CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. 14-9, CD1

RESOLUTION

URGING THE HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT TO EXTEND THE USE OF EXPIRED FIREWORKS PERMITS FOR ANOTHER CALENDAR YEAR.

WHEREAS, Section 20-6.13(a), Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990, as amended ("ROH"), requires any person desiring to set off, ignite, discharge or otherwise cause to explode firecrackers on New Year's Eve or New Year's Day to apply to and obtain a permit from the Honolulu Fire Department Fire Chief (Fire Chief); and

WHEREAS, Section 3-5(b)(5), Honolulu Fire Department Rules and Regulations Governing Fireworks April 2001 ("HFD Fireworks Rules"), specifies that each permit is limited to the purchase of 5,000 individual firecrackers, however, a person is not prohibited from obtaining more than one permit to purchase fireworks; and

WHEREAS, Section 3-5(b)(2), HFD Fireworks Rules, specifies that the fireworks permit fee, currently set at $25.00 by both ROH and Hawaii Revised Statutes, is non-refundable and Section 3-1(3), HFD Fireworks Rules, limits the burning of purchased fireworks to the date specified on the permit; and

WHEREAS, Section 3-1(7), HFD Fireworks Rules, specifies that a fireworks permit expiration date must not exceed the period of one year from the date of issuance or effective date of the fireworks permit; and

WHEREAS, in December 2013, the Honolulu Fire Department reported that just under 11,000 fireworks permits were purchased to celebrate the New Year, which is 2,000 more permits than was issued the previous year; and

WHEREAS, as a result, the City and County of Honolulu experienced a severe island-wide shortage of fireworks available to purchase; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that there is a need to extend the expiration date for existing unused fireworks permits; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the Honolulu Fire Department is urged to allow the exchange of any unused fireworks permit issued for use on December 31, 2013 and January 1, 2014 for a new fireworks permit for use on December 31, 2014 and January 1, 2015 and to amend its rules if such an amendment is necessary to implement the exchange; and

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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director and the Honolulu Fire Chief.

INTRODUCED BY:

Ernest Martin

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

January 9, 2014
Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers