumer fireworks seller license may be 8 revoked for the intentional violation of this section. The 9 proceedings for revocation shall be held before the division 10 of the state fire marshal, which may revoke the license or 11 licenses involved as provided in paragraph "b".

12 b. (1) If, upon the hearing of the order to show cause, 13 the division of the state fire marshal finds that the licensee 14 intentionally violated this section, then the license or 15 licenses under which the licensed retailer or community group 16 sells first-class consumer fireworks or second-class consumer 17 fireworks, shall be revoked.

(2) Judicial review of actions of the division of the 18 19 state fire marshal may be sought in accordance with the terms 20 of the Iowa administrative procedure Act, chapter 17A. If 21 the licensee has not filed a petition for judicial review in 22 district court, revocation shall date from the thirty-first 23 day following the date of the order of the division of the 24 state fire marshal. If the licensee has filed a petition for 25 judicial review, revocation shall date from the thirty-first 26 day following entry of the order of the district court, if 27 action by the district court is adverse to the licensee. (3) A new license shall not be issued to a person whose 28 29 license has been revoked, or to the business in control of the 30 premises on which the violation occurred if it is established 31 that the owner of the business had actual knowledge of the 32 violation resulting in the license revocation, for the period 33 of one year following the date of revocation.

34 6. a. A consumer fireworks fee fund is created in the35 state treasury under the control of the state fire marshal.

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1 Notwithstanding section 12C.7, interest or earnings on 2 moneys in the consumer fireworks fee fund shall be credited 3 to the consumer fireworks fee fund. Moneys in the fund are 4 appropriated to the state fire marshal to be used to fulfill 5 the responsibilities of the state fire marshal for the 6 administration and enforcement of this section and section 7 100.19A and to provide grants pursuant to paragraph "b". The 8 fund shall include the fees collected by the state fire marshal 9 under the fee schedule established pursuant to subsection 3 10 and the fees collected by the state fire marshal under section 11 100.19A for wholesaler registration.

b. The state fire marshal shall establish a local fire protection and emergency medical service providers grant program to provide grants to local fire protection service providers and local emergency medical service providers to establish or provide fireworks safety education programming to members of the public. The state fire marshal may also provide grants to local fire protection service providers and local emergency medical service providers for the purchase of necessary enforcement, protection, or emergency response equipment related to the sale and use of consumer fireworks in 22 this state.

23 7. The state fire marshal shall adopt rules for the 24 administration of this section.

8. A person who violates a provision of this section or a
rule adopted pursuant to this section is guilty of a simple
misdemeanor.

28 Sec. 4. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. 100.19A Consumer fireworks wholesaler
29 — registration — penalty.

30 1. For purposes of this section:

31 *a. "Consumer fireworks"* means first-class consumer fireworks 32 and second-class consumer fireworks, as those terms are defined 33 in section 100.19.

34 b. "Wholesaler" means a person who engages in the business35 of selling or distributing consumer fireworks for the purpose

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1 of resale in this state.

2. The state fire marshal shall adopt rules to require all
 3 wholesalers to annually register with the state fire marshal.
 4 The state fire marshal may also adopt rules to regulate the
 5 storage or transfer of consumer fireworks by wholesalers and to
 6 require wholesalers to maintain insurance.

7 3. The state fire marshal shall establish an annual 8 registration fee of one thousand dollars for wholesalers 9 of consumer fireworks within the state. Registration fees 10 collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the 11 consumer fireworks fee fund created in section 100.19.

12 4. A person who violates a provision of this section or a 13 rule adopted pursuant to this section is guilty of a simple 14 misdemeanor.

15 Sec. 5. Section 101A.1, subsection 3, Code 2017, is amended 16 to read as follows:

3. "Explosive" means any chemical compound, mixture 17 18 or device, the primary or common purpose of which is to 19 function by explosion with substantially instantaneous 20 release of gas and heat, unless such compound, mixture, or 21 device is otherwise specifically classified by the United 22 States department of transportation. The term "explosive" 23 includes all materials which are classified as a class 1, 24 division 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, or 1.4 explosive by the United States 25 department of transportation, under 49 C.F.R. §173.50, and all 26 materials classified as explosive materials under 18 U.S.C. 27 §841, and includes, but is not limited to, dynamite, black 28 powder, pellet powders, initiating explosives, blasting caps, 29 electric blasting caps, safety fuse, fuse lighters, fuse 30 igniters, squibs, cordeau detonative fuse, instantaneous fuse, 31 igniter cord, igniters, smokeless propellant, cartridges for 32 propellant-actuated power devices, cartridges for industrial 33 guns, and overpressure devices, but does not include "*fireworks"*" 34 as "consumer fireworks", "display fireworks", or "novelties" as 35 those terms are defined in section 727.2 or ammunition or small

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1 arms primers manufactured for use in shotguns, rifles, and 2 pistols. Commercial explosives are those explosives which are 3 intended to be used in commercial or industrial operations. 4 Sec. 6. Section 331.301, Code 2017, is amended by adding the 5 following new subsection: NEW SUBSECTION. 17. The board of supervisors may by 6 7 ordinance or resolution prohibit or limit the use of consumer 8 fireworks or display fireworks, as described in section 727.2, 9 if the board determines that the use of such devices would 10 constitute a threat to public safety or private property, or 11 if the board determines that the use of such devices would 12 constitute a nuisance to neighboring landowners. 13 Sec. 7. Section 331.304, subsection 8, Code 2017, is amended 14 to read as follows: 15 The board, upon application, may grant permits for the 8. 16 display use of display fireworks as provided in section 727.2. Section 364.2, Code 2017, is amended by adding the 17 Sec. 8. 18 following new subsection: NEW SUBSECTION. 6. A city council may by ordinance or 19 20 resolution prohibit or limit the use of consumer fireworks, 21 display fireworks, or novelties, as described in section 727.2. 22 Sec. 9. Section 461A.42, subsection 2, Code 2017, is amended 23 to read as follows: 24 2. The use of consumer fireworks or display fireworks, 25 as defined in section 727.2, in state parks and preserves is 26 prohibited except as authorized by a permit issued by the 27 department. The commission shall establish, by rule adopted 28 pursuant to chapter 17A, a fireworks permit system which 29 authorizes the issuance of a limited number of permits to 30 qualified persons to use or display fireworks in selected state 31 parks and preserves.

32 Sec. 10. Section 727.2, Code 2017, is amended to read as 33 follows:

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34 727.2 Fireworks.

35 1. *Definitions*. For purposes of this section:

a. "Consumer fireworks" includes first-class consumer
fireworks and second-class consumer fireworks as those terms
are defined in section 100.19, subsection 1. "Consumer
fireworks" does not include novelties enumerated in chapter
3 of the American pyrotechnics association's standard 87-1
or display fireworks enumerated in chapter 4 of the American
pyrotechnics association's standard 87-1.
<u>b.</u> The term "fireworks" "Display fireworks" includes any
explosive composition, or combination of explosive substances,
or article prepared for the purpose of producing a visible
or audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration,

12 or detonation, and includes blank cartridges, firecrackers, 13 torpedoes, skyrockets, roman candles, or other fireworks of 14 like construction and fireworks containing any explosive or 15 flammable compound, or other device containing any explosive 16 substance. The term *`fireworks" Display fireworks"* does not 17 include goldstar-producing sparklers on wires which contain 18 no magnesium or chlorate or perchlorate, flitter sparklers 19 in paper tubes that do not exceed one-eighth of an inch in 20 diameter, toy snakes which contain no mercury, or caps used 21 in cap pistols <u>novelties or consumer fireworks enumerated in</u> 22 chapter 3 of the American pyrotechnics association's standard 23 87-1.

24 <u>c. "Novelties" includes all novelties enumerated in chapter</u>
 25 <u>3 of the American pyrotechnics association's standard 87-1, and</u>
 26 <u>that comply with the labeling regulations promulgated by the</u>
 27 United States consumer product safety commission.

28 2. Display fireworks.

29 <u>a.</u> A person, firm, partnership, or corporation who offers
30 for sale, exposes for sale, sells at retail, or uses or
31 explodes any <u>display</u> fireworks, commits a simple misdemeanor.
32 In addition to any other penalties, the punishment imposed
33 for a violation of this section shall include assessment
34 of, punishable by a fine of not less than two hundred fifty
35 dollars. However, the a city council of a city or a county

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1 board of supervisors may, upon application in writing, grant a 2 permit for the display of <u>display</u> fireworks by municipalities, 3 fair associations, amusement parks, and other organizations 4 or groups of individuals approved by the city or the county 5 board of supervisors when the <u>display</u> fireworks display will 6 be handled by a competent operator, but no such permit shall 7 be required for the display of <u>display</u> fireworks at the Iowa 8 state fairgrounds by the Iowa state fair board, at incorporated 9 county fairs, or at district fairs receiving state aid. Sales 10 of <u>display</u> fireworks for such display may be made for that 11 purpose only. 12 <u>b. (1) A person who uses or explodes display fireworks</u>

13 while the use of such devices is prohibited or limited by an 14 ordinance or resolution adopted by the county or city in which 15 the firework is used commits a simple misdemeanor, punishable 16 by a fine of not less than two hundred fifty dollars.

17 (2) A person who uses or explodes display fireworks while 18 the use of such devices is suspended by an order of the state 19 fire marshal commits a simple misdemeanor, punishable by a fine 20 of not less than two hundred fifty dollars.

21 3. Consumer fireworks and novelties.

22 a. A person or a firm, partnership, or corporation may
 23 possess, use, or explode consumer fireworks in accordance with
 24 this subsection and subsection 4.

b. A person, firm, partnership, or corporation who sells
consumer fireworks to a person who is less than eighteen years
of age commits a simple misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of
not less than two hundred fifty dollars. A person who is less
than eighteen years of age who purchases consumer fireworks
commits a simple misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less
than two hundred fifty dollars.
c. (1) A person who uses or explodes consumer fireworks
or novelties while the use of such devices is prohibited or

34 limited by an ordinance adopted by the county or city in which

35 the fireworks are used commits a simple misdemeanor, punishable

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1 by a fine of not less than two hundred fifty dollars.

(2) A person who uses or explodes consumer fireworks or 2 3 novelties while the use of such devices is suspended by an 4 order of the state fire marshal commits a simple misdemeanor, 5 punishable by a fine of not less than two hundred fifty 6 dollars. 7 4. Limitations. 8 a. A person shall not use or explode consumer fireworks on 9 days other than June 1 through July 8 and December 10 through 10 January 3 of each year, all dates inclusive. b. A person shall not use or explode consumer fireworks at 11 12 times other than between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., 13 except that on the following dates consumer fireworks shall not 14 be used at times other than between the hours specified: (1) Between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. on July 15 16 4 and the Saturdays and Sundays immediately preceding and 17 following July 4. (2) Between the hours of 9:00 a.m. on December 31 and 12:30 18 19 a.m. on the immediately following day. 20 (3) Between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. on the 21 Saturdays and Sundays immediately preceding and following 22 December 31. 23 c. A person shall not use consumer fireworks on real 24 property other than that person's real property or on the real 25 property of a person who has consented to the use of consumer 26 fireworks on that property. 27 d. A person who violates this subsection commits a simple 28 misdemeanor. A court shall not order imprisonment for 29 violation of this subsection. 30 3. 5. Applicability. This section does not prohibit the sale by a resident, 31 a. 32 dealer, manufacturer, or jobber of such fireworks as are 33 not prohibited by this section, or the sale of any kind of 34 fireworks if they are to be shipped out of the state, or the 35 sale or use of blank cartridges for a show or the theater,

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1 or for signal purposes in athletic sports or by railroads 2 or trucks, for signal purposes, or by a recognized military 3 organization. 4 b. This section does not apply to any substance or 5 composition prepared and sold for medicinal or fumigation 6 purposes. 7 c. Unless specifically provided otherwise, this section does 8 not apply to novelties. 9 DIVISION II 10 RULEMAKING EMERGENCY RULES. The state fire marshal shall 11 Sec. 11. 12 adopt emergency rules under section 17A.4, subsection 3, and 13 section 17A.5, subsection 2, paragraph "b", to implement 14 the provisions of this Act and the rules shall be effective 15 immediately upon filing unless a later date is specified in the 16 rules. Any rules adopted in accordance with this section shall 17 also be published as a notice of intended action as provided 18 in section 17A.4. 19 DIVISION III 20 EFFECTIVE DATE 21 Sec. 12. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. This Act, being deemed 22 of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment. 23 EXPLANATION 24 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly. 25 26 This bill relates to the regulation of fireworks. 27 The bill provides that the state fire marshal has the duty to 28 enforce all laws, and rules of the department of public safety 29 concerned with the storage, transportation, handling, and use 30 of fireworks. 31 Current law provides that a person, firm, partnership, or 32 corporation who offers for sale, exposes for sale, sells at 33 retail, or uses or explodes any fireworks, commits a simple 34 misdemeanor. Current law, however, also provides that a county 35 board of supervisors or the department of natural resources may

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1 grant a permit for the display of fireworks if the fireworks 2 display will be handled by a competent operator. Current 3 law further provides that the term "fireworks" includes any 4 explosive composition, or combination of explosive substances, 5 or article prepared for the purpose of producing a visible 6 or audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration, 7 or detonation, including blank cartridges, firecrackers, 8 torpedoes, skyrockets, roman candles, or other fireworks of 9 like construction and fireworks containing any explosive or 10 flammable compound, or other device containing any explosive 11 substance with limited exceptions.

12 The bill maintains these restrictions for display fireworks 13 and provides that the term "display fireworks" shall not 14 include novelties or consumer fireworks. The bill provides 15 definitions for the terms "novelties" and "consumer fireworks". 16 The bill requires that the state fire marshal establish 17 a consumer fireworks seller license, and requires possession 18 of such a license to legally sell consumer fireworks in this 19 state. The state fire marshal is required to establish a fee 20 schedule for consumer fireworks seller licenses. The bill 21 establishes two classes of consumer fireworks and requires 22 a \$1,000 annual licensing fee for a retailer at a permanent 23 building who devotes 50 percent or more of the retailer's 24 retail floor space to the sale or display of first-class 25 consumer fireworks, and a \$500 annual licensing fee for a 26 retailer at a temporary structure who devotes 50 percent or 27 more the retailer's retail floor space to the sale or display 28 of first-class consumer fireworks. Retailers who devote less 29 than 50 percent of the retailer's retail floor space to the 30 sale or display of first-class consumer fireworks are required 31 to pay an annual licensing fee of \$400. A community group 32 that sells first-class consumer fireworks is required to pay 33 an annual licensing fee of \$400. The bill requires an annual 34 licensing fee of \$100 for retailers or community groups that 35 sell only second-class consumer fireworks.

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1 The bill requires that the state fire marshal adopt rules 2 to require that licensed retailers and community groups only 3 offer consumer fireworks for sale in accordance with specified 4 industry standards. The bill also requires that retailers 5 and community groups provide proof of and maintain commercial 6 general liability insurance with specified coverage amounts. 7 Under the bill, the state fire marshal is required to adopt 8 rules to permit licensed retailers and community groups to sell 9 consumer fireworks at conforming permanent buildings between 10 June 1 and July 8 and between December 10 and January 3 each 11 year and at conforming temporary structures from June 13 to 12 July 8 each year.

13 The bill also provides for the revocation of a consumer 14 fireworks seller license for the intentional violation of 15 licensing requirements. The bill establishes procedures 16 for the revocation of such licenses and procedures for 17 review for such revocations. The bill also establishes a 18 consumer fireworks fee fund under the control of the state 19 fire marshal. The fund shall consist of the fees collected 20 for the licensing of retailers and community groups and the 21 registration of wholesalers. The fund is required to be used 22 for administration and enforcement of the state fire marshal's 23 consumer fireworks related duties and to provide grants to 24 local fire protection and emergency medical service providers. 25 The bill requires that the state fire marshal adopt rules 26 to require that wholesalers of consumer fireworks annually 27 register with the state fire marshal and allows the state fire 28 marshal to adopt rules related to wholesaler insurance and the 29 storage and transfer of consumer fireworks by wholesalers. The 30 state fire marshal is also required to establish an annual 31 \$1,000 wholesaler registration fee to be deposited in the 32 consumer fireworks fee fund.

33 Under the bill, a violation of a licensing or registration 34 provision established in Code or by rule is considered a simple 35 misdemeanor. A simple misdemeanor is punishable by confinement

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1 for no more than 30 days or a fine of at least \$65 but not more
2 than \$625, or by both.

The bill provides that a person or a firm, partnership, or 3 4 corporation may possess consumer fireworks as provided in the The bill provides that a person, firm, partnership, or 5 bill. 6 corporation who sells any consumer firework to a person who 7 is less than 18 years of age commits a simple misdemeanor. 8 A person who is less than 18 years of age who purchases any 9 consumer fireworks commits a simple misdemeanor. A simple 10 misdemeanor is generally punishable by confinement for no more 11 than 30 days or a fine of at least \$65 but not more than \$625 or 12 by both, but the bill provides for a fine of at least \$250. 13 The bill provides that the state fire marshal may order the 14 suspension of the use of consumer fireworks, display fireworks, 15 or novelties if the fire marshal determines that the use of 16 such devices would constitute a threat to public safety. The

17 bill provides that a person who violates such an order by the 18 fire marshal commits a simple misdemeanor, punishable by a fine 19 of at least \$250.

The bill provides that a county board of supervisors may adopt an ordinance or resolution to prohibit or limit the use of consumer fireworks or display fireworks if the use of such devices would constitute a threat to public safety or a nuisance. The bill also provides that a city council may adopt an ordinance or resolution to prohibit or limit the use of consumer fireworks, display fireworks, or novelties if the use of such devices would constitute a threat to public safety a nuisance to landowners. The bill provides that a person who uses fireworks when the use is prohibited or limited by an ordinance in the city or county in which the devices are used commits a simple misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of at least \$250.

33 The bill also provides certain restrictions on the use or 34 explosion of consumer fireworks. The bill prohibits the use 35 or explosion of consumer fireworks on days other than June

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1 1 through July 8 and December 10 through January 3 of each 2 year. The bill prohibits the use or explosion of consumer 3 fireworks at a time other than between the hours of 9:00 a.m. 4 and 10:00 p.m. of those days, except as specified in the 5 bill. The bill further prohibits the use of fireworks by a 6 person on the real property of another person unless the owner 7 of the real property has consented to such use. Under the 8 bill, a violation of these restrictions is considered a simple 9 misdemeanor, provided, however, that a court shall not order 10 imprisonment for such a violation.

11 The bill requires the state fire marshal to adopt emergency 12 rules to implement the provisions of the bill, which shall be 13 effective immediately upon filing.

14 The bill takes effect upon enactment.