



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 7054

LCO No. 5060



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:
(PS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALE AND USE OF NONAERIAL AND
NONEXPLOSIVE CONSUMER FIREWORKS AND SKY LANTERNS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 29-356 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3 As used in this section and sections [29-356] 29-357 to 29-365,
4 inclusive, as amended by this act:

5 (1) "Fireworks" means and includes any combustible or explosive
6 composition, or any substance or combination of substances or article
7 prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by
8 combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation, and includes blank
9 cartridges, toy pistols, toy cannons, toy canes or toy guns in which
10 explosives are used, [the type of balloons which require fire underneath
11 to propel the same,] firecrackers, torpedoes, skyrockets, Roman candles,
12 Daygo bombs, and any fireworks containing any explosive or
13 flammable compound, or any tablets or other device containing any
14 explosive substance, except that the term "fireworks" shall not include
15 sparklers, [and] fountains, nonexplosive and nonaerial consumer

16 fireworks, sky lanterns and toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns or other
17 devices in which paper caps manufactured in accordance with the
18 regulations of the United States Interstate Commerce Commission or its
19 successor agency for packing and shipping of toy paper caps are used
20 and toy pistol paper caps manufactured as provided [therein] in such
21 regulations.

22 (2) "Sparklers" means a wire or stick coated with pyrotechnic
23 composition that produces a shower of sparks upon ignition.

24 (3) "Fountain" means any cardboard or heavy paper cone or
25 cylindrical tube containing pyrotechnic mixture that upon ignition
26 produces a shower of colored sparks or smoke. "Fountain" includes, but
27 is not limited to, (A) a spike fountain, which provides a spike for
28 insertion into the ground, (B) a base fountain which has a wooden or
29 plastic base for placing on the ground, or (C) a handle fountain which is
30 a handheld device with a wooden or cardboard handle.

31 (4) "Nonexplosive and nonaerial consumer fireworks" means flitter
32 sparklers, ground spinners and novelties, including, but not limited to,
33 party poppers, novelty smoke devices, snappers and novelty snakes, as
34 such terms are described in American Pyrotechnics Association
35 Standard 87-1A, as amended from time to time.

36 (5) "Sky lantern" means a balloon that requires fire underneath to
37 propel such balloon.

38 Sec. 2. Section 29-357 of the general statutes is repealed and the
39 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

40 (a) (1) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, no person,
41 firm or corporation shall offer for sale, expose for sale, sell at retail or
42 use or explode or possess with intent to sell, use or explode any
43 fireworks. A person who is [sixteen] eighteen years of age or older may
44 offer for sale, expose for sale, sell at retail, purchase, use or possess with
45 intent to sell or use sparklers, [or] fountains, nonexplosive and nonaerial

46 consumer fireworks or sky lanterns, of not more than one hundred
47 grams of pyrotechnic mixture per item, which are nonexplosive and
48 nonaerial, provided [(1)] (A) such nonexplosive and nonaerial consumer
49 fireworks and sky lanterns may not be offered for sale, exposed for sale,
50 sold at retail, purchased, used or possessed with intent to sell or used in
51 violation of an ordinance adopted pursuant to subdivision (2) of this
52 subsection, (B) such sparklers and fountains do not contain magnesium,
53 except for magnalium or magnesium-aluminum alloy, [(2)] (C) such
54 sparklers [and fountains] containing any chlorate or perchlorate salts do
55 not exceed five grams of composition per item, and [(3)] (D) when more
56 than one fountain is mounted on a common base, the total pyrotechnic
57 composition does not exceed [two] five hundred grams.

58 (2) Any municipality, as defined in section 7-148, may, by vote of its
59 legislative body, adopt an ordinance to prohibit offering for sale,
60 exposing for sale, selling at retail, purchasing, using or possessing with
61 intent to sell or using nonexplosive and nonaerial consumer fireworks
62 or sky lanterns at places of public assembly, which may include, but
63 need not be limited to, public events such as fairs, carnivals, craft shows
64 and music events and municipal, educational or commercial property.

65 (b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
66 shall adopt [reasonable] regulations, in accordance with the provisions
67 of chapter 54, for the granting of permits for supervised displays of
68 fireworks or for the indoor use of pyrotechnics, sparklers and fountains
69 for special effects by municipalities, fair associations, amusement parks,
70 other organizations or groups of individuals or artisans in pursuit of
71 their trade. Such permit may be issued upon application to said
72 commissioner and after (1) inspection of the site of such display or use
73 by the local fire marshal to determine compliance with the requirements
74 of such regulations, and (2) approval of the chiefs of the police and fire
75 departments, or, if there is no police or fire department, of the first
76 selectman, of the municipality wherein the display is to be held as is
77 provided in this section. No such display shall be handled or fired by
78 any person until such person has been granted a certificate of

79 competency by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
80 Protection, in respect to which a fee of two hundred dollars shall be
81 payable to the State Treasurer when issued and which may be renewed
82 every three years upon payment of a fee of one hundred ninety dollars
83 payable to the State Treasurer, provided such certificate may be
84 suspended or revoked by said commissioner at any time for cause. Such
85 certificate of competency shall attest to the fact that such operator is
86 competent to fire a display. Such display shall be of such a character and
87 so located, discharged or fired as in the opinion of the chiefs of the police
88 and fire departments or such selectman, after proper inspection, will not
89 be hazardous to property or endanger any person or persons. In an
90 aerial bomb, no salute, report or maroon may be used that is composed
91 of a formula of chlorate of potash, sulphur, black needle antimony and
92 dark aluminum. Formulas that may be used in a salute, report or
93 maroon are as follows: (A) Perchlorate of potash, black needle antimony
94 and dark aluminum, and (B) perchlorate of potash, dark aluminum and
95 sulphur. No high explosive such as dynamite, fulminate of mercury or
96 other stimulator for detonating shall be used in any aerial bomb or other
97 pyrotechnics. Application for permits shall be made in writing at least
98 fifteen days prior to the date of display, on such notice as the
99 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection by
100 regulation prescribes, on forms furnished by the commissioner, and a
101 fee of one hundred dollars shall be payable to the State Treasurer with
102 each such application. After such permit has been granted, sales,
103 possession, use and distribution of fireworks for such display shall be
104 lawful for that purpose only. No permit granted [hereunder] pursuant
105 to this section shall be transferable. Any permit issued under the
106 provisions of this section may be suspended or revoked by the
107 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection or the local
108 fire marshal for violation by the permittee of any provision of the
109 general statutes, any regulation or any ordinance relating to fireworks.

110 (c) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
111 may grant variations or exemptions from, or approve equivalent or

112 alternate compliance with, particular provisions of any regulation
113 issued under the provisions of subsection (b) of this section where strict
114 compliance with such provisions would entail practical difficulty or
115 unnecessary hardship or is otherwise adjudged unwarranted, provided
116 any such variation, exemption, approved equivalent or alternate
117 compliance shall, in the opinion of the commissioner, secure the public
118 safety and shall be made in writing.

119 (d) Any person, firm or corporation violating the provisions of this
120 section shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor, except that (1) any
121 person, firm or corporation violating the provisions of subsection (a) of
122 this section by offering for sale, exposing for sale or selling at retail or
123 possessing with intent to sell any fireworks with a value exceeding ten
124 thousand dollars shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor, and (2) any
125 person, firm or corporation violating any provision of subsection (b) of
126 this section or any regulation adopted [thereunder] pursuant to said
127 subsection shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor, except if death or
128 injury results from any such violation, such person, firm or corporation
129 shall be guilty of a class C felony.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	29-356
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	29-357

Statement of Purpose:

To authorize the sale and use by consumers of nonaerial and nonexplosive consumer fireworks and sky lanterns.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]