
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6481 (as amended by House "A")*

AN ACT CONCERNING THE INTENTIONAL RELEASE OF CERTAIN BALLOONS.

SUMMARY

Beginning October 1, 2023, this bill generally prohibits knowingly releasing, organizing the release of, or intentionally causing the release of helium or other lighter-than-air gas balloons into the atmosphere. Current law limits releases to fewer than 10 balloons within a 24-hour period. The bill exempts from the ban balloons deployed by the National Weather Service or similar research entities.

Additionally, the current penalty for a violation of the balloon release law is an infraction. The bill eliminates this penalty and instead requires violators to be issued a warning.

*House Amendment "A" reduces the penalty for violating the balloon release law from an infraction to a warning.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 32 Nay 0 (02/17/2023)