

**TWENTY-SECOND NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH
LEGISLATURE**

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

_____ **Regular Session, 2022**

H. B. 22- 93

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To amend 6 CMC § 3107 to have permissible uses of consumer fireworks within
the CNMI.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE 22ND NORTHERN MARIANAS
COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:**

1 **Section 1. Findings and Purpose.** The Legislature finds that Public Law
2 No. 15-127 established the “Fireworks Control Act of 2008” that aimed to regulate
3 firework sales, possession, and usage within the Commonwealth of the Northern
4 Mariana Islands so that fireworks or firecrackers in the Commonwealth can be
5 controlled in the interest of public health and safety and for the promotion of a
6 strong tourism industry. However, that is not the case here as there are still many
7 individuals who find that, when fireworks or explosive-like firecrackers go off, they
8 are still frightened or terrified by the noise. In addition to the trauma, many
9 individuals who are elderly have pre-existing health conditions are also frightened
10 by the loud noises, especially when they are caught off guard. Furthermore, those
11 individuals who have fireworks-related injuries due to the misuse and mishandling
12 of fireworks or firecrackers are still traumatized from such experiences. That is

1 why the purpose of this bill is to have permissible uses of consumer fireworks so
2 that the people of the CNMI can still enjoy the customs, tradition, and celebration
3 that New Year's Eve/Day brings to so many families within the CNMI but also
4 respect the health and safety of those who have pre-existing conditions/trauma.

5 **Section 2. Amendment.** 6 CMC § 3107 is hereby amended to add a new
6 subsection that reads as follows:

7 “(h) *Permissible uses of consumer fireworks.*

8 Consumer fireworks may be set off, ignited, discharged, or otherwise
9 caused to explode within the CNMI only:

10 (1) From 9:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve to 1:00 a.m. on New Year's Day;
11 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Chinese New Year's Day; and from 1:00
12 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on the Fourth of July”

13 **Section 3. Severability.** If any provisions of this Act or the application of
14 any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court
15 of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its
16 provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid
17 shall not be affected thereby.

18 **Section 4. Savings Clause.** This Act and any repealer contained herein
19 shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or
20 acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted
21 under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding

1 instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of the Act shall not have
2 the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal,
3 which shall already be in existence on the date this Act becomes effective.

4 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval by
5 the Governor, or its becoming law without such approval.

Prefiled: Feb. 15, 2022

Date: 1/26/22 Introduced by: [Signature]
Rep. Richard T. Lizama

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by:
[Signature]
House Legal Counsel

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