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STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

POUCHY - STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
907-465-3800

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY

May, 1986

Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the STAIRS date base CM 14. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Jeanie Henry

House Judiciary	1/21/86	1:30 pm
" "	1/22/86	1:30 pm
" "	1/29/86	1:30 pm
" "	1/30/86	1:30 pm

COMMITTEE REPORT
HOUSE

2/3

Revised

(7)

FURTHER:

3/20/85

Date: _____

The Committee on JUDICIARY has had HE 35

"An Act relating to state regulation of fireworks; and providing for an effective date."

under consideration and recommends:

- do pass do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for HE 35 (JUDICIARY) same title
 new title

and recommends _____

- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" New Fiscal Note
- reports it back without recommendation Zero Fiscal Note Attached

referred to the _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

W. K. Hill

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

John ...

...

...

...

CHAIRMAN

FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date : _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. CSHB 35 (SA)
 Title: State Regulation of Fireworks

 Sponsor: House State Affairs
 Requestor: House Judiciary
 Date of Request: 1/30/86

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Public Safety
 BRU: Fire Prevention

 Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES : (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CAPITAL		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
REVENUE		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

FUNDING : (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS :

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : Attach a separate page if necessary

Prepared by: Gordon E. Brunton
 Division: Fire Prevention

Phone: 465-4331
 Date: 1/30/86

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
 Agency: Public Safety

Date: 1/30/86

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

WAYNE C. GRIEME
6230 Grieme Rd.
Salcha, AK 99714

24 Jan 86

Rep. M. Mike Miller
Judiciary Chairman
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Rep. Miller:

I was one of many who testified before your committee via the tele-conference network on Jan 21st. I feel it important to also follow up with written testimony for your committee to consider, and also forward documents that I have since received from the CPSC in Seattle.

I am opposed to House Bill 35 because I feel it is too restrictive. As I stated on the 21st., I feel that a ban on firecrackers, small bottle rockets and missiles would be much more effective and productive. These three items cause the majority of injuries, are the cheapest to purchase, and are the source of the greatest number of complaints. Firecrackers can be purchased for about .01 cent each, bottle rockets on the average are \$5.00 a gross and missiles can travel up to 400 feet. I am also in favor of an age limit of 18 years old in order to purchase. I feel that this still leaves a good selection of aerial and ground displays for people to choose from. I personally enjoy the aerial displays and would hate to see them eliminated.

I have enclosed a copy of the NEISS data for the year 1984 which shows the information that I discussed on the tele-conference, it also will allow a comparison with other products. Also included are news releases from CPSC dealing with legal and illegal fireworks. I believe that the fire marshal from Anchorage briefly discussed the use of illegal fireworks (M-80's, cherry bombs) and the making of illegal fireworks. The June 6, 1984, CPSC news release deals with this. It is items like these, since they are considered

fireworks, that has given the legal Class C fireworks a bad name.

The other area I discussed was the state BLM report. Since this information was not available yet in hard copy Mr. McGowan gave it to me over the phone and said I could use his name and that he stands behind his data.

The years covered were 1981 through 1985, 55% of the fires responded to were man caused, 15% were natural causes and 30% were false alarms. By category:

Debris burning	- 22%
Lighting	- 15%
Structures	- 7%
Camping	- 5%
Children	- 4%
Railroad	- 3%
Fireworks	- 2%
Misc.	- 12%

This information was obtained from Mr. Mike McGowan of the State Division of Forestry, Fairbanks Office and covers the Interior part of the state. As far as he was concerned fireworks are not a problem. They also present programs to elementary grades K-3, and include fireworks in there briefing because he feels education, not regulation is the key to success.

I also informed you that an ordinance was being introduced in the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly on January 30th, to allow the limited sale of Class C fireworks. This ordinance allows the sale of all Class C fireworks as presently allowed by state law, except firecrackers, small bottle rockets and missiles inside the borough. We can presently use fireworks inside the Borough but not purchase them.

I feel that because Anchorage has a problem with legal as well as illegal fireworks the rest of the state should not be penalized and denied the opportunity to purchase and use Class C fireworks. Just as some people have a need to go camping and hiking others have a need to use fireworks. Both can be enjoyable and entertaining to the person involved. The fourteen states that have a total ban on fireworks also

lead the nation in fireworks related injuries. This could be because of the non-availability of the safe and sane Class C variety, the people, one way or another will have some fireworks.

I was born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio where fireworks are banned. The most offensive experience I remember was the shooting off of guns on the 4th of July and New Years eve. I would hate to see that happen here.

I would urge you not to not allow HB 35 out of committee in its present form. I would recommend only firecrackers, small bottle rockets and missiles be eliminated from the present state law and insert an age limit of 18 years old to purchase.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



WAYNE C. GRIEME, dba
Budget Fireworks

4 attachments:
News-Miner story.
NEISS Data, 1984
CPSC News Release, June 6, 1984
CPSC News Release June 19, 1985

14 Feb 1984

ALASKA

Fireworks limitation bill draws opposition

By DAN JOLING
News-Miner Bureau

JUNEAU—A bill to restrict sale of aerial fireworks and firecrackers sputtered in committee Tuesday after testimony that the law might prompt even more injuries along with enforcement problems.

House Bill 35 is sponsored by Rep. Pat Pourchot, D-Anchorage, a freshman and former aide to Sen. Bettye Fahrenkamp, who said he wants to help enforce restrictions imposed by most Alaska municipalities.

The bill is not a fireworks ban, according to Pourchot, but a prohibition on sale of the most dangerous and objectionable fireworks. The bill would allow sale of "cone fountains, cylindrical fountains, dipped sticks, luminating torches and wheels."

It leaves out Roman candles, bottle rockets, firecrackers, "groundspinners" and other fireworks now commonly sold at roadsides stands just outside municipalities.

The City of Fairbanks prohibits sale, use, manufacture and transportation of fireworks except through special permit, an ordinance enacted last year after a truck containing fireworks exploded.

The Fairbanks North Star Borough prohibits sale but not use of fireworks.

Pourchot said Anchorage, Ketchikan, Seward, Cordova, Soldotna and Valdez, plus the Matanuska-Susitna and Ketchikan boroughs, prohibit sale and use.

"Every municipality I have contacted supports this bill," he said.

But Jerald Farley, a representative of Red Devil Fireworks and R&S Marketing, which distributes fireworks in Washington and Alaska, told the House State Affairs Committee Tuesday that the bill would not meet Pourchot's goals.

Regularly referring to the bill as a "total ban," Farley said 99.996 percent of Class C fireworks are used safely.

"HB 35 would penalize most individuals because of the irresponsibility of a few," he said.

Farley said the 14 states which have a total ban on fireworks have the highest rates of injury and serious injury.

He said the popularity of fireworks despite bans in municipalities proves that people will continue to seek them even if they're prohibited. He said the bill would encourage unsafe, illegal, and dangerous homemade fireworks.

Juneau Fire Chief Al Judson, president of the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association, gave the bill only lukewarm support. He said the chiefs favor a ban on bottle rockets and firecrackers, but fear other parts of the bill would be unenforceable.

He said banning use of fireworks could prompt people to use them in forested areas to avoid arrest but where fire danger is highest.

"We want to reduce the fires but we're not convinced this is the answer as it's written," Judson said.

The bill was held over for possible amendments.

Pourchot said he'd be willing have the effective date for the bill set later in the year to allow fireworks retailers to reduce inventories. He said he'd also take suggestions for other safe fireworks to be included on the list.

The committee may also consider amendments to limit sales to winter months, ban sales to Alaskans under 16 years old, limit mail sales or limit use to special areas designated by a municipality.



NEISS DATA HIGHLIGHTS

National Electronic Injury Surveillance System

Vol. 8

Directorate for Epidemiology

Jan.-Dec. 1984

INTRODUCTION

The data presented in the accompanying table have been gathered through the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS). This system comprises a sample of hospitals that are statistically representative of hospitals with emergency departments in the United States and its territories. The system serves the Consumer Product Safety Commission primarily in two ways. First, the NEISS provides national estimates of the number and severity of injuries associated with but not necessarily caused by consumer products and treated in hospital emergency departments. Second, the system serves as a means of locating injury victims so that further information can be gathered concerning the nature and probable cause of the accident.

NEISS has been in continuous operation since 1972. However, a sample redesign and major coding changes occurred in 1978. See the back page for more detailed definitions of the data presented here. Additional information about NEISS may be obtained by writing to the National Injury Information Clearinghouse, Directorate for Epidemiology, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Room 625, 5401 Westbard Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20207. Or phone (301) 492-6424.

SURVEILLANCE

NEISS collects two levels of injury data—surveillance and investigations. The surveillance data are comprised of the following data elements from the record of each product-related injury treated in hospital emergency departments:

1. Date of Treatment
2. Age of Patient
3. Sex of Patient
4. Injury Diagnosis/Body Part
5. Disposition
6. Two Product Codes
7. Third Product or Child-Resistant Closure Involvement
8. Accident Locale
9. Fire or Motor Vehicle Involvement
10. Remarks/Comments

The data are extracted from the emergency department records, coded, and transmitted daily to CPSC through a network of telecommunications terminals located in the participating hospitals. These data are then used to generate the type of information presented in the data tables of this publication. NEISS data indicate that a product was associated with an injury, but not necessarily that the product caused the injury.

INVESTIGATIONS

The second level of NEISS is comprised of accident investigations which provide detailed information derived by contacting the victims and witnesses. Injuries of special interest, such as cases involving products that pertain to selected Commission priority projects, as well as some deaths are assigned for investigation. Although most investigations conducted by the Commission are not necessarily statistically representative of all reported injuries in a particular product category, they do provide details concerning the accident sequence and the cause of injury—information which is not usually available from surveillance data. In addition, special studies are conducted in which the cases to be investigated are statistically selected from particular product categories.

Investigations are not limited to injuries collected through the surveillance system. Other sources include consumer complaints, newspaper accounts, reports from a selected group of medical examiners and coroners, and referrals from governmental agencies outside the Commission. The Commission has investigations dating back to 1965 on file at the Commission's National Injury Information Clearinghouse.

INJURIES ASSOCIATED WITH SELECTED CONSUMER PRODUCTS
TREATED IN HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPTS. 12 MONTHS ENDING 12/31/64
SOURCE: NATIONAL ELECTRONIC INJURY SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM
U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION/DIRECTORATE FOR EPIDEMIOLOGY
NATIONAL INJURY INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE

REPORT PERIOD JAN-DEC 1964

PRODUCT DESCRIPTIONS	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CASES	CV	NUMBER OF CASES	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PRODUCT-RELATED INJURIES PER 100,000 POPULATION IN THE UNITED STATES AND TERRITORIES WHICH WERE TREATED IN HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOMS DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS										ESTIMATED MEAN SEVERITY
				AGE						SEX		DISPOSITION		
				12 MOS TO DATE	12 MOS TO DATE	ALL AGES	00-04	05-14	15-24	25-64	65+	MALE	FEMALE	
CHILD NURSERY EQUIP & SUPPLIES ALL NURSERY EQUIPMENT	69,706	.14	1,091	38.3	440.1	10.3	6.5	4.0	1.9	40.9	35.7	34.7	1.5	54
TOYS ALL TOYS	125,865	.09	2,369	53.8	373.3	105.4	27.6	10.3	2.4	72.5	36.0	52.5	1.3	39
SPORTS & RECREATIONAL EQUIP														
BARBECUE GRILLS, STOVES, EQUIPMENT	13,374	.11	260	5.7	27.5	5.8	5.7	3.6	.2	7.1	4.4	5.5	.2	73
BASEBALL	423,126	.09	7,800	180.8	36.0	377.5	341.1	130.7	1.9	275.0	91.2	177.4	3.4	21
BASKETBALL	440,293	.07	8,189	103.2	3.4	289.3	618.4	77.9	1.1	326.9	56.5	186.2	2.0	16
BEACH, PICNIC, CAMPING EQUIPMENT	16,171	.12	273	6.9	19.2	14.2	4.0	4.3	4.9	7.9	5.9	6.7	.2	39
BICYCLES & ACCESSORIES	556,602	.05	10,933	237.9	232.9	1011.6	243.9	60.6	15.9	337.9	142.8	226.6	11.3	43
BOWLING	17,653	.15	343	7.5	1.8	6.5	10.0	9.1	2.3	7.2	7.9	7.4	.1	15
DANCING	44,069	.13	889	18.0	7.7	37.6	40.9	10.8	3.4	16.6	21.0	18.4	.4	19
EXERCISE EQUIPMENT	50,427	.10	1,162	25.0	29.4	39.1	52.8	15.9	1.9	34.2	16.2	24.7	.3	26
FISHING	64,993	.11	924	2.9	15.2	70.3	22.8	22.2	14.3	44.0	11.6	27.5	.3	28
FOOTBALL	390,267	.00	6,582	166.8	3.2	437.1	517.2	26.8	.1	327.5	14.6	162.1	4.7	22
GOLF	24,716	.13	422	10.6	8.4	17.7	7.4	10.7	7.5	15.8	5.5	10.2	.3	26
GYMNASIUMS & EQUIPMENT	54,087	.16	951	23.1	6.0	108.3	35.2	1.8	.1	16.6	29.3	22.6	.6	19
HOCKEY, ALL KINDS	47,325	.21	765	28.2	.6	42.5	66.7	4.9	-	33.2	7.9	20.0	.2	22
ICE & ROLLER SKATING	112,210	.10	2,041	48.0	10.6	185.8	58.7	20.1	2.0	36.4	50.7	46.7	1.2	21
LACROSSE, RUGBY, MISC. BALL GAMES	92,324	.11	1,772	39.5	10.3	133.2	72.1	14.0	.4	55.7	24.1	38.9	.6	19
MARTIAL ARTS	19,826	.10	367	8.5	.7	10.0	21.3	6.7	-	13.2	4.0	8.4	.1	20
MOPEDS, MINI-BIKES, OTHER SUCH VEH.	142,610	.13	2,296	68.9	15.1	135.8	151.5	26.8	5.3	98.4	25.1	54.7	6.3	54
POWDER GUNS, ED'S AND PELLETS	27,746	.10	408	11.9	8.2	53.1	13.5	2.4	.3	19.5	4.7	11.1	.8	37
PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT	209,760	.09	3,934	89.6	343.7	400.1	17.1	4.9	3.0	97.9	81.7	85.8	3.9	28
SKATEBOARDS	19,345	.15	456	8.3	5.8	37.0	11.0	.8	.3	13.4	3.4	8.1	.2	21
SNOWSKIING	44,015	.21	734	18.8	1.6	26.7	44.6	14.4	.4	22.8	15.0	18.0	.9	19
SOCCER	107,509	.16	2,154	45.9	1.3	140.3	107.4	14.0	.2	65.9	26.8	45.4	.6	17
SWIMMING, POOLS, EQUIPMENT	114,745	.11	2,043	45.0	63.5	140.6	73.1	21.6	4.7	60.1	38.5	46.1	3.0	130
TENNIS, BADMINTON, SQUASH	57,473	.14	1,066	24.6	3.0	18.2	39.4	29.6	3.2	33.6	15.9	24.1	.4	18
TROUSERS, SKIS, SNOW DISCS, ETC.	37,168	.20	552	15.9	12.2	67.1	19.7	3.7	-	20.9	11.2	15.2	.7	36
TRACK & FIELD ACTIVITIES, EQUIPMENT	61,947	.13	1,286	26.5	.9	42.4	60.4	19.5	1.8	33.0	20.3	26.0	.4	16
TRAMPOLINES	11,854	.17	207	5.1	6.0	18.7	6.2	1.7	.2	4.4	5.8	5.0	.1	16
VOLLEBALL	79,798	.10	1,370	34.1	-	47.7	64.3	25.6	.1	33.7	36.4	33.9	.2	14
WATER SKIING, TUBING, SURFING	29,341	.25	550	12.5	.8	6.5	32.9	11.8	.1	21.1	4.3	11.9	.6	47
WRESTLING	60,661	.13	1,057	25.9	4.8	55.2	83.8	6.0	.4	47.6	5.5	25.4	.5	20
OTHER	56,623	.09	914	24.2	19.4	46.0	53.0	13.5	2.2	31.0	17.6	23.2	1.0	34
HOME COMM. ENTERTAINMENT & HOBBY														
MISC. HOBBY EQUIPMENT	12,845	.11	237	5.5	9.9	8.7	11.0	3.1	.5	6.9	4.1	5.3	.2	31
PET SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT	12,120	.10	223	5.2	9.2	8.7	5.2	4.4	1.5	5.0	5.2	4.9	.3	41
SOUND RECORDING & REPRODUCING EQUIP	34,700	.08	671	14.8	47.3	16.5	17.6	8.9	12.3	14.4	15.2	14.3	.6	47
TELEVISION SETS	24,962	.10	523	10.7	57.6	13.3	5.8	5.7	4.9	12.6	8.7	10.4	.2	36
OTHER	*	*	10											
PERSONAL USE ITEMS														
CIGARETTES, LIGHTERS & FUEL	19,169	.10	370	8.2	42.5	6.4	8.7	4.8	1.7	9.4	7.1	7.4	.8	211
CLOTHING, ALL	81,113	.11	1,695	35.9	44.9	55.5	39.0	29.5	28.4	34.6	37.2	34.0	1.9	52
GROOMING DEVICES	22,048	.10	450	9.4	52.4	8.6	7.5	5.4	2.0	6.9	11.8	9.2	.2	85
HOLDERS FOR PERSONAL ITEMS	13,781	.10	240	5.9	14.9	10.2	3.4	4.0	6.3	5.2	6.5	5.8	.1	22
JEWELRY	11,822	.11	682	13.6	56.2	27.8	13.8	5.6	1.4	9.0	17.9	13.4	.2	52
PAPER MONEY & COINS	10,971	.17	400	4.1	74.4	15.0	1.3	.1	-	8.6	7.6	7.2	.9	100
PENCILS, PENS, OTHER DESK SUPPLIES	46,296	.10	550	19.8	38.0	77.0	16.4	5.7	1.3	24.0	15.7	19.4	.3	20
RAZORS, SHAVERS, RAZOR BLADES	37,859	.09	705	16.2	17.6	18.6	29.5	13.8	2.3	22.2	10.5	16.1	.1	14
SEWING EQUIPMENT	37,958	.09	780	26.2	30.8	28.0	19.4	12.3	5.3	10.7	21.3	15.7	.6	26
OTHER	7,850	.14	162	3.4	3.7	4.5	-	2.7	.4	4.1	2.6	3.3	.1	51
PACKAGING & CONTAINERS, HOUSEHOLD														
CANS, OTHER CONTAINERS	148,891	.09	2,851	63.6	142.2	82.4	72.0	50.5	31.4	67.0	50.3	62.0	1.6	33
GLASS BOTTLES & JARS	101,678	.14	2,072	43.5	98.9	90.7	60.3	23.3	7.7	52.1	35.1	42.1	1.3	22
PAPER/CARD/PLASTIC PRODUCTS	48,189	.10	959	20.6	36.6	26.9	23.1	17.0	13.3	21.1	20.0	20.0	.6	20
YARD & GARDEN EQUIPMENT														
CHAIN SAWS	64,038	.16	786	27.4	2.6	7.3	32.9	37.9	16.3	54.6	1.7	26.1	1.3	34
HAND GARDEN TOOLS	37,175	.10	629	15.9	20.0	25.6	16.0	14.0	12.0	21.7	10.4	15.3	.6	31
HATCHETS & AXES	22,889	.13	303	9.7	4.3	9.2	3.1	11.0	3.5	17.6	2.2	9.5	.2	24
LAWN AND GARDEN CARE EQUIPMENT	42,774	.13	736	18.2	29.4	23.9	15.4	18.7	18.1	24.7	12.0	11.7	1.0	46

HOME WORKSHOP EQUIPMENT															
BATTERIES, ALL TYPES	17,796	.10	304	7.6	6.7	5.2	12.9	8.0	1.2	14.3	1.2	7.3	.3	186	
HOISTS, LIFTS, JACKS, ETC.	18,315	.12	294	7.7	4.0	2.5	13.6	9.0	2.6	14.4	1.4	7.3	.4	51	
MISCELLANEOUS WORKSHOP EQUIP	30,316	.10	474	13.0	8.7	24.1	12.7	12.6	3.9	21.8	4.6	12.5	.5	46	
POWER HOME TOOLS, ETC. SMIS	28,136	.13	433	12.0	1.6	4.9	17.4	14.7	8.4	23.5	1.1	11.9	.1	28	
POWER HOME WORKSHOP SAWS, ALL	73,543	.09	1,137	31.4	3.1	14.6	32.0	40.6	31.2	60.7	3.7	29.8	1.6	64	
WELDING, SOLDERING, CUTTING TOOLS	19,457	.12	292	8.5	2.2	.6	17.3	10.5	1.2	17.0	.5	8.4	.1	101	
WIRES, CORDS, NOT SPECIFIED	12,505	.15	191	5.3	6.1	9.6	5.8	4.3	3.2	7.5	3.3	5.2	.2	21	
WORKSHOP MANUAL TOOLS	110,853	.07	1,837	47.0	17.6	29.7	65.8	56.6	18.1	84.7	11.2	46.3	.7	19	
OTHER	21,904	.13	350	9.4	17.7	10.1	13.3	8.0	2.8	14.0	4.9	8.9	.5	68	
HOME MAINTENANCE															
CLEANING EQUIP. NON-CAUSTIC/DETERG	16,471	.09	321	7.0	10.9	7.5	7.8	6.1	6.6	7.7	6.4	6.8	.2	29	
CLEANING AGENTS (EXC. SOAP)	37,460	.09	830	16.9	99.1	7.8	14.6	10.6	3.9	17.3	16.3	16.0	.8	96	
DRAIN, OVEN CLEANERS, CAUSTICS	12,640	.11	248	5.4	24.4	3.1	5.7	4.9	1.4	6.8	4.0	4.9	.5	154	
MISCELLANEOUS HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS	14,074	.09	312	6.9	27.3	7.8	8.3	4.1	.9	7.9	5.9	6.7	.1	71	
PAINTS, SOLVENTS, LUBRICANTS	20,971	.10	320	9.3	24.9	7.7	9.7	7.7	4.5	12.4	5.7	8.6	.4	64	
OTHER	11,324	.11	236	4.8	26.4	3.3	3.7	3.2	1.0	5.1	4.6	4.5	.4	59	
GENERAL HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES															
COOKING RANGES, OVENS, ETC.	49,026	.08	852	20.5	71.8	16.2	20.0	15.5	14.4	19.4	21.4	19.4	1.1	120	
IRONS, CLOTHES STEAMERS (NOT TOYS)	15,861	.12	370	6.8	57.0	3.7	4.1	1.9	2.1	6.2	7.2	6.5	.2	82	
MISC. HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES	22,345	.11	399	9.6	27.0	8.7	7.8	8.5	6.2	7.4	11.6	9.3	.2	31	
REFRIGERATORS, FREEZERS	27,230	.08	505	11.6	17.5	8.1	13.8	10.9	11.9	13.5	9.9	11.3	.3	31	
WASHERS & DRYERS	21,629	.09	351	9.2	20.3	10.6	8.5	7.2	9.2	9.2	9.0	8.7	.5	85	
HEATING, COOLING, VENTILATING EQUIP.															
CHIMNEYS, FIREPLACES	14,035	.16	234	6.0	43.4	5.0	2.6	2.7	1.6	8.1	4.0	5.8	.2	47	
FANS (EXC. STOVE EXHAUST FANS)	14,070	.11	281	6.0	19.9	4.9	5.6	4.5	5.4	6.7	5.1	5.9	.2	25	
HEATING STOVES & SPACE HEATERS	36,460	.14	531	15.6	101.0	17.8	7.4	6.9	5.5	16.9	16.1	15.0	.6	89	
PIPES, HEATING & PLUMBING	25,566	.09	494	10.7	16.8	29.5	10.4	8.8	4.9	16.4	5.8	19.6	.3	61	
RADIATORS, ALL	10,637	.20	414	4.0	48.2	13.1	5.5	2.0	3.7	11.0	5.1	7.7	.2	45	
OTHER	20,396	.10	386	8.7	14.4	3.8	8.0	9.8	7.3	12.5	5.1	8.4	.3	84	
HOUSEWARE															
COOKWARE, POTS & PANS	28,420	.11	585	12.1	26.0	9.7	12.5	12.2	5.3	9.3	14.7	11.5	.6	84	
CUTLERY, KNIVES, UNWORKED	350,075	.07	6,157	149.6	64.8	152.6	234.7	154.7	82.0	101.8	118.7	148.1	1.5	14	
DRINKING GLASSES	133,462	.07	2,511	57.0	52.4	48.6	102.1	55.2	10.9	41.9	71.3	56.6	.5	15	
MISCELLANEOUS HOUSEWARE	46,725	.08	900	20.0	39.9	28.8	19.9	16.6	11.0	20.9	19.1	19.6	.4	26	
SCISSORS	18,980	.10	336	8.1	10.7	14.6	8.7	6.7	3.4	6.2	9.9	8.1	-	16	
SMALL KITCHEN APPLIANCES	37,881	.08	673	13.2	25.5	13.1	20.0	16.1	8.7	14.6	17.7	15.7	.4	66	
TABLEWARE AND ACCESSORIES	72,352	.10	1,376	39.9	49.0	20.2	50.2	29.0	11.0	20.4	40.7	30.3	.6	26	
OTHER	8,654	.10	171	3.7	3.9	7.5	3.8	2.7	2.9	3.8	3.6	3.7	-	23	
HOME FURNISHINGS, FIXTURES & ACCESS.															
BATHUB & SHOWER STRUCTURES	109,618	.08	1,907	43.0	139.1	38.3	29.2	31.7	53.8	41.6	44.3	39.9	3.1	62	
BEDS, MATTRESSES, PILLOWS	249,972	.05	5,017	106.8	582.2	149.4	54.5	35.1	121.3	112.4	101.3	100.1	6.7	42	
CARPETS & RUGS	64,845	.11	1,127	27.7	66.9	17.9	17.7	18.2	69.0	20.5	34.5	24.6	3.1	46	
CHAIRS, SOFAS & SOFA BEDS	262,897	.08	4,835	112.4	519.8	116.2	64.3	59.9	132.3	104.1	119.9	107.1	5.3	35	
DESKS, CABINETS, SHELVES, PACKS	143,700	.09	2,778	61.4	228.7	97.3	47.1	35.0	39.5	63.1	59.7	60.1	1.4	28	
ELECTRIC FIXTURES, LAMPS & EQUIP	40,656	.07	777	17.4	41.4	21.0	21.0	12.5	10.9	21.1	13.0	16.7	.7	75	
LADDERS, STOODS	119,833	.09	2,058	51.2	49.1	20.7	31.3	62.3	73.6	72.0	31.3	45.7	5.6	40	
MIRRORS & PICTURE GLASS	16,756	.09	344	7.2	10.5	8.1	14.0	5.4	.9	8.6	5.8	7.1	.1	30	
MISC. HOUSEHOLD COVERS AND FABRICS	12,274	.10	244	5.2	6.9	4.6	4.8	4.9	7.3	3.5	6.9	4.8	.4	49	
OTHER MISC. FURNITURE & ACCESSORIES	36,251	.10	712	15.5	41.4	11.6	10.1	16.9	5.7	15.8	15.1	15.2	.3	22	
STAIRS & TOILETS	34,188	.08	679	14.6	48.5	14.7	10.2	8.0	26.4	15.0	14.1	13.5	1.2	39	
TABLES, ALL TYPES	256,519	.08	5,904	109.6	741.3	120.8	52.2	40.0	60.5	129.3	90.4	106.8	2.8	33	
OTHER	19,802	.09	362	8.5	36.7	9.0	5.8	5.7	4.9	8.5	8.1	8.1	.4	77	
HOME STRUCTURES & CONST'N MAT'LS															
CABINETS OR DOOR HARDWARE	17,497	.10	358	8.3	26.4	13.8	6.1	4.0	7.8	9.1	7.5	8.2	.2	30	
CEILINGS, WALLS, PANELS (INSIDE)	183,567	.08	3,870	78.5	166.2	143.0	122.9	41.5	28.9	97.6	60.0	77.0	1.5	26	
COUNTERS & COUNTER TOPS	19,019	.12	390	8.5	38.8	12.1	5.8	4.4	5.3	8.4	8.5	8.1	.4	37	
FENCES	106,073	.08	2,077	45.3	56.1	131.3	57.6	21.5	13.1	66.6	25.1	44.3	1.0	28	
GLASS DOORS, WINDOWS & PARTS	205,537	.07	3,841	87.8	112.9	115.7	166.3	63.3	21.9	108.6	67.8	84.5	3.3	23	
HANGINGS, RAILINGS & BANISTERS	34,959	.13	740	14.9	37.4	27.5	16.5	8.2	10.5	15.9	14.0	14.3	.6	38	
MISC. CONSTRUCTION MAT'LS	126,433	.11	2,175	54.0	69.3	87.8	57.7	44.9	35.1	79.1	30.1	50.6	3.4	40	
HAILS, CARPET TACKS, ETC.	228,810	.08	4,234	97.8	89.9	196.8	127.6	76.4	25.5	132.9	64.3	96.9	.9	15	
NON-GLASS DOORS & PANELS	281,892	.07	5,593	121.3	378.0	179.0	134.0	73.6	61.6	125.1	117.1	119.4	2.0	33	
OUTSIDE ATTACHED STRUCT. & MAT'LS	12,007	.10	191	5.1	7.8	4.2	5.0	5.3	4.2	8.2	2.3	4.6	.5	53	
PORCHES, OPEN SIDE FLOORS, ETC.	83,099	.12	1,478	35.5	99.8	40.7	67.7	69.4	30.0	37.1	33.8	32.4	2.6	37	
STAIRS, RAMP, LAMININGS, FLOORS	1,308,263	.09	25,229	559.7	1331.5	504.6	468.9	404.4	897.4	463.6	646.5	507.0	51.9	42	
WINDOWS, DOOR SELLS, FRAMES	36,874	.12	608	15.8	44.0	19.3	19.6	9.3	14.3	16.8	14.8	15.3	.5	27	
OTHER	16,882	.13	284	7.2	14.0	8.5	5.4	6.9	5.3	10.2	4.4	7.0	.3	60	
MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS															
BOLLIES, CARTS	27,755	.10	504	11.9	76.6	15.6	4.4	4.1	8.4	13.0	10.7	11.4	.4	36	
ELEVATORS, OTHER LIFTS	11,865	.15	237	5.1	9.0	3.3	3.4	3.7	12.8	4.3	5.7	4.7	.4	83	
FIREWORKS & FLARES	10,108	.13	203	4.3	6.1	13.6	5.9	1.7	.4	6.1	2.6	3.9	.4	119	
GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUELS	20,020	.10	336	8.6	20.0	7.0	9.9	7.6	2.9	14.3	3.1	6.8	1.8	279	
MISCELLANEOUS	95,117	.09	1,816	40.7	67.9	115.9	59.2	14.4	11.5	52.1	29.6	31.8	.8	29	
OTHER	13,925	.11	274	5.9	23.7	5.0	8.1	3.6	1.6	7.9	4.0	5.4	.5	100	

Definitions and Qualification of NEISS Data

Product Related Injuries

The statistics presented in the accompanying table are national estimates of products associated with injuries treated in hospital rooms. The product involvement may or may not be the cause of the accident. The products included in the tabulation are those which are within the jurisdiction of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Multiple Product Involvement

The NEISS collection procedures allow for reporting the involvement of up to two products for each injury. Since the statistics for a particular product are based on the number of times that product is reported through the NEISS, individual product categories in the accompanying table should not be added up to obtain a total injury measure as they may include some duplication.

Estimated Number of Cases

Since NEISS is based on a probability sample, the number of cases reported is projected in order to represent national estimates of injuries associated with consumer products treated in hospital emergency departments. The basic factor by which a case is inflated to derive national estimates is the inverse of the probability of selection of the hospital which treats that case. A non-response factor is also incorporated to adjust for hospitals not reporting cases for any given month.

CV

The CV (coefficient of variation) listed in the third column of the accompanying table represents the value of the standard error for the estimated number of cases divided by that estimated number.

The standard error is primarily a measure of sampling variability—that is, the variations that occur because observations are made only on a sample, not on the entire population. The chances are about 68 out of 100 times that an estimate from the sample would differ from the average result of all possible samples of the same size by less than the standard error. The chances are increased to 95 out of 100 times that an estimate from the sample would differ from the average result of all possible samples of the same size by less than 1.96 times the standard error.

Number of Cases

Under the column heading, "Number of Cases", the figures are given for the actual count of products associated with injuries that are treated in NEISS hospitals. Since hospitals included in the sample were selected with different probabilities of selection, the same number of cases may result in higher or lower national estimates depending on which hospitals those cases were reported from. Therefore, the reader should use caution in attempting to interpret differences in these raw counts between product categories.

Estimate Per 100,000 Population

Based on 12-month estimates, figures given here represent the number of injuries per 100,000 population for various groupings. They are obtained by the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Estimated number of injuries}}{1983 \text{ Estimated Resident U.S. Population}} \times 100,000$$

Population figures are provided by the U.S. Bureau of Census. The July 1, 1983 estimated Census count of the resident population is 233,981,000 (as of May 1984 publication). Each of the age and sex groupings is derived by dividing the estimated number of injuries for each age and sex group by the population figures for the same group. Because each group rate is an individual rate and not a percentage, the combined sums will not add up to the aggregate listed under the heading, ALL AGES.

Estimated Mean Severity

Each product-related injury seen in the emergency department is assigned a severity value ranging from 10 to 2,516, based primarily on a combination of three factors: injury diagnosis, body part involved, and disposition of the case. The estimated mean severity is an average severity value for an estimated number of injuries.

Based on the nature of the injury and the body part affected, all non-fatal injuries are classified to a 6-point scale with injuries ranging from minor to most severe. This ranking is based on medical judgment in terms of expected physical impact, as well as life threat and potential for permanent impairment. This scale value is then increased by one if the patient is admitted for inpatient hospital care. Therefore, a seventh point on the scale is established for those injuries with the most severe injury classification which require hospitalization. Poisonings are an exception to the procedure. A poisoning which is treated and released is classified as a "2" on this scale, while a poisoning requiring hospitalization is classified as a "6". Deaths are classified as "8" on this scale, but are grouped with Category 7 in the weighting procedure to be discussed below.

A geometric inflation factor is used to reflect differences in degree of severity between the seven scale categories. Category 1, the least severe category, has been assigned a value of "10". This value is increased by 20 percent to arrive at a value of "12" for Category 2. Thereafter, each succeeding scale category value is increased by a geometric proportion of the preceding value, i.e., 40 percent, 80 percent, up to a 640 percent increase for Category 6 to arrive at a value of 2,516 for Category 7.

Because the mean severity is based on subjective value judgments, the reader should use caution in interpreting small differences in these measures between product groups.

Policy on Active Dissemination of NEISS Data

The Commission recognizes that estimates based on small samples—if carefully interpreted—are useful. However, the Commission policy is to disseminate only national estimates that meet all three of the following criteria: Coefficients of variation that are smaller than 33 percent, national estimates that are greater than 1200, and national estimates that are based on a sample count greater than 10.

For this publication, categories with estimates of less than 10,000 drop from the individual listing and are included in "Other".

Further Information

"NEISS Data Highlights" is available free of charge. To be added to the mailing list or to obtain additional product-related injury data, contact the National Injury Information Clearinghouse, Directorate for Epidemiology, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Room 825, 5401 Westbard Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20207 Telephone No. (301) 492-6424.

U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Room 342B

Washington, D.C. 20207

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NEWS from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

FOR RELEASE: JUNE 6, 1984

CPSC WARNS OF FIREWORKS DANGERS

Following a recent critical injury to a 14 year old male as a result of an explosion in his home while he was mixing explosive chemicals purchased by mail order, the Consumer Product Safety Commission today issued an alert warning consumers of the dangers of using mail order chemicals and other dangerous fireworks.

The victim had ordered certain chemicals from a company which sells them by mail for the purpose of making fireworks in addition to other explosive-type products. While mixing two of the chemicals in a ceramic mortar (bowl) a violent explosion erupted, and the victim was impaled in the lower abdomen by a 2-inch by 3/4 inch fragment of the ceramic mortar (bowl) and received burns to his upper body and arms. There was also extensive damage to the room in which he was working and three other rooms of the house. While the victim survived, in addition to other injuries which he suffered, he may also have lost partial hearing in his right ear.

During 1983, approximately 8,300 persons were treated in hospital emergency rooms for fireworks-related injuries. Over half of these injuries were burns. Seventy-three percent of the injuries were to people under 25 years of age and the majority were male. The most frequently reported body parts involved were eyes, face, hands and fingers.

- more -

The Commission has had a regulation since 1976 which limits the maximum powder charge in firecrackers for consumer use to 50 milligrams (.772 grains, or less than one-eighth teaspoon). The Commission also has performance and labeling requirements for the permitted Class C fireworks. These include requirements that fireworks fuses must burn for at least three seconds, but not longer than six seconds, that they resist side ignition (fuse should only ignite when heat source applied to tip) and be securely attached. To prevent tipover, fireworks designed to be operated in a standing upright position must have a base that is no less than one-third the height of the device. All fireworks must be properly sealed to prevent leakage of powder during shipping and handling, and must be constructed in a manner to prevent burnout through the sides or blowout through the bottom of the device after ignition.

The Commission is especially concerned about the mail order kits and components for making fireworks since consumers are capable of making fireworks devices containing very large amounts of chemicals which can be extremely powerful and dangerous to the user. These kits can be used to produce fireworks devices which are even more dangerous than illegally sold fireworks such as M-80's and Silver Salutes which have been banned by the Commission.

The Commission believes that fireworks devices continue to be associated with a large number of preventable injuries each year. Even if Class C fireworks meet the government's minimum standards and labeling requirements, consumers should still exercise caution when using them and in supervising their use by children.

The Commission urges consumers to take the following precautions when using fireworks:

- * Parents should supervise the ordering and use of mail-order "make your own" fireworks kits or components. Some kit contents can produce dangerous explosive devices.

- * Make sure there is a manufacturer's label on all fireworks--and instructions for proper use. Illegally manufactured fireworks rarely have either. Report any sales of illegal fireworks to state or local police departments.
- * Store fireworks in a dry, cool place and avoid rough handling which might damage the fuses.
- * Provide adult supervision for children and do not allow very young children to handle fireworks.
- * Light fireworks only outdoors in a clear area away from houses, dry brush, or anything that might ignite. Keep water available.
- * Light only one fireworks device at a time.
- * Soak malfunctioning fireworks devices with water to prevent their possible future use.

Additional information may be obtained by calling the Commission's Toll Free Hotline at 800-638-CPSC. A teletypewriter number for the hearing impaired is 800-638-8270.

#

NEWS from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

BACKGROUND INFORMATION
FIREWORKS NEWS CONFERENCE
JUNE 19, 1985

I. BACKGROUND

Every year thousands of Americans are treated in hospital emergency rooms throughout the country for injuries caused by fireworks. In 1984 alone, over 9,800 persons suffered fireworks related injuries. Over half of the injuries were burns and lacerations. Also included are several amputations along with incidents of both eye and hearing damage. More than half of these were children under 15 years of age. In addition, seven persons are known to have died in fireworks related incidents in 1984.

In 1976, the Consumer Product Safety Commission published regulations banning the use by consumers of the larger, more dangerous Class "B" exploding fireworks and establishing safety performance requirements for the smaller, more common Class "C" fireworks.

II. LEGAL FIREWORKS

Each year the CPSC conducts an investigational efforts (to enforce regulations) to ensure that manufacturers sell to consumers only those fireworks which comply with CPSC regulations.

Fireworks devices such as mortar shells, firecrackers containing not more than 50 mg. of powder, sparklers, bottle rockets, cone fountains, roman candles, mines, wheels, helicopters and multiple tube devices,

- more -

are commonly known as "Class C" or "Safe and Sane fireworks." These may be sold to consumers according to federal regulations so long as they comply with the labeling and performance requirements specified in the regulations.

For example:

(1) Common firecrackers must contain not more than 50 mg of explosive powder. They must have a safety fuse that burns at least three seconds but not more than six seconds. They must also be labeled with an appropriate statement of hazard, and instructions for handling, storage and use. Regulations specify labeling for other types of fireworks. For example, sparklers must bear the following cautionary information: "WARNING: Flammable. Use only under adult supervision. For outdoor use only. Do not touch glowing wire. Hold in hand with arms extended away from body. Keep burning end of sparks away from wearing apparel or other flammable materials."

Although these Class C fireworks must meet federal regulations, most states have their own laws governing the sale and use of fireworks. Fourteen states have banned the use of all fireworks devices regardless of whether they comply with federal regulations and nine states allow sparklers and snakes only.

Before buying and using any fireworks check with local police or fire officials to find out what is legal in your state.

III. ILLEGAL FIREWORKS

In spite of federal laws which have prohibited their sale for nearly twenty years, Class B fireworks are sold and used in virtually every state in the country. These devices which include Cherry bombs, M 80's, Silver salutes, M 100's and other large firecrackers are among the most common of the banned Class B fireworks and are commonly available to consumers through bootleg sale at road side stands and other retail establishments.

They are dangerous and have been known to produce lethal explosions. Recently there was an explosion at a fireworks factory in Ohio where it is believed M-100's and other illegal fireworks apparently were being made. Nine factory workers were killed and the factory was reduced to a huge crater.

In most cases anyone who is not familiar with the different types of fireworks devices cannot recognize the difference in illegal fireworks and legal Class C fireworks.

These tips may be useful in identifying banned fireworks:

- (1) Do they have the name and address of the manufacturer or importer?
Most banned fireworks do not.
- (2) Do they have appropriate instructions for using the devices?
Most banned fireworks do not.
- (3) Firecrackers larger than $1\frac{1}{2}$ " X $\frac{1}{4}$ " may contain more than 50 of powder and therefore would be banned.

When in doubt, check with local fire or police officials or, better still, look for other devices which do have proper labeling and use instructions.

IV. FIREWORKS MAIL ORDER KITS AND COMPONENTS

Another area of concern is the fireworks mail order business. Either through regular U.S. postal service mail or parcel deliver services, consumers may order and receive complete packaged kits or components from which extremely dangerous fireworks devices can be made in the home.

Typically, these kits will include:

- (1) An active oxidizer such as potassium chlorate;
- (2) Sulfur, a fuel which is inexpensive;
- (3) A metal fuel such as fine aluminum powder to produce a bright flash.
- (4) Casings which are filled with the explosive mixture of chemicals and end plugs.
- (5) Fuse for detonating the fireworks device.
- (6) "How to" instructions for mixing various combinations of chemicals contained in the kits and instructions for putting the devices together.

With kits consumers have at their fingertips the equipment for making highly explosive, potentially lethal fireworks devices such as M 80's, M 100's, Cherry Bombs and even much larger and more dangerous devices is possible.

These kits are especially dangerous because the consumer is required to handle and mix large quantities, often one, two, or five pounds of the explosive chemicals in the home, many times without a clear understanding of the explosive potential of the mixture. A consumer who is mixing the explosive chemicals from a kit often has at his disposal enough explosive powder to make about 100 or more M-100 devices.

These chemicals are easily ignited by careless cigarette smoking, sparks or friction from mixing the chemicals. Even if the devices are successfully assembled without incident they are still extremely dangerous. Many of these devices contain enough powder to approximate a quarter or half stick of dynamite.

The CPSC investigated one incident where a 14 year-old boy was mixing a small portion of chemicals which he had received in the mail to make explosives. Triggered by an unidentified source, or perhaps the mere action of mixing them, the chemicals exploded with a tremendous force. A chunk of the ceramic bowl in which he was mixing the chemicals was impaled in his lower abdomen and he was propelled through a nearby glass door. The explosion completely destroyed the kitchen he was working in and three other rooms in the house. Miraculously, the boy lived to recover with damage to one eye and some hearing loss.

V. SAFETY TIPS

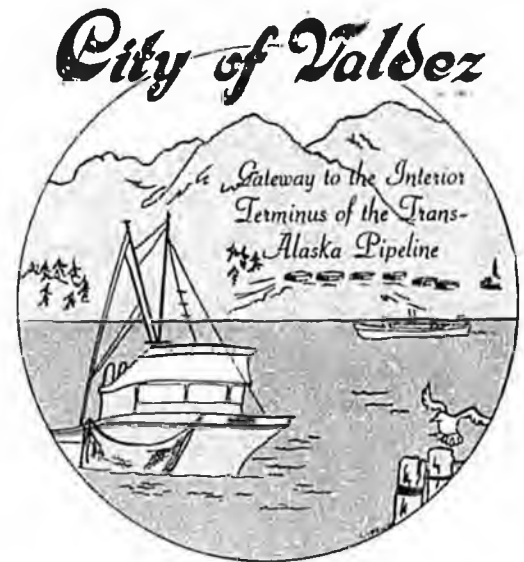
To make your holiday safer, be careful in using all fireworks devices. Do not allow younger children to ignite or play with fireworks under any circumstances. Remember that fireworks are not toys for children to play with.

To help reduce the risk of injury while using fireworks, the following safety precaution should be observed:

- If you permit older children to use fireworks, make sure they do so only under close adult supervision. Do not allow any running or horseplay while fireworks are being used.
- Before using any fireworks, read and follow all warning instructions printed on the label.
- Light all fireworks outdoors in a clear area away from houses and flammable materials (gasoline cans, etc.).
- Keep a bucket of water nearby for emergencies and for dousing fireworks that don't go off.
- Do not try to relight or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Soak them with water and throw them away.
- Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- Never ignite fireworks in a container, especially in a glass or metal container.
- Store fireworks in a cool dry place. Check instructions for special storage directions.

#

VALDEZ FIRE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF
January 22, 1986



The Honorable M. Mike Miller
Alaska State Legislature
House of Representatives
Pouch V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Mr. Miller:

I am writing in support of HB 35. The City of Valdez has banned the use and possession of fireworks within its corporate boundaries for many years by adopting and enforcing the Uniform Fire Code.

Enforcement in the past three years has become very difficult as several fireworks stands set up just outside the city limits and sell to whomever passes by.

In August of 1983 the Valdez city council considered the repeal of the section pertaining to fireworks at the request of citizens wishing to use them. The council determined at that time that many more people were against fireworks, and, due to the serious injuries caused by them let the ordinance stand.

I highly support any legislation that will ban or severely restrict the use of fireworks in the State of Alaska. The damage done to the peace of mind of our citizens, their animals, injuries suffered and the fires that are started by fireworks are not justified by the so-called enjoyment of a few.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas W. McAlister".

Thomas W. McAlister
Fire Chief

Injury Control

A Guide to the
Causes and Prevention of Trauma

Julian A. Waller, M.D. M.P.H.

but to most research involving recreational injury. The need, they note, is not for more research but rather for better data on which to base such research.

Unlike guns, fireworks and firecrackers almost invariably are used for recreation. In China and other Asian nations this occurs to a far greater degree than in the United States and has religious overtones. While U.S. data are available, they may not be comparable to those from elsewhere because the size of powder charges and types of fireworks vary from one nation to another.

In the United States, for example, beginning in 1966 explosive charges larger than 2 grains (130 mg) were prohibited.¹⁸⁹ (This is equivalent to a device 1½ inches long and ¼ inch diameter and removes cherry bombs from the marketplace.) As of late 1976, the permissible amount decreased to 0.77 grains (50 mg).¹⁹⁰ Several states, however, prohibit private use of fireworks and firecrackers entirely. Other nations permit larger firecrackers or have no regulations at all.

The new U.S. regulations appear not to be very effective, both because of smuggling of illegal devices from Canada and Mexico and some degree of illegal manufacture.¹⁹⁰ In addition, the 2-grain firecrackers still are capable of producing injury, and it appears the smaller ones may be also.¹⁸⁹ As of 1980 there were about 9,000 treated injuries, although the rate per exposure is not known.¹⁹⁰ A report from New Zealand suggests that the injury rate is about one per 10,000 persons exposed during the week or two before Guy Fawke's Day.¹⁹¹

A CPSC study in 1973 indicated that 30 percent of injuries occur among boys between age 10 to 14 and after age 25 the number of injuries was negligible.¹⁸⁹ About half of injuries were burns, usually of an arm or hand, but one in every five involved the eye, sometimes with blindness resulting. In that study, only 5 percent of injuries resulted in hospitalization, but a 1979 report had a much higher proportion (16 percent).¹⁹² Homemade explosive devices almost invariably resulted in hospitalization and accounted for most of the very rare fatalities. Some types of banned explosives—in particular, bottle rockets—had high injury rates, usually from improper use. These devices seem especially likely to cause eye injury.¹⁹³

The vast majority of injuries involving oversize fireworks resulted from improper use, while half of the injuries from permissible displays resulted from apparent malfunction.¹⁸⁹ In 1978, however, illegal fireworks distributed in two states resulted in more than 150 injuries within a matter of days.¹⁹⁴ These defective devices exploded immediately when lighted, instead of providing the usual delay from the fuse, and at one hospital alone, twelve young users were seen, seven of whom each lost one or more fingers.

Challenging the Great C

There are about 60,000 mountaineers in the world, 2,000 and 10,000 of whom are in the United States—records—which are known as the "Great C" records—among these was 30 deaths among these was 30 the most common cause, the next in importance.¹⁹⁵ A climbing unroped, and u

ated. The European Alps For club-sponsored (man-mountain days for p decreasing to 0.80 for the 2.31, and the mortality among the young (1.14 a lowest among the oldest and case fatality rates for climbing appear in table

Ferris warns of hazards above 12,000 feet and cold temperatures of 40 to 45° attempting casual hikes inadequate shoes, and no

Burns from portable in camping have been a

Table 24-4
Ten Most Frequent Injuries in the United States

Cause
Slip on rocks
Slip on snow or ice
Falling rock or object
Avalanche
Failure in rappel
Loss of control in gliss
Exposure or exhaustion
Miscellaneous
Lightning
Fall in crevasse

Source: Adapted from Accidents in the United States. *Journal of Medicine* 26



American Academy of Pediatrics

News Release

Contact: Jeff Molter
Michele Weber
312/981-7871
312/981-7872
800/433-9016



Embargoed for release on:
June 5, 1985

AAP URGES CAUTION WHEN USING FIREWORKS

CHICAGO -- A 10-year old boy suffered third-degree burns over 25 percent of his body when he dropped a small firecracker into a can of lantern fluid.

- In 1983, there were more than 8,000 victims of fireworks-related injuries treated in U.S. emergency rooms, half of those being children under 15.

A 7-year old girl suffered second-degree burns to her body after playing with a sparkler that ignited her nightgown.

- Every type of fireworks -- even those sold legally -- has resulted in serious injury or death.

With summer comes July 4th -- and with that holiday -- fireworks. A comprehensive look at injuries resulting from fireworks shows that not only do fireworks result in unnecessary injuries or even death, they also inflict costly hospital bills and property damage.

29/85

-more-



141 Northwest Point Road
P.O. Box 927
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Fireworks
2-2-2-2-2

Researchers reporting in the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) journal Pediatrics write that because injuries are notoriously underreported, only about 40 percent are treated in emergency rooms. Thus, they estimate that approximately 21,000 total fireworks-related injuries occurred in 1983.

The researchers, from the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque and the University of Tennessee, Memphis, contend that precautionary labeling and improved quality control has not been an adequate approach to the prevention of injuries caused by fireworks.

Present fireworks regulations, enacted by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) in 1976, ban any firecracker containing more than 50 mg. of explosive material. Aerial devices such as skyrockets and shells may contain up to 130 mg. of charge. The 1976 provisions ban Class B devices such as cherry bombs and M-80s; however, Class C allowable devices include fountains, California candles, Roman candles, missile-type rockets, sparklers and smoke devices.

In 1981, the most common type of fireworks causing injuries were firecrackers and more than 60 percent were Class C allowable devices. A previous study of 175 fireworks-related injuries in 1973 revealed that 116 of those were caused by Class C allowable devices.

The eyes are the body part most often injured, followed by hands and fingers. According to 1983 CPSC statistics, burns account for the majority of fireworks-related injuries (59 percent). Firecrackers, bottle rockets and sparklers contribute to the most hospitalizations.

-more-

Fireworks
3-3-3-3-3

In addition, the researchers write that restrictive state laws can drastically reduce injuries. The rate of fireworks-related fires was nearly 50 times greater in states allowing some Class C fireworks than in states banning fireworks or allowing only snakes and/or sparklers. Additionally, the rate of injuries was seven times greater in the states that allowed Class C devices. (A table of U.S. states' fireworks regulations is attached.)

The economic impact of fireworks-related accidents is also distinctly negative. In 1980, there was an estimated \$250,000 in property damage in the state of New Mexico and \$60,000 in medical costs for the treatment of children with fireworks-related injuries. A 1982 survey in California reported a total dollar loss for fireworks-related fires at \$1,431,000.

TIPS FOR A SAFE FOURTH

Still, when July 4th rolls around, there will be fireworks and children using them. What can parents do to make fireworks usage safe? The American Academy of Pediatrics and the CPSC recommend:

- Do not allow your children to play with fireworks. They are not toys. The sparkler, considered by some to be the ideal, safe fireworks for children, burns at a very high temperature and can easily ignite clothing.
- Before using fireworks, read and follow label warnings.
- Light fireworks outdoors in a clear area away from houses, people and flammable material. Keep a bucket of water nearby for emergencies and for dousing fireworks that do not go off.

Fireworks
4-4-4-4-4

- Do not try to relight or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Soak with water and throw away.
- Never ignite fireworks in a container, especially a glass or metal one.

The American Academy of Pediatrics is an organization of 28,000 pediatricians dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of infants, children and adolescents in North, Central and South America.

-30-

State Fireworks Regulations*

-
- I. States that ban sale and use of all class C fireworks:
- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Arizona | New Jersey |
| Connecticut | New York |
| Delaware | North Carolina |
| Georgia | Ohio |
| Massachusetts | Rhode Island |
| Minnesota | Vermont |
| New Hampshire | West Virginia |
- II. States that allow only sparklers and/or snakes:
- Colorado (sparklers)
Florida (sparklers)
Illinois (sparklers)
Iowa (snakes and sparklers)
Maine (sparklers)
Maryland (sparklers)
Oregon (snakes and sparklers)
Pennsylvania (sparklers)
Utah (sparklers)
Wisconsin (snakes and sparklers)
- III. States that allow class C fireworks as specified by state law:
- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| District of Columbia | North Dakota |
| Idaho | Oklahoma |
| Indiana | South Carolina |
| Kentucky | Texas |
| Michigan | Virginia |
| Montana | Wyoming |
- IV. States that allow class C fireworks as approved by enforcing authority of the state:
- | | |
|------------|------------|
| California | Nevada |
| Kansas | New Mexico |
| Nebraska | Washington |
- V. States that allow the sale and use of all class C (ordinary) fireworks:
- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| Alaska | Mississippi |
| Alabama | Missouri |
| Arkansas | South Dakota |
| Louisiana | Tennessee |
- VI. States having no fireworks laws (except on county level):
- Hawaii
-

* Data from National Fire Protection Association.



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

REMARKS OF TERENCE SCANLON, CHAIRMAN
U. S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
AT THE
FIREWORKS PRESS CONFERENCE
SYLVAN THEATRE
WASHINGTON, D.C.
JUNE 19, 1985

JULY 4TH IS JUST OVER TWO WEEKS AWAY AND THAT MEANS FIREWORKS -- LITERALLY. OR IF PEOPLE AREN'T CAREFUL, IT COULD MEAN SOMETHING FAR WORSE -- SERIOUS INJURY OR PERHAPS EVEN DEATH.

EACH YEAR, ROUGHLY 55 MILLION POUNDS OF FIREWORKS ARE SHOT OFF IN THIS COUNTRY. 2/3'S OF THESE ARE OF THE FAMILY FIREWORKS VARIETY WHILE THE OTHER THIRD IS USED FOR PUBLIC FIREWORKS DISPLAYS. BUT WHAT CONCERNS ME, AND WHAT I HOPE EVERYONE WILL TAKE TO HEART, ARE SOME OTHER STATISTICS. IN 1984, THERE WERE 7 DEATHS AND OVER 9800 INJURIES ASSOCIATED WITH FIREWORKS. OVER HALF THE INJURIES CONSISTED OF BURNS OR LACERATIONS AND MANY WERE SUFFERED BY CHILDREN UNDER 15. SOME OF THESE INJURIES WERE QUITE SEVERE, INVOLVING LOSS OF HEARING, LOSS OF SIGHT OR LOSS OF A LIMB.

IN ADDITION TO BEING DANGEROUS, ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN, MANY FIREWORKS ARE ILLEGAL AS WELL. THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

BANS ALL THE LARGER, MORE DANGEROUS CLASS B FIREWORKS AND SETS SAFETY STANDARDS FOR THE SMALLER, MORE COMMON CLASS C FIREWORKS. AND SOME STATES GO EVEN FURTHER; 14 BAN FIREWORKS ALTOGETHER AND NINE MORE HAVE LIMITED LEGAL FIREWORKS TO SPARKLERS AND SNAKES. SO BEFORE YOU BUY ANY FIREWORKS MAKE SURE THEY ARE LEGAL. AND, IF IN DOUBT, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL POLICE OR FIRE OFFICIALS. THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO ADVISE YOU.

BY THE WAY, IF YOU ARE THINKING ABOUT OBTAINING FIREWORKS BY MAIL, KEEP IN MIND THAT MAIL ORDER FIREWORKS KITS CONTAINING MATERIAL THAT COULD RESULT IN THE PRODUCTION OF FIREWORKS WITH MORE THAN 50 MILLIGRAMS OF POWDER ARE ALSO ILLEGAL. USING SUCH A KIT COULD BE VERY DANGEROUS. SOME OF THESE HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO CONTAIN ENOUGH POWDER TO CAUSE AN EXPLOSION EQUIVALENT TO THAT PRODUCED BY A QUARTER OR HALF STICK OF DYNAMITE.

AS THE 4TH OF JULY NEARS, THE CPSC WILL BE STEPPING UP ITS SURVEILLANCE OF BOTH RETAIL AND MAIL ORDER FIREWORKS SALES. THOSE CONVICTED OF FIREWORKS VIOLATIONS COULD FACE A FINE OR EVEN A JAIL SENTENCE. OUR PURPOSE IS NOT TO PUT A DAMPER ON THE 4TH OF JULY. QUITE THE CONTRARY. WE, AT THE CPSC, WANT YOU AND YOURS TO BE ABLE TO ENJOY THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY -- AND THE NEXT AND THE NEXT -- TO THE FULLEST. AND THE BEST WAY FOR THAT TO HAPPEN IS FOR ALL OF US TO TAKE CARE WHEN IT COMES TO FIREWORKS. BE AWARE OF THE RISKS, BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE ILLEGAL FIREWORKS WHEN YOU SEE THEM AND KNOW WHAT SAFETY PRECAUTIONS TO TAKE IF YOU OR YOUR CHILDREN DECIDE TO SHOOT OFF SOME LEGAL FIREWORKS.

IF YOU WANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON FIREWORKS, THE CPSC HAS PUT OUT A PRODUCT SAFETY FACTSHEET (#12). COPIES MAY BE OBTAINED BY WRITING THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY, 1111 18TH STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207 OR BY CALLING OUR TOLL FREE HOTLINE, 800-638-CPSC.

NEWS from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

BACKGROUND INFORMATION
FIREWORKS NEWS CONFERENCE
JUNE 19, 1985

I. BACKGROUND

Every year thousands of Americans are treated in hospital emergency rooms throughout the country for injuries caused by fireworks. In 1984 alone, over 9,800 persons suffered fireworks related injuries. Over half of the injuries were burns and lacerations. Also included are several amputations along with incidents of both eye and hearing damage. More than half of these were children under 15 years of age. In addition, seven persons are known to have died in fireworks related incidents in 1984.

In 1976, the Consumer Product Safety Commission published regulations banning the use by consumers of the larger, more dangerous Class "B" exploding fireworks and establishing safety performance requirements for the smaller, more common Class "C" fireworks.

II. LEGAL FIREWORKS

Each year the CPSC conducts an investigational efforts (to enforce regulations) to ensure that manufacturers sell to consumers only those fireworks which comply with CPSC regulations.

Fireworks devices such as mortar shells, firecrackers containing not more than 50 mg. of powder, sparklers, bottle rockets, cone fountains, roman candles, mines, wheels, helicopters and multiple tube devices,

- more -

are commonly known as "Class C" or "Safe and Sane fireworks." These may be sold to consumers according to federal regulations so long as they comply with the labeling and performance requirements specified in the regulations.

For example:

(1) Common firecrackers must contain not more than 50 mg of explosive powder. They must have a safety fuse that burns at least three seconds but not more than six seconds. They must also be labeled with an appropriate statement of hazard, and instructions for handling, storage and use. Regulations specify labeling for other types of fireworks. For example, sparklers must bear the following cautionary information: "WARNING: Flammable. Use only under adult supervision. For outdoor use only. Do not touch glowing wire. Hold in hand with arms extended away from body. Keep burning end of sparks away from wearing apparel or other flammable materials."

Although these Class C fireworks must meet federal regulations, most states have their own laws governing the sale and use of fireworks. Fourteen states have banned the use of all fireworks devices regardless of whether they comply with federal regulations and nine states allow sparklers and snakes only.

Before buying and using any fireworks check with local police or fire officials to find out what is legal in your state.

III. ILLEGAL FIREWORKS

In spite of federal laws which have prohibited their sale for nearly twenty years, Class B fireworks are sold and used in virtually every state in the country. These devices which include Cherry bombs, M 80's, Silver salutes, M 100's and other large firecrackers are among the most common of the banned Class B fireworks and are commonly available to consumers through bootleg sale at road side stands and other retail establishments.

They are dangerous and have been known to produce lethal explosions. Recently there was an explosion at a fireworks factory in Ohio where it is believed M-100's and other illegal fireworks apparently were being made. Nine factory workers were killed and the factory was reduced to a huge crater.

In most cases anyone who is not familiar with the different types of fireworks devices cannot recognize the difference in illegal fireworks and legal Class C fireworks.

These tips may be useful in identifying banned fireworks:

- (1) Do they have the name and address of the manufacturer or importer?
Most banned fireworks do not.
- (2) Do they have appropriate instructions for using the devices?
Most banned fireworks do not.
- (3) Firecrackers larger than 1½" X ¼" may contain more than 50 of powder and therefore would be banned.

When in doubt, check with local fire or police officials or, better still, look for other devices which do have proper labeling and use instructions.

IV. FIREWORKS MAIL ORDER KITS AND COMPONENTS

Another area of concern is the fireworks mail order business. Either through regular U.S. postal service mail or parcel deliver services, consumers may order and receive complete packaged kits or components from which extremely dangerous fireworks devices can be made in the home.

Typically, these kits will include:

- (1) An active oxidizer such as potassium chlorate;
- (2) Sulfur, a fuel which is inexpensive;
- (3) A metal fuel such as fine aluminum powder to produce a bright flash.
- (4) Casings which are filled with the explosive mixture of chemicals and end plugs.
- (5) Fuse for detonating the fireworks device.
- (6) "How to" instructions for mixing various combinations of chemicals contained in the kits and instructions for putting the devices together.

With kits consumers have at their fingertips the equipment for making highly explosive, potentially lethal fireworks devices such as M 80's, M 100's, Cherry Bombs and even much larger and more dangerous devices is possible.

These kits are especially dangerous because the consumer is required to handle and mix large quantities, often one, two, or five pounds of the explosive chemicals in the home, many times without a clear understanding of the explosive potential of the mixture. A consumer who is mixing the explosive chemicals from a kit often has at his disposal enough explosive powder to make about 100 or more M-100 devices.

These chemicals are easily ignited by careless cigarette smoking, sparks or friction from mixing the chemicals. Even if the devices are successfully assembled without incident they are still extremely dangerous. Many of these devices contain enough powder to approximate a quarter or half stick of dynamite.

The CPSC investigated one incident where a 14 year-old boy was mixing a small portion of chemicals which he had received in the mail to make explosives. Triggered by an unidentified source, or perhaps the mere action of mixing them, the chemicals exploded with a tremendous force. A chunk of the ceramic bowl in which he was mixing the chemicals was impaled in his lower abdomen and he was propelled through a nearby glass door. The explosion completely destroyed the kitchen he was working in and three other rooms in the house. Miraculously, the boy lived to recover with damage to one eye and some hearing loss.

V. SAFETY TIPS

To make your holiday safer, be careful in using all fireworks devices. Do not allow younger children to ignite or play with fireworks under any circumstances. Remember that fireworks are not toys for children to play with.

To help reduce the risk of injury while using fireworks, the following safety precaution should be observed:

- If you permit older children to use fireworks, make sure they do so only under close adult supervision. Do not allow any running or horseplay while fireworks are being used.
- Before using any fireworks, read and follow all warning instructions printed on the label.
- Light all fireworks outdoors in a clear area away from houses and flammable materials (gasoline cans, etc.).
- Keep a bucket of water nearby for emergencies and for dousing fireworks that don't go off.
- Do not try to relight or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Soak them with water and throw them away.
- Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- Never ignite fireworks in a container, especially in a glass or metal container.
- Store fireworks in a cool dry place. Check instructions for special storage directions.

#

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
Position Paper

House Bill 35 - An act relating to State regulation of fireworks and providing for an effective date.

The Division of Forestry supports the intent of this bill in that it would help reduce the number of wildland fires caused by fireworks and, subsequently, reduce the threat to human life, property, and the cost associated with suppression action for those fires.

The Division of Forestry has consolidated statistics of fires which were confirmed starts by fireworks. These statistics are derived from the Division of Forestry, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service, thus representing the primary wildland fire suppression agencies of Alaska.

During 1982, 1983, 1984, and 1985, 95 fires were started by fireworks in the above listed agencies' protection areas. They burned over 400 acres and accumulated suppression costs over \$85,800.00. These fires typically occur in and near urban areas, posing a high risk threat to life and property.

Annually, over 400 wildland fires are started by human carelessness in Alaska with suppression costs averaging over \$3 million. House Bill 35 supports the fire prevention objectives for reducing human-caused fires and suppression costs.

YEAR	NUMBER OF FIREWKS FIRES	TOTAL HUMAN CAUSED FIRES	² PERCENT FIREWORKS	ACRES BURNED BY FIREWORKS	ACRES BURNED TOTAL	FIREWORKS FIRES SUPPRESSION COST	TOTAL FIRE SUPPRESSION COST
<u>Area Protected by Alaska Division of Forestry</u>							
1982	13	149	8%	5.25	1,295	26,386	2,300,000
1983	19	366	5%	3.15	32,276	5,477	6,400,000
1984	27	436	6%	369.0	8,167	31,924	5,800,000
1985	13	278	4%	6.6	34,199	12,324	5,500,000
<u>Area Protected by the USDA Forest Service</u>							
1982	1	25	4%	.1	4	400	DNA
1983	2	26	8%	.2	37.6	800	DNA
1984	4	20	20%	7.2	13	7,600	DNA
1985	6	20	30%	4.4	225.5	DNA	DNA
<u>Area Protected by the USDI - BLM Alaska Fire Service</u>							
1982	DNA						
1983	3	117	2.5%	0.0	98,154	942	9,200,000
1984	4	99	4%	5.0	115,871	DNA	DNA
1985	3	54	5%	.3	372,230	DNA	DNA

DNA = Data Not Available

Alaska State Legislature



House of Representatives House Judiciary Committee

Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4990

January 14, 1986

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

On Tuesday, Jan. 21st, from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. the House Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing on CSHB 35, "An Act relating to state regulation of fireworks; and providing for an effective date." The hearing will take place in the House Judiciary Committee room 124 in the Capitol Building in Juneau. The hearing will be teleconferenced state-wide to all Legislative Information Offices.

Anyone wishing to testify on the bill may simply sign up before or during the hearing at their local L.I.O.

Alaska State Legislature

REPRESENTATIVE
PAT POURCHOT

HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE ON OIL AND GAS



ANCHORAGE
PO BOX 104836
ANCHORAGE, AK 99510
(907) 338-2425
JUNEAU
POUCH V
STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, AK 99811
(907) 465-3712

House of Representatives

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 13, 1985

TO: Representative Mike Miller, Chairman
House Judiciary

FROM: Representative Pat Pourchot *Pat Pourchot!*

SUBJECT: House Judiciary Hearing on HB 35

I would appreciate the committee extending invitations to the following individuals to testify before the House Judiciary Committee hearing on HB 35 scheduled for January 21 at 1:30 p.m.

John Sturgeon
State Forester
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 7-005
Anchorage, AK 99510

Sam Neal
State Fire Marshall
P.O. Box 6313
Anchorage, AK 99502

John Franklin, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety
Municipality of Anchorage
P.O. Box 6-650
Anchorage, AK 99502

Mark Johnson, Director
Division of Emergency Medical Services
Department of Health & Social Services
P.O. Box H
Juneau, AK 99811

I have extended invitations to the following individuals who may also wish to testify.

Jason Elson, President
Alaska Firefighters Association
Boxc 2712
Kenai, AK 99611

Chief Ross Fosberg
Anchorage Fire Department
P.O. Box 6-650
Anchorage, AK 99501

Wayne Grieme
6230 Grieme Road
North Pole, AK 99705

Dorothy Jones, Mayor
Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Box B
Palmer, AK 99645

Thomas McAlister
Fire Chief
Valdez Fire Department
P.O. Box 307
Valdez, AK 99686

Frank Mullen
Kenai Peninsula Borough Assemblyman
P.O. Box 850
Soldotna, AK 99669

Joyce Murphy, D.V.M.
Virginia Johnson, D.V.M.
Alpine Veterinary Clinic
8050 Old Seward Highway
Anchorage, AK 99502

Michael Ririe
Operations Manager
Anchorage Animal Control
Municipality of Anchorage
P.O. Box 6-650
Anchorage, AK 99502

Darryl Schaefermeyer
Deputy City Manager
City of Seward
P.O. Box 167
Seward, AK 99664

David Squires
Deputy Chief
Seward Volunteer Fire Department
Seward, AK 99664

Leonard Weimer
Bear Creek Fire Department
Seward, AK 99664

Tom and Flarine Spencer
1409 Nunaka Drive
Anchorage, AK 99504

Ethel Christianson
SPCA
3439 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99507

Chip Dennerlein
Intergovernmental Affairs
Municipality of Anchorage
P.O. Box 6-650
Anchorage, AK 99502

March 21, 1986

Honorable M. Mike Miller
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Representative Miller:

We understand that House Bill 35 has been referred back to the House Rules Committee for possible further amendments. We have also been told that the sponsor of the bill hopes to offer amendments which would make the bill more acceptable to firework distributors and other opponents of the bill with whom he says he has been in contact.

We do not know who these firework distributors might be. They are not the companies which are represented by me: Pyrodyne, Inc. or R & S Marketing Services, Inc. We are not aware of any retailers or wholesalers of fireworks in the State of Alaska with whom we have been working who have recently told the sponsor of House Bill 35 that there are amendments which could make the bill more acceptable to them.

However, in the interest of making our position on House bill 35 clear to you and to other members of the House, let me clarify for you the position of my clients relative to the current draft of the bill as it passed the House Judiciary Committee (CMB 35(Jud)).

(1) Page 1, line 11: The insertion of the word "manufacture" could be troublesome because the word is not defined in the current statute nor is it defined in the current draft of the bill. Our concern would be that the assembling of firework items for the purpose of display or the assembling of firework items for retail sales could be construed as 'manufacturing'. By assembling, we mean only putting pieces together as when a display set piece is constructed out of various firework items. We would suggest that "manufacture" be clearly defined so that activities pursuant to a public display or sales of permitted firework items be clearly excluded from such a prohibition of manufacturing. We would offer the following definition for your consideration:

"manufacture" means to make or produce a firework item from its chemical and other components but does not mean to fabricate, construct or assemble set pieces, mechanical pieces or other items for use in public displays nor does it mean to assemble packages or groups of salable firework items or individual retail firework items for wholesale or retail sales.

(2) Section 5 of this current draft bill repeals AS 18.72.050 entirely and reenacts only some but not all of the definitions now found in this section of the current law. As a result of this repeal and only partial reenactment, some firework items now legal for retail sales and purchase, possession and use by the citizens of Alaska would

be made illegal. It is not correct that only firecrackers would become illegal under this bill if enacted! Helicopters, aerial spinners, mines, shells and combination items also would be prohibited because they are not defined and not included in the new definition of "salable fireworks".

Please refer to the existing statute at AS 18.72.050 (4). This subsection contains the definitions of salable items. You will note that some of these items are no longer included in the list of "salable fireworks" found in CSHB 35, are not defined and would therefore be covered by the definition of "dangerous fireworks". Consequently, they would be prohibited from legal purchase, possession and use by the citizens of Alaska! Each of the following are not defined in CSHB 35 and would be prohibited:

- AS 18.72.050 (4) (C) helicopter type rockets
- AS 18.72.050 (4) (I) mines and shells
- AS 18.72.050 (4) (J) firecrackers
- AS 18.72.050 (4) (K) novelties consisting of two or more devices enumerated in this subsection

If someone has been representing the current draft of CSHB 35 as prohibiting only firecrackers, they either do not understand the bill or they are misrepresenting what the bill does!

When we testified before the House State Affairs, we indicated that we opposed House Bill 35 as originally drafted because it was unnecessary legislation. Current Alaska law gives all jurisdictions the authority to enact local ordinances more restrictive than the state fireworks law. That local authority is not removed by House Bill 35 or by CSHB 35!

We still oppose the latest version--CSHB 35--because it is still unnecessary! There is nothing about CSHB 35 which makes it a better bill and, therefore, more acceptable to us. Nor is there anything in CSHB 35 which, in our opinion, makes it good legislation for the citizens of Alaska.

We do believe that there are provisions which could be added to the current Alaska fireworks law which make the law better for all of Alaska's citizens. We made some of those suggestions in our testimony before the Committee. They were not included in the subsequent redraft of the bill and no one has since asked us about them. The sponsor of House Bill 35 has not contacted us to request ideas for improvement of the bill. We are not aware that retailers in Alaska with whom we work or any other persons have been contacted either.

We testified that House Bill 35 did not solve any perceived problems. We were not convinced that any real problems had been correctly identified. We see CSHB 35 as faulty for the same reasons. We remain convinced that CSHB 35 is faulty, unneeded legislation and that it should be defeated.

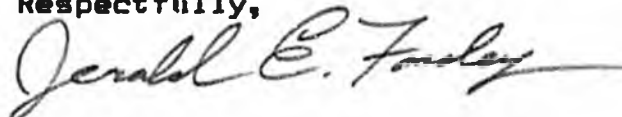
Respectfully, we offer again to work with legislators to improve the Alaska state fireworks law.

We ask that you oppose CSHB 35 because it is more restrictive than it is said to be and because it is bad legislation which will not solve any real problems there may be in Alaska.

The press of other business in the lower 48 has made it difficult for me to get to Juneau this year. Frankly, I have hoped to be able to get to Juneau in the near future to work on this bill. However, it now appears that a trip in the next two weeks is unlikely. I hope that in that timespan, the House will finally and decisively defeat CSHB 35 because it is unneeded, bad legislation and, then, move on to the consideration of subjects of more immediate importance to Alaska.

If I can be of any help in the next few days with respect to improving CSHB 35 or if I can be of any help in defeating the current version of the bill, please let me know.

Respectfully,



Jerald E. Farley, representing
Pyrodyne, Inc. and
R & S Marketing Services, Inc.
2540 34th Avenue South
Seattle
Washington 98144
206-723-4477



Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Committee on State Affairs

Official Business

Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

(907) 485-4883

To: Representative Katie Hurley
Chair, House State Affairs Committee

From: Nevette Bowen
Committee Aide

Date: 3/14/85

Re: Proposed Committee Substitute for House Bill 35

The proposed committee substitute for House Bill 35 "An Act relating to state regulation of fireworks" contains the following changes:

°The effective date has been changed to July 15, 1985 to enable retailers to dispose of their inventories before any restriction on salable fireworks occurs.

°The definition of salable fireworks is expanded to include ground spinners and flitter sparklers. This was done at the suggestion of Jerry Farley, a fireworks wholesaler representative from Seattle, to bring the bill into conformity with laws in other states which allow the full range of "safe and sane fireworks."

°The other amendments were suggested by the Department of Law:

Section 1 (a) was modeled after language from other statutes which restrict use of controlled substances.

Section 4 brings the bill into conformity with accepted drafting style for criminal statutes and specifically defines the class of penalties involved.

A class A misdemeanor will result in a \$5000 fine or 1 year in jail, or both.

A class B misdemeanor will result in a \$1000 fine or 90 days in jail, or both.

The Department of Law has no position on the amount of penalty imposed. Their suggestion is that the legislation specifically define the class of penalties involved. Representative Pourchot's office has suggested that the penalty upon conviction be a class A misdemeanor.

Draft

Hein

Original sponsor: Pourchot

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IN THE HOUSE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 35 (State Affairs)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to state regulation of fireworks;
and providing for an effective date."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

* Section 1. AS 18.72.010(a) is amended to read:

(a) The sale, ~~offer~~ offer to sell, possession with intent to
sell, or manufacture of dangerous fireworks at wholesale or retail for
a ~~ANY~~ purpose other than industrial, agricultural, wildlife control
or public display purposes is prohibited.

* Sec. 2. AS 18.72.010(c) is amended to read:

(c) All dangerous fireworks shall be purchased from a fireworks
wholesaler licensed as such in this state. A ~~NO~~ fireworks whole-
saler may not sell dangerous fireworks to anyone, unless the wholesaler
HE has a currently valid permit required by the fire safety code,
the number of which shall be affixed to each record of sale by the
[FIREWORKS] wholesaler, and maintained as a permanent record of the
sale.

* Sec. 3. AS 18.72.030(a) is amended to read:

(a) A person who desires to sell fireworks at wholesale in the
state shall first make verified application for a license to the state
fire marshal on forms provided by the state fire marshal [HIM]. The
application shall be accompanied by an annual license fee of \$50.

* Sec. 4. AS 18.72.040 is amended to read:

Sec. 18.72.040. PENALTIES (VIOLATION) A person who recklessly
[KNOWINGLY AND WILFULLY] fails to comply with a provision of this

1 chapter or fireworks regulations adopted in the fire safety code is
2 guilty of a class A misdemeanor [AND UPON CONVICTION IS PUNISHABLE BY
3 A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$500, OR BY IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN SIX
4 MONTHS, OR BY BOTH]. Each day of noncompliance constitutes a separate
5 offense.

6 * Sec. 5. AS 18.72.050 is repealed and reenacted to read:

7 Sec. 18.72.050. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter and in fireworks
8 regulations adopted in the state fire safety code

9 (1) "cone fountain" means a cardboard or heavy paper cone
10 containing not more than 50 grams of pyrotechnic composition and that
11 has the same effect as a cylindrical fountain;

12 (2) "cylindrical fountain" means a cylindrical tube not
13 more than three-fourths of an inch (19 mm) inside diameter, containing
14 up to 75 grams of pyrotechnic composition, that may be supported on a
15 base or spike or may be hand-held and that, upon ignition, produces a
16 shower of colored sparks and, sometimes, a whistling effect;

17 (3) "dangerous fireworks" includes all fireworks that are
18 not defined as salable fireworks;

19 (4) "dipped stick" means a stick or wire coated with not
20 more than 100 grams of pyrotechnic composition, or if containing
21 perchlorate or chlorate salts, not more than five grams of pyrotechnic
22 composition, and that produces a shower of sparks upon ignition;

23 (5) "fire safety code" means the fire safety code of the
24 state adopted and administered by the division of fire prevention of
25 the Department of Public Safety;

26 (6) "fireworks" means a composition or device designed to
27 produce a visible or an audible effect by combustion, deflagration or
28 detonation, and that meets the definition of "common" or "special"
29 fireworks as set out in the hazardous materials regulations of the

1 United States Department of Transportation, but does not include

2 (A) toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns, or other devices
3 in which paper or plastic caps manufacture, packed, and shipped
4 in accordance with United States Department of Transportation
5 regulations; and

6 (B) model rockets and model rocket motors designed,
7 sold, and used for the purpose of propelling recoverable aero
8 models;

9 (7) "flitter sparkler" means a narrow paper tube filled
10 with pyrotechnic composition that produces color and sparks upon
11 ignition; this device does not have a fuse for ignition; the paper at
12 one end of the tube is ignited to make the device function;

13 (8) "ground spinner" means a small device similar to wheel
14 in design and effect and placed on the ground and ignited; a shower of
15 sparks and color is produced by the rapidly spinning device;

16 (9) "illuminating torch" means a cylindrical tube contain-
17 ing not more than 100 grams of pyrotechnic composition, that may be
18 supported on a base or spike or may be hand-held and that, upon igni-
19 tion, produces a colored fire;

20 (10) "recklessly" has the meaning given in AS 11.81.900(a)-
21 (3);

22 (11) "salable fireworks" includes only the following United
23 States Department of Transportation common fireworks:

24 (A) cone fountains;

25 (B) cylindrical fountains;

26 (C) dipped sticks;

27 (D) flitter sparklers;

28 (E) ground spinners;

29 (F) illuminating torches;

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(G) wheels;

(12) "wheel" means a pyrotechnic device attached to a post or tree by means of a nail or string, containing a total pyrotechnic composition of not more than 60 grams in each driver unit or 240 grams in each complete wheel, and that, upon ignition, revolves and produces a shower of color and sparks and, sometimes, a whistling effect.

* Sec. 6. AS 18.72.060 is amended to read:

Sec. 18.72.060. APPLICATION OF CHAPTER. This chapter and fireworks regulations adopted under the fire safety code supersede the provisions of an ordinance adopted by a city or borough, whether before or after May 23, 1969, that [WHICH] are less restrictive than this chapter or the code. However, nothing in this section affects the authority of a city or organized borough under other law to prohibit or regulate more restrictively than this chapter the offering for sale, exposure for sale, sale, use, or explosion of fireworks.

* Sec. 7. AS 18.72.060 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(b) This chapter does not apply to

(1) the sale, and use in emergency situations, of pyrotechnic signaling devices and distress signals for marine, aviation, and highway use;

(2) the retail sale and use of explosives or signaling flares used in the course of ordinary business or industry;

(3) gold star producing sparklers that contain no magnesium or chlorate;

(4) toy snakes that contain no mercury;

(5) smoke novelties and party novelties that contain less than 0.25 grain of explosive mixture;

(6) shells or cartridges used as ammunition in firearms;

(7) blank cartridges used for a theatrical or other

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entertainment production, or for signal or ceremonial purposes in sporting events or by military organizations.

* Sec. 8. This Act takes effect July 15, 1987.

Alaska State Legislature

REPRESENTATIVE
PAT POURCHOT

HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE ON OIL AND GAS



ANCHORAGE
P O BOX 104836
ANCHORAGE, AK 99510
(907) 338-2425

JUNEAU
POUCH V
STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, AK 99811
(907) 465-3712

House of Representatives

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 20, 1985

TO: M. Mike Miller, Chair
House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Representative Pat Pourchot 

SUBJECT: CSHB 35 (SA) Relating to the Regulation of Fireworks

Attached, please find the State Affairs CS for HB 35, which relates to the regulation of fireworks, and which has a second referral to Judiciary.

My intention in sponsoring this bill is to give substance to the existing municipal restrictions on the use and sale of fireworks. While most major municipalities have complete bans on the sale and use of fireworks, readily obtained fireworks in nearby areas effectively prevent enforcement. The measure does not restrict all fireworks sales as do most municipalities, but it does ban on a statewide basis the most dangerous and most objectionable ones, firecrackers and skyrockets.

The State Affairs Committee held three hearings on the bill, including a statewide teleconference. It is my belief that the CS addresses the major substantive concerns raised by the committee and the public. Major changes to the bill include:

- * The effective date has been postponed to December 31, 1985, to enable retailers to liquidate inventories of fireworks which will be prohibited with the enactment of HB 35. Many profitable products to the fireworks retailers (fountains, cones, ground spinners) will continue to be allowed to be sold under the bill.
- * Flitter sparklers and ground spinners have also been included as salable fireworks. This was done at the urging of the fireworks industry interests who asked that additional fireworks be added to the salable list. This conforms the bill to those state laws allowing the full array of "safe and sane" fireworks.
- * At the suggestion of the Department of Law, several amendments were added to conform to other statutes dealing with restrictions of controlled substances. These include prohibiting the possession with the

intent to sell dangerous fireworks, specifying the class of penalties involved, and using the term "recklessly" rather than "willfully and knowingly." These changes conform to standard drafting styles.

I would most appreciate the committee's early consideration of this bill.

Attachment

PJP:RJR:jl

COMMITTEE REPORT
HOUSE

(7)

FURTHER: Judiciary

1/14/85

Date: 3/14/85

The Committee on State Affairs has had HB 35

"An Act relating to state regulation of fireworks; and providing for an effective date."

under consideration and recommends:

do pass do not pass

do pass with attached amendments(s)

replace with CS for HB 35 same title new title

and recommends do pass

AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" New Fiscal Note

reports it back without recommendation Zero Fiscal Note Attached

referred to the _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

W. O. [Signature]
[Signature]
W. A. [Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
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MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

[Signature]
CHAIRMAN

CS House Bill 35 (State Affairs)

An Act Relating to State Regulation of Fireworks

House Bill 35 does:

- Prohibit the sale of certain fireworks, such as firecrackers, skyrockets, bottle rockets and other aerial exploding devices.

House Bill 35 does not:

- Restrict the permitted public displays of fireworks which have been approved by the State Fire Marshall;
- Prohibit the sale of cone and cylindrical fountains, dipped sticks, sparklers, wheels, ground spinners, and flitter wheels;
- prohibit the sale of smoke and party novelties, including toy snakes;
- Prohibit the sale of toy cap pistols, toy canes, or toy guns;
- Prohibit the sale and use of emergency signaling devices; nor
- Prohibit the sale and use of recoverable model rockets and their propellants.

HB 35: JUSTIFICATION

Most municipalities in Alaska prohibit the use and sale of all fireworks. These municipalities include: the Municipality of Anchorage, the City of Fairbanks, the Fairbanks North Star Borough, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the Ketchikan Gateway Borough and the Cities of Ketchikan, Seward, Cordova, Soldotna, and Valdez. However, the unorganized areas of the state do not restrict use and sale. Without exception, there are violations in the municipalities due to availability of fireworks just across their boundaries.

HB 35 is intended to give substance to the restrictions imposed by these municipalities, by prohibiting on a statewide basis, firecrackers, bottle rockets, and skyrockets. The bill does not restrict the permitted public fireworks displays, approved by the State Fire Marshall. It allows for the sale and use of novelty fireworks, including glow worms and snakes, toy pistols, and toy cap guns.

The state statutes would not be as restrictive as most of the municipal prohibitions already on the books which provide for total bans on fireworks. The sale of sparklers, ground fountains, wheels, spinners and flitter sparklers (i.e., safe, nonexploding fireworks) would be allowed.

Thirty-six other states have restrictions on fireworks equal to or more restrictive than that which HB 35 proposes. This bill is modeled after Kentucky's statutes, the most recent state to revise its fireworks laws.

INJURIES/FIRES

- Fireworks have become a significant public safety problem.

United States

- In 1983, 8,277 injuries resulted from fireworks; 60 percent injured were children under age 15. (Consumer Product Safety Commission)
- From 1974 to 1983, 74,000 fireworks related injuries. (Consumer Product Safety Commission)

Alaska

- From 1980 to 1984, 141 fireworks-caused fires resulted in \$669,400 in damages. [Alaska National Fire Incidence Reporting System (ANFIRS)].
- \$400,000 fire in Metlakatla--fireworks were the cause (ANFIRS).

- A 339 acre fire near Soldotna cost \$90,000 to extinguish (ANFIRS).

Anchorage

- In 1984, 632 complaints to the Anchorage Police Department relating to the illegal use of fireworks. (Anchorage Police Department)
- Twenty-six minor fires on July Fourth in a 24 hour period-- caused by fireworks.

Fireworks retailers are not going to be put of business. The 49 licensed retailers may continue to sell cones, fountains, sparklers, and novelties, which are among the primary sources of their income.

There are 49 fireworks retailers, holding 130 permits. Retail permits are \$5.00 each. Of the ten wholesale permit holders, five are from out-of-state. These permits are \$50.00 each.

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

POUCH Y STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
907 465 3800

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

M E M O R A N D U M

January 31, 1985

SUBJECT: Sectional analysis of HB 35
TO: Representative Pat Pourchot
FROM: Edward H. Hein *EHA*
Legislative Counsel

Section 1 inserts the word "purposes" on page 1, line 12, for clarity.

Section 2 makes changes to conform to proper drafting style.

Section 3 eliminates the personal pronoun "him" on page 1, line 24, to conform to proper drafting style.

Section 4 changes to mental state required for conviction of a violation of AS 18.72 to conform with the mental states recognized under the criminal code, AS 11.

Section 5 replaces some existing definitions of specific kinds of fireworks with definitions adapted from the Kentucky Revised Statutes that do not change the technical requirements in the existing definitions, but do add language describing the behavior or effects of the fireworks. The definition of "fireworks" at page 2, line 24, is changed from the existing circular definition to a meaningful generic definition of fireworks, as adapted from Kentucky law. The definition of "salable fireworks" at page 3, line 11, is a substantial change from existing law. Currently, Alaska law defines as salable fireworks all class C common fireworks, which includes explosive and aerial devices such as firecrackers, roman candles and skyrockets, among others. The new definition of "salable fireworks" in this bill limits them to five non-aerial, non-explosive devices, all of which are individually defined in the section. By so changing the definition of salable fireworks, the bill would significantly limit the kinds of fireworks that may be lawfully sold to the general public. In local areas of the

Representative Pat Pourchot
January 31, 1985
Page 2

state even these may have been prohibited from sale to the public by ordinance.

Section 6 makes a change at page 3, line 27, to conform to proper drafting style.

Section 7 provides that state regulation of fireworks under AS 18.72 does not apply to seven situations in which devices are used that otherwise might be considered fireworks and thereby regulated under the chapter.

Section 8 provides an immediate effective date.

EHH:ojb
J11/043

Alaska State Legislature

REPRESENTATIVE
PAT POURCHOT

HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE ON OIL AND GAS



ANCHORAGE
P O BOX 104836
ANCHORAGE, AK 99510
(907) 338-2425


JUNEAU
POUCH V
STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU AK 99811
(907) 465-3712

House of Representatives

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 10, 1985

TO: Mike Miller, Chairman
House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Representative Pat Pourchot 

SUBJECT: HB 35, Regulation of Fireworks

Mike, as you know I have been pushing for the above bill which would ban the sale of certain dangerous fireworks on a statewide level.

While virtually all municipalities now have ordinances against all fireworks, there are a few areas of the state where "anything goes." This situation obviously results in tremendous problems, like in Anchorage where people simply drive "up the road" and bring illegal fireworks into town.

The last major municipality to allow all fireworks, the Kenai Peninsula Borough, recently held an election where a fireworks ban advisory vote was passed by the voters. The Borough Assembly is to act next week on some type of restriction.

However, in the case of Anchorage and Fairbanks there is still a major problem stemming from sales in the unincorporated area around Glennallen and Nenana. Thus, statewide restrictions are still needed.

I want to stress again that HB 35 restricts only certain types of fireworks, not all fireworks. Only the most dangerous fireworks, fire-crackers and aerial fireworks (like skyrockets), would be banned. Last year we heard considerable testimony in the House State Affairs Committee from municipalities, police and fire officials on the dangerous, costly and nuisance effects of fireworks use.

I would greatly appreciate your attention on this bill and hearings by the Judiciary Committee early in the upcoming session.

Enclosures

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Anchorage Times - July 5

Seward boy dies after fireworks explode in truck cab on road

by Earl Swift
and Christopher Jarvis
Times Writers

A Seward boy died at an Anchorage hospital Friday after fireworks he and his family were carrying in a truck exploded and set the pickup afire.

Wesley Jones, 5, was declared dead at Providence Hospital at 2:08 p.m. Friday, about 23 hours after he suffered severe burns in the accident on Seward's Bear Creek Road.

Alaska State Trooper spokesman Paul Edscorn said the boy was apparently injured as he, his two siblings, his parents and a family friend rode in a 1979 Ford Club Cab truck after buying fire-

works at a stand on the town's outskirts.

Edscorn said Wesley, his 4-year-old stepsister, Camille Castillo, and his 6-year-old brother, Louis, were riding in the truck's back seat while their father, 41-year-old Kenneth Jones, rode up front with their mother, Linda Jones, and the driver, Seward resident Michael Corcoran.

As the vehicle traveled down Bear Creek Road, Edscorn said, the newly-purchased fireworks ignited.

"They have determined that there was a fairly large quantity of fireworks both in the front and rear seats — actually on the floor

in the front and rear," Edscorn said.

While the pyrotechnics exploded and flames swept through the truck's large cab, Corcoran and the elder Jones jumped from the truck and pulled the children from the pickup, Edscorn said.

Both men suffered burns to their hands and arms in the process, Edscorn said, and Jones was still hospitalized at Providence late Friday in serious, but stable, condition.

Louis Jones and Camille Castillo — airlifted to Providence with their father and Wesley after they were initially treated at Seward General Hospital —

See Explosion, page B-2

Explosion

Continued from page B-1

were listed in serious condition late Friday, hospital officials said.

Linda Jones was not injured, he said.

Edscorn said details of the incident remained sketchy Friday, because there were few witnesses to the fire besides its victims.

Still unknown, he said, was the cause of the fireworks' ignition.

"They're all gone," he said. "At this point, we just don't know."

Bear Creek Volunteer Fire Department Chief Len Weimar said his men found the truck burning after the blaze was reported about 4 p.m.

Doctors busy with victims of fireworks

By ROBERT FURLOW
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As traditional as July Fourth fireworks, day-after reports of firecracker injuries spread Friday as doctors who try to repair the damage sought greater awareness of dangers involved — and perhaps a national ban.

Dr. Sloane Wilson, a Little Rock, Ark., ophthalmologist, commenting during a break in a day of surgery on several accident victims, said: "When children lose their eyes it's a tragedy, and most of them simply aren't aware of the risk."

Wilson said he doubted a federal ban would be forthcoming. But he has begun a national survey on behalf of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, hoping to get a better idea of just how many injuries fireworks do cause and whether there is much difference between states that do and don't have laws limiting or banning sales and use.

Estimates by his and other medical groups now put the yearly injury toll at between 14,000 and 20,000, many of them around the fourth of July.

Dr. Joe Greensher, a Long Island, N.Y., pediatrician who is head of an accident prevention committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics, said, "There should be federal involvement," including a ban on general use of all but the smallest fireworks.

But he, too, said congressional action was unlikely, especially "with the present climate of letting business do things voluntarily."

"It's been a national problem for quite a number of years," he said in a telephone interview. "Here's another July Fourth gone by, and you see the reports," he added, noting in particular a news account he'd just heard of a 4-year-old Yonkers, N.Y., boy who'd lost parts of two fingers when a firecracker exploded in his hand.

Wilson, also speaking by telephone, said he had just been working on a 16-year-old boy who almost surely had lost his sight in one eye after being injured in a playful "fireworks war" in which teen-agers fire little firecracker rockets at each other.

Such little firecrackers, legal in many states, can reach a speed of 50 mph in a few feet, and erratic construction makes aim a guessing game, Wilson said.

A deaf ear

IT'S ALMOST unpatriotic to be concerned about the hazards inherent in the use of fireworks. After all, they're part of the nation's heritage — Fourth of July celebrations, state fairs, big festivals, carnivals and so on. Anyone who opposes the unrestricted use of fireworks finds himself in an uncomfortable position.

Yet the nagging thought persists that fireworks are dangerous and, as population increases, it makes more and more sense to limit fireworks to exhibitions staged by professional handlers.

THAT'S OUR VIEW from Anchorage. The view from Soldotna, where the Kenai Peninsula Borough sits, is quite different. Despite an overwhelming October advisory vote to the contrary,

the borough assembly decided this week to allow continued public sale and use of fireworks.

In that same election, Kenai voters rejected a compromise that would have imposed a seasonal ban on fireworks — opting, instead, for the year-round prohibition.

THE BOROUGH assembly now has proposed an ordinance calling for a seasonal ban. It will be voted on Dec. 17.

The assembly could wind up doing exactly the opposite of what the people said in those advisory votes two months ago. If nothing else, that may ensure that the fireworks issue on the Kenai Peninsula will remain an explosive one for some time to come.

Anchorage Times Advertiser
12-5-83

Fireworks ban likely after October public advisory vote

Continued from Page B-1

period between June 25 and July 5, outlaw sales to minors and outlaw the sale of sky-rockets.

"The vote was not a true representation of what the people really want," said Tom Patmore of Clarr Gulch. "The 3,307 people who voted for a total ban are only one-fourteenth of the borough's total population, only one-

sixth of the borough's registered voters and represent only 33 percent of the turnout" at the last election.

Kerry Martin of Seward viewed the income of the advisory ballot differently. "Those that didn't vote gave up their rights," Martin said. "They don't care one way or the other. The people want a full ban on fireworks." Assemblywoman Karen

McGahan, a staunch opponent of past efforts to regulate fireworks, agreed.

Before the election "we made it clear that we would accept the vote, that we would go the way the voters decided," McGahan said.

McGahan voted against a substitute ordinance that would have allowed winter fireworks sales. The assembly voted unanimously to schedule a public hearing on a

year-round ban.

Approval of the proposed ordinance will mark the second time this year that the assembly has voted to ban the sale and use of fireworks on the Peninsula.

Last spring, Borough Mayor Stan Thompson vetoed a similar measure. Since the advisory vote, however, Thompson has said he's not likely to veto a fireworks ban.

Fireworks ban nears approval

By RONNIE CHAPPELL
Daily News reporter

SOLDOTNA — Despite the pleas of distraught fireworks vendors, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Tuesday took the first step toward outlawing the sale and use of firecrackers, bottle rockets and other black-powder novelties.

Introduction of the ordinance came a month after an advisory vote in which Peninsula residents called for strict controls on the sale and use of fireworks.

The assembly will take final action on the measure Dec. 3.

"From the advisory vote it's clear that voters want fireworks restrictions, but what restrictions is not clear," said Louie March, president of the Alaska Fireworks Association.

Forty-four percent of those who participated in the advisory vote endorsed a total ban, while 38 percent favored seasonal restrictions.

March urged the assembly to restrict sales to a 10-day

See Page B-3, FIREWORKS

Anch Times 7-15-85

A ban on fireworks

ONE OF THESE days all local governments in Alaska will do what most of the cities already have done, and that's ban the private use of fireworks. Maybe the state will have to do the job through a simple bit of legislation that makes the old-fashioned pyrotechnics illegal.

Fireworks have been a part of America's heritage for a couple hundred years. But the fact is they've become too dangerous to be allowed, outside of professionally staged events. Those should be enough.

IN ANCHORAGE, fireworks have been banned for many years and their absence hasn't been all that hard to live with. But they're still permitted in other areas close by. The Kenai Peninsula is a ready example. It was there, near Seward, that a fireworks explosion in a camper took the life of a little girl on the Fourth of July

weekend.

Every year, it seems, someone is badly burned or disfigured or fatally injured while playing with fireworks. They just aren't worth the pain and suffering and grief.

THERE ARE THOSE who will argue that making fireworks illegal would be just one more erosion of the rights and liberties of individual citizens. Maybe it would be, but sometimes the greater public good must prevail.

We could still have fireworks — in all the public displays and exhibitions anybody would be willing to pay for. The job could be handled by professionals who know the perils involved.

But for the safety of other little girls — and little boys and their parents and friends — our Independence Day celebrations can do without people tossing firecrackers around.

Firecracker sets van afire on Ridgecrest

*Tundra
Drums
7/11/85*

A 1975 Chevy suburban was the only Bethel victim of fire cracker related incidents over the Fourth of July holiday.

Police said the vehicle caught fire in the post office parking lot after a 17-year-old juvenile tossed a fire cracker bottle rocket into a puddle near the car. The puddle apparently had some sort of flammable liquid in it,

and the fire cracker explosion caused it to catch fire.

The car, which belonged to the juvenile's parents, caught fire as well and officials estimated damage at at least \$2,500.

The incident, which happened on Saturday, is still under investigation but no charges have been filed, police said.

STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE PAT POURCHOT
BEFORE THE
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION OF HB 35, STATE REGULATION OF FIREWORKS

Madame Chair, Members of the Committee:

Thank You for the opportunity to comment on House Bill 35.

I like fireworks; I always have. I enjoyed shooting them off to commemorate Independence Day when I was a young boy. I particularly enjoy viewing fireworks displays with my family at Fur Rendezvous and on the Fourth of July. But as much fun and as great a tradition as shooting fireworks is, their misuse has become a big problem.

Municipalities around Alaska have addressed this by prohibiting the use and sale of all fireworks. The Municipality of Anchorage, City of Fairbanks, Fairbanks North Star Borough, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Ketchikan Gateway Borough and Cities of Ketchikan, Seward, Cordova, Soldotna, and Valdez have all prohibited use and sale of fireworks within their boundaries. The Kenai Peninsula Borough is scheduled to vote on this issue within the month.

During much of June and July, in any of our major cities, you would never know fireworks were banned with the frequent aerial displays and explosions going on all over town both day and night. This is largely because any and all types of fireworks, including firecrackers, are legally bought and sold outside these municipalities, from adjacent areas governed only by state fireworks laws.

This bill is necessary to reduce the availability of the most dangerous and objectionable fireworks and to help enforce restrictions imposed by most municipalities. The bill would ban the sale statewide of firecrackers, bottle rockets, and skyrockets. The bill would continue to permit the sale of many safer, nonexploding fireworks, including sparklers, cones and wheels.

In no way does the bill restrict the permitted public fireworks displays, approved by the State Fire Marshall. The bill also allows sale and use of novelty fireworks, including glow worms and snakes, toy pistols, and toy cap guns. The state statutes, as amended by this bill, would not be as restrictive as most of the municipal prohibitions already on the books.

Thirty-five other states have restrictions on fireworks equal to or more restrictive than that which I have

proposed. This bill is modeled after one of the most recent such laws which was enacted in Kentucky.

Fireworks have become a significant public safety and nuisance problem. The Consumer Product Safety Commission reported that nationwide there were 8,277 injuries in 1983 from fireworks; 60 percent of those persons injured were children under age 15. Since 1974 there have been 74,000 fireworks related injuries.

In Alaska, since 1980, there have been 141 fireworks-caused fires, resulting in almost three-quarters of a million dollars in property damage. In Anchorage alone, last year, there were over 600 complaints to the Anchorage Police Department relating to the illegal use of fireworks, and there were 26 minor fires on July Fourth--caused by fireworks.

Some persons will suggest that this bill is serving to restrict personal freedom--they are right, and I agree. But, sometimes it is essential for government to step in and restrict activities when public health and safety are concerned.

Look at alcohol, for example. In response to alcohol abuse in our communities, government entities have raised the

legal drinking age; limited the business hours of taverns and liquor stores; and, in some rural communities, prohibited its importation and banned its presence--all efforts to reduce its availability. The Legislature is now considering banning a person's "right" to drink alcohol in a vehicle. I think you will agree that these efforts are justified and have been effective in helping to reduce alcohol related problems.

Like alcohol, with growing populations and increased use, the misuse of fireworks has become a significant public safety problem and nuisance. Regulation, as proposed in this bill is reasonable and fair. Fireworks retailers are not going to be put out of business. The 49 licensed retailers may continue to sell fountain, sparklers, and novelties, which I understand, are among the primary sources of their income.

I have heard one complaint about the bill which I think has merit. Retailers may have already stocked inventories of fireworks which would be banned by this bill. If this is true, I am amenable to working with them to address that specific concern.

Fireworks restriction is a concern which has been addressed by no less than three-quarters of the population of Alaska

- through the municipal prohibitions. Every municipality I have contacted, supports this bill.

I am available to answer any questions which you, the committee or our citizens participating via teleconference may have.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on this issue.

Alaska

Position Paper

House Bill 35 - An act relating to state regulation of fireworks and providing for an effective date.

The Alaska Fire Chiefs Association supports the concept of this Bill in its effort to reduce the Alaska fire loss and injury rate.

It is without question that fireworks when mishandled do cause fires and injuries. But there is concern among the State Fire Chiefs as to whether this Bill will resolve the problem or become another unenforcible statute on the books. Of major concern also "is denial of unsafe things better than education of the user?" Our concern is not with the responsible user but with the uneducated and the irresponsible.

When we look in depth at available statistics, we find the problem is with noise late at night and early in the morning. Should there be a curfew?

The injury to the young (under age 16) is due to lack of supervision. Generally possession of fireworks by the young is unknown by responsible adults. Should we prohibit sales to ages under 16? Injuries to ages 16 and older are due to lack of education.

Fires are caused mostly by the uneducated and the young. Why? The thoughts of the Fire Service are that anybody can buy, locally or with little effort, anything they want. If what they got was illegal, it will be used illegally by young people, without parent's knowledge and by older persons in defiance of the law.

It is well recognized that there is point and counterpoint to every issue. The structure of this Bill is of vital concern to the Fire Service. This Bill has great merit in its concept to protect people and property but it challenges the people's right they have had for centuries, to celebrate with "gusto".

There is no question that bottle rockets, sky rockets, and firecrackers should not be allowed in the State. ~~We also believe the Bill should be carefully worded to state what cannot be sold, with less concentration on what can be sold.~~

POSITION PAPER

"HOUSE BILL 35 - An act relating to state regulation of fireworks, and providing for an effective date.

The Department of Public Safety supports this bill and any other measures that would help reduce Alaska's fire losses that keep our state first on the lists of property losses and deaths by fire in the entire United States. However, we believe this bill falls short of what is really needed; that is a total ban on the sale of "salable" or so-called "safe and sane" fireworks. Short of that, we will offer an amendment that will tighten up on the sale of fireworks.

The Alaska-National Fire Incident Reporting System (ANFIRS) indicates that, over the last 5 years, 141 fireworks caused fires occurred, with property losses approaching \$700,000. No casualties were reported. Unfortunately, we do not have a burn/injury registry program, so we cannot give you data on the numbers of people who are injured by fireworks and seek treatment at hospital, clinics and doctor's offices. The Consumer Products Safety Commission reported 8,277 fireworks caused injuries nationwide in 1983. 74,000 were injured over the 1974-1983 10 year period.

California and Oregon report that 1.5 percent of their fire losses are fireworks related. When you consider Alaska's losses, please remember our small statistical base. There were 130 retail sales permits and 7 wholesale permits issued in 1983 in Alaska. We do not know the quantities sold.

So, what is the answer? It is apparent that local control to enforce bans on the use of fireworks has failed. The following items highlight some of the more graphic incidents that have occurred over the last several years (see also copies of news clippings, attached):

- * Wildlands fire caused by fireworks costs \$5,000 to extinguish near Hope.

- * 339 acre fire near Soldotna costs \$90,000 to extinguish.

- * \$400,000 + structure in Metlakatla destroyed by fireworks caused fire.

- * 26 "minor" fires reported in Anchorage during a 24 hour period--cause?--fireworks.

- * Anchorage couple awakened when bottle rockets shot through window, igniting bed and living room carpet.

Public education will be suggested to teach the safe use of fireworks. The Journal of the American Medical Association (June 15, 1984) reports that "public education doesn't seem to help curtail the burns, cuts, and other injuries resulting from

fireworks accidents." When Washington changed its laws in 1982, legalizing fire crackers and some aerial devices, "they had a fair amount of public awareness," with a large fireworks safety education campaign. But, during the July 4 holiday after that change there were 82 injuries requiring emergency care--up from 39 a year earlier.

The National Safety Council says that a total ban on all fireworks--except those used by a professional pyrotechnician under controlled circumstances--is the best way to minimize fireworks-related injuries.

We cannot document any fireworks-related injuries in Alaska, but we have the details on property losses. Is more fire protection the answer? It seems ironic for the state to hand out millions of capital dollars for fire stations and equipment each year, and, at the same time to permit the sale of fireworks. That's like taking birth control pills after you're pregnant.

If legislation cannot be written to effect a total ban on the sale of "salable" fireworks, then we suggest this bill be amended to provide:

1. An increase in the amounts of public and property liability insurance.
2. A prohibition on the retail sale of "salable" fireworks by mail or telephone.
3. A limitation on the period of sales.
4. Sales to children under 16 years of age be prohibited.

Because the state licenses fireworks sales, we can be liable. Wrongful deaths create lawsuits of \$500,000; injuries such as the loss of eyesight are being settled for \$1,000,000 or more. The current limits of at least \$200,000 and \$50,000 are grossly inadequate.

The ability to purchase "salable" fireworks over the phone or by "mail order" totally destroys a local community's ability to ban sales and use.

A time limitation on the period of sales, such as from June 15 to July 6 of a calendar year will decrease the availability of fireworks, limiting their sales to the traditional holiday period.

Over 50 percent of the incidents in Alaska are attributable to "children with" as the ignition factor. Limiting sales to those persons over 15 years of age may reduce the number of incidents.

* * * * *

Most of the facts are here. The public (silent majority) seems to regard the use of fireworks as, not only a danger, but a nuisance. The Department of Public Safety is charged with the responsibility of developing ways and means of preventing fires. Give us the tools to do our job, if not a total ban, then a strengthening of the law.



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
BILL ANALYSIS

DEPARTMENT Public Safety	DIVISION Fire Prevention	BILL NUMBER HB 35	SPONSOR Representative Pourchot
DEPARTMENT POSITION Support with amendments.			
PREPARED BY Gordon E. Brunton <i>gub</i>	DATE 1/23/85	COMMISSIONER'S SIGNATURE	DATE

SUMMARY

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED BY BILL AST/FWP Enforcement Assistance Local Fire and Police Departments DNR - Division of Forestry	CONSTITUENT GROUP(S) AFFECTED BY BILL General Public
ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BILL Unknown	ORGANIZATIONAL OPPOSITION TO BILL Unknown

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE FISCAL NOTE ATTACHED

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE INTENT

Contact was first made by Mr. Ed Hein, Legislative Affairs attorney who was drafting the bill at the request of Representative Pat Pourchot. Mr. Hein indicated the illegal use of fireworks in Anchorage was creating nuisances.

ANALYSIS OF BILL/PROGRAM EFFECTS

Generally restricts the types of "salable" fireworks. Eliminates aerial devices and all firecrackers.

Makes minor editorial changes, i.e., eliminates gender references; uses "U.S. Department of Transportation" vs "I.C.C.".

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED

- I. Amend to effect a total ban on the sale of "salable fireworks."
- OR
- II. Amend to:
 - A. Increase the amounts of liability insurance.
 - B. Prohibit retail sale by telephone or mail order.
 - C. Limit sales to the period of June 15 - July 6.
 - D. Prohibit sales to persons under 16 years of age.

PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR ANALYSIS.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS. (cont'd)

HB 34. (cont'd)

The bill also changes population requirements for issuance of a new beverage dispensary or package store license or for relocation of that license. Currently a license may not be issued or transferred to a new location outside an incorporated city, a unified municipality, or an established village in a radius of five miles of the licensed premises or location of premises sought to be licensed if after issuance or transfer there would be more than one license for each 1,500 population. Rep. Miller's bill would prohibit issuance or relocation of the license outside those boundaries if there would be more than one license for each 3,000 population. The same increase in population limits would apply to licenses inside an established village, incorporated cities or unified municipalities if after the issuance or relocation, there would be more than one license for each 3,000 population inside the boundaries of the village, city or municipality (currently 1,500).

Introduced January 14 and referred to State Affairs, Judiciary, then Finance.

Fireworks
(rewriting
state law)

HOUSE BILL NO. 35, by Rep. Pourchot. Rewrites state law regulating the sale of fireworks. Would no longer allow sale of roman candles, skyrocket, helicopter type rockets, mines and shells, firecrackers with soft casings, and novelties consisting of two or more of the listed devices. The section of law defining the various types of fireworks is rewritten to more specifically describe those devices, and a new section is added to the law stating that the law does not apply to the sale and use in emergency situations of pyrotechnic devices and distress signals, the retail use of explosives, and certain types of novelty items that do not contain chemicals used in making fireworks. The law also does not apply to ammunition and blank cartridges.

Violation section is changed stating that a person who knowingly fails to comply with the law or fireworks regulations is guilty of a misdemeanor (currently a person who knowingly or wilfully fails to comply is guilty of a misdemeanor). Takes effect immediately.

Introduced January 14 and referred to State Affairs, then to Judiciary.

Appropriation
(special)
(Willow Creek
road access)

HOUSE BILL NO. 36, by Reps. Larson and Hurley. Makes a special appropriation in the amount of \$2,600,000 for payment as a grant to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to provide road access to Willow Creek, and to provide parking, camping, and boat launch facilities. Requires appropriation to be disbursed in accordance with law governing grants to municipalities. Takes effect immediately.

Introduced January 14 and referred to Community & Regional Affairs, then Finance.

POSITION PAPER

CS HB35

For "An Act relating to state regulation of fireworks; and providing for an effective date."

The Department of Health and Social Services supports the intent of this bill for two reasons:

- 1) Fireworks contribute to fire losses, as documented by the State Fire Marshall;
- 2) Fireworks cause injuries, often to children, although no one as yet has documented fireworks injuries in Alaska.

BACKGROUND

According to the Centers for Disease Control of the United States Public Health Service, the State of Washington experienced a significant increase in burns, eye injuries, lacerations, and other injuries in 1982, after fireworks were made legally available outside Indian reservations. Based on reports from 14 hospitals in nine counties on July 4, the total number of fireworks injuries increased from 39 in 1981 to 88 in 1982. Burns, which increased from 17 to 46, accounted for most of the difference, with eye injuries increasing from 10 to 15, and lacerations from 3 to 8.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates that 11,400 fireworks related injuries were treated at hospitals in 1981, with 8.8% subsequently being hospitalized. Approximately 45% of these injuries involved children under 14 years of age. Approximately 60% of the injuries were burns, and 25% were contusions, abrasions, and lacerations. Eye injuries account for some of the most disabling fireworks-related injuries.

The trend in fireworks-related injuries has been generally upward since 1975, when approximately 4,700 fireworks injuries were treated at hospitals.

Since 1966, the sale to consumers of large, Class B firecrackers, such as "cherry-bombs" and "M-80's," has been banned by Federal law because of the large amount of explosives they contain. In 1976, the Consumer Product Safety Commission lowered the permissible explosive charge in firecrackers to no more than 50 mg (0.772 grains) of powder and mandated performance, construction, and labeling specifications for all fireworks intended for public sale (collectively designated as Class C fireworks).

According to the National Fire Protection Association, the rate of injuries in States allowing many types of fireworks is more than seven times greater than that of states that ban all fireworks or allow only sparklers or snakes. The rate of fireworks related fires is 52 times greater.

POSITION PAPER/Department of Health & Social Services

Position Paper CS HB35
Page Two

The National Safety Council also reported 10 fireworks related deaths in 1980, verses 7 in 1979.

POSITION

The Department of Health and Social Services believes that restricting the sale of fireworks will result in reduced injuries, especially among children.

Recommended by: David Bruce For
Robert I. Fraser, M.D.
Director
Division of Public Health

Date: 3/18/85

Approved by: J.R. Pugh
John R. Pugh, Commissioner
Department of Health and
Social Services

Date: 3/19/85

STATE OF ALASKA 1985 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: FEB 1 1985

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 35
 Title: "An Act relating to state regulation of fireworks..."
 Sponsor: Repr. Pourchot
 Requestor: House State Affairs
 Date of Request: 1/28/85

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Department of Law
 Program Category Affected: Administration of Justice
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: Prosecution

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL						
----------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
----------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

This bill amends AS 18.72.010(a) by changing the definition of "salable fireworks" and making some minor changes to the existing statute that regulates the sale of fireworks. There are currently 7 wholesale dealers and about 130 retail dealers licensed to sell fireworks in the state. During the past several years there have been about 12 fireworks sales violations by licensed dealers. By further restricting the types of fireworks that may be sold, most of those that go bang will no longer be salable, this bill could result

Prepared By: Richard I. Pegues, Director Phone: 465-3672
 Division: Administrative Services Date: 1/30/85

Approved by Commissioner: Norman D. Gorsuch Date: 1/30/85
 Agency: Department of Law

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

FISCAL NOTE
HB 35
Page 2

ANALYSIS (Cont'd.)

in some additional misdemeanor prosecutions for violation of fireworks sales regulations. Based upon past experience, however, it does not appear that the increase in prosecution will be significant enough to warrant fiscal note costs. This is the type of bill that, when taken by itself, will not result in a fiscal impact. However, when taken in conjunction with other similar measures, bills of this nature divert prosecution resources from other more serious offenses because of their cumulative effect.

STATE OF ALASKA 1985 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: CS HB 35
 Title: An Act Relating to State regulation of fireworks...
 Sponsor: Representative Pourchot
 Requestor: _____
 Date of Request: 3/18/85

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Health & Social Services
 Program Category Affected: Public Health
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: State Health Services BRU, Adm. Services, Emergency Medical Services

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

Prepared By: Robert I. Fraser, M.D.
 Division: Public Health

Phone: 465-3090
 Date: March 18, 1985

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
 Agency: Health and Social Services

Date: 3/19/85 JCC

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agencies

STATE OF ALASKA 1985 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 35
 Title: State Regulation of
Fireworks
 Sponsor: Representative Pourchot
 Requestor: House State Affairs
 Date of Request: 1-28-85

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Public Safety
 Program Category Affected: _____
Public Protection
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected:
Fire Prevention

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	-0-					
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

Prepared By: G.E. Brunton *GB*
 Division: Fire Prevention

Phone: 465-4331
 Date: 1/23/85

Approved by: Commissioner *[Signature]*
 Agency: Public Safety

Date: 1-28-85

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

7/1/84

Department of Public Safety
Position Paper

HOUSE BILL 35 - An act relating to state regulation of fireworks, and providing for an effective date.

The Department of Public Safety supports this bill and any other measures that would help reduce Alaska's fire losses that keep our state first on the lists of property losses and deaths by fire in the entire United States.

The Alaska-National Fire Incident Reporting System (ANFIRS) indicates that, over the last 5 years, 141 fireworks caused fires occurred, with property losses approaching \$700,000. No casualties were reported. Unfortunately, we do not have a burn/injury registry program, so we cannot give you data on the numbers of people who are injured by fireworks and seek treatment at hospitals, clinics and doctor's offices. The Consumer Products Safety Commission reported 8,277 fireworks caused injuries nationwide in 1983. 74,000 were injured over the 1974-1983 10 year period.

California and Oregon report that 1.5 percent of their fire losses are fireworks related. When you consider Alaska's losses, please remember our small statistical base. There were 130 retail fireworks sales permits and 7 wholesale fireworks permits issued in 1983 in Alaska. We do not know the quantities of fireworks sold.

- * Wildlands fire caused by fireworks costs \$5,000 to extinguish near Hope.
- * 33rd degree fire near Soldotna costs \$90,000 to extinguish.
- * \$400,000 + structure in Metlakatla destroyed by fireworks caused fire.
- * 26 "minor" fires reported in Anchorage during a 24 hour period -- cause? -- fireworks.
- * Anchorage couple awakened when bottle rockets shot through window, igniting bed and living room carpet.

Public education will be suggested to teach the safe use of fireworks. The Journal of the American Medical Association (June 15, 1984) reports that "public education doesn't seem to help curtail the burns, cuts and other injuries resulting from fireworks accidents." When Washington changed its laws in 1982, legalizing firecrackers and some aerial devices, "they had a fair amount of public awareness," with a large fireworks safety education campaign. But, during the July 4 holiday after that change there were 82 injuries requiring emergency care--up from 39 a year earlier.

The National Safety Council says that a total ban on all fireworks--except those used by a professional pyrotechnician under controlled circumstances--is the best way to minimize fireworks-related injuries.

We recommend the following amendments:

1. An increase in the amounts of public and property liability insurance.
2. A prohibition on the retail sale of "salable" fireworks by mail or telephone.
3. A limitation on the period of sales.
4. Sales to children under 16 years of age be prohibited.

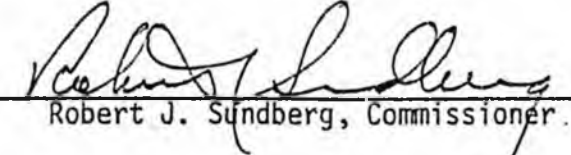
Because the state licenses fireworks sales, we maybe liable. Suit settlements for wrongful deaths are resulting in settlements averaging \$500,000. Settlements for wrongful injuries, such as the loss of eyesight, are being settled for \$1,000,000 or more.

The ability to purchase "salable" fireworks over the phone or by "mail order" totally destroys a local community's ability to ban sales and use.

A time limitation on the period of sales, such as from June 15 to July 6 of a calendar year will decrease the availability of fireworks, limiting their sales to the traditional holiday period.

Over 50 percent of the fireworks incidents in Alaska are attributable to "children playing with" as the ignition factor. Limiting sales to those persons over 15 years of age may reduce the number of incidents.

Most of the facts are here. The public seems to regard the use of fireworks as, not only a danger, but a nuisance. The Department of Public Safety is charged with the responsibility of developing ways and means of preventing fires. We urge passage of this bill with these amendments.


Robert J. Sundberg, Commissioner.

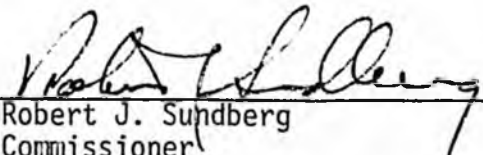
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
POSITION PAPER

C5HB 35 (SA) - "An act relating to State regulation of fireworks."

The Department of Public Safety supports passage of this bill.

The bill will prohibit the sale of many of those pyrotechnics devices that, in addition to creating nuisances, cause fires and injuries. The Department's position paper on the original bill summarizes these losses.

While there may be an increase in illegal sales, we predict that there will be a reduction in the number of fires and injuries caused by previously so-called "salable" fireworks.


Robert J. Sundberg
Commissioner

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

Pouch 7-005
Anchorage, Alaska 99510
PHC #E: (907) 276-2653

9-2150

February 7, 1985

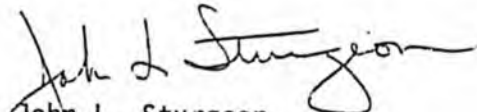
FEB 1 1985

House State Affairs Committee
Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Committee Members:

Please consider the enclosed position paper as testimony in support of
HB-35, relating to the State regulation of fireworks.

Sincerely,


John L. Sturgeon
State Forester

Enclosure

[Handwritten mark]

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
Position Paper

House Bill 35 - An act relating to State regulation of fireworks and providing for an effective date.

The Division of Forestry supports the intent of this bill in that it would help reduce the number of wildland fires caused by fireworks and, subsequently, reduce the threat to human life, property, and the cost associated with suppression action for those fires.

The Division of Forestry has consolidated statistics of fires which were confirmed starts by fireworks. These statistics are derived from the Division of Forestry, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service, thus representing the primary wildland fire suppression agencies of Alaska.

During 1982, 1983, and 1984, 73 fires were started by fireworks in the above listed agencies' protection areas. They burned over 389 acres and accumulated suppression costs over \$73,500.00. These fires typically occur in and near urban areas, posing a high risk threat to life and property.

Annually, over 400 wildland fires are started by human carelessness in Alaska with suppression costs averaging over \$3 million. House Bill 35 supports the fire prevention objectives for reducing human-caused fires and suppression costs.

FEB 5 1985

City of Valdez



VALDEZ FIRE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF
January 29, 1985

The Honorable Pat Pourchot
House of Representatives
Pouch V (Mail Stop 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Pourchot:

I am writing in support of HB 35. The City of Valdez has banned the use and possession of fireworks within its corporate boundaries for many years by adopting and enforcing the Uniform Fire Code.

Enforcement in the past three years has become very difficult as several fireworks stands set up just outside the city limits and sell to whomever passes by.

In August of 1983 the Valdez city council considered the repeal of the section pertaining to fireworks at the request of citizens wishing to use them. The council determined at that time that many more people were against fireworks, and, due to the serious injuries caused by them let the ordinance stand.

I highly support any legislation that will ban or severely restrict the use of fireworks in the State of Alaska. The damage done to the peace of mind of our citizens, their animals, injuries suffered and the fires that are started by fireworks are not justified by the so-called enjoyment of a few.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. McAlister
Fire Chief



National Safety Council

National Safety Council Policy on

USE OF FIREWORKS

POLICY

The National Safety Council opposes the use of fireworks by adults and children, except by professional pyrotechnicians under controlled conditions.

BASIS

The misuse of fireworks by adults and children continues to cause several thousand needless injuries and deaths each year. Such accidents occur in spite of legislation banning the sale of certain types of fireworks in many states, as well as recently enacted federal regulations.

Enforcement of these regulations is exceedingly difficult, or lax, and use of fireworks continues to be a common practice.

IMPLEMENTATION

The National Safety Council supports in principle the public displays of fireworks under controlled conditions, but advocates more stringent regulations prohibiting the sale and indiscriminate use by adults and children. It is very evident that present regulations have not achieved the predicted reduction in fires and in deaths and injuries to children and adults from fireworks.

The National Safety Council strongly urges appropriate federal and state agencies to rigidly enforce existing regulations prohibiting sales of fireworks or their ingredients.

And it encourages local and state authorities to more diligently enforce existing legislation banning the sale and use of fireworks by the general public.

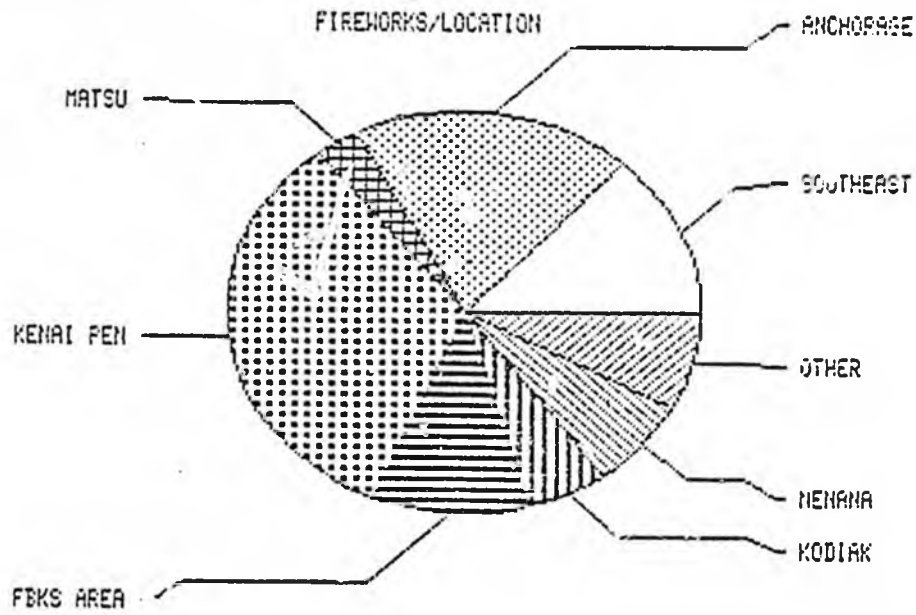
The National Safety Council calls upon all organizations and agencies concerned with the safety of the American public to intensify their educational efforts to inform adults and children regarding the hazards inherent in the use of fireworks.

LOCATION OF FIRES CAUSED

BY

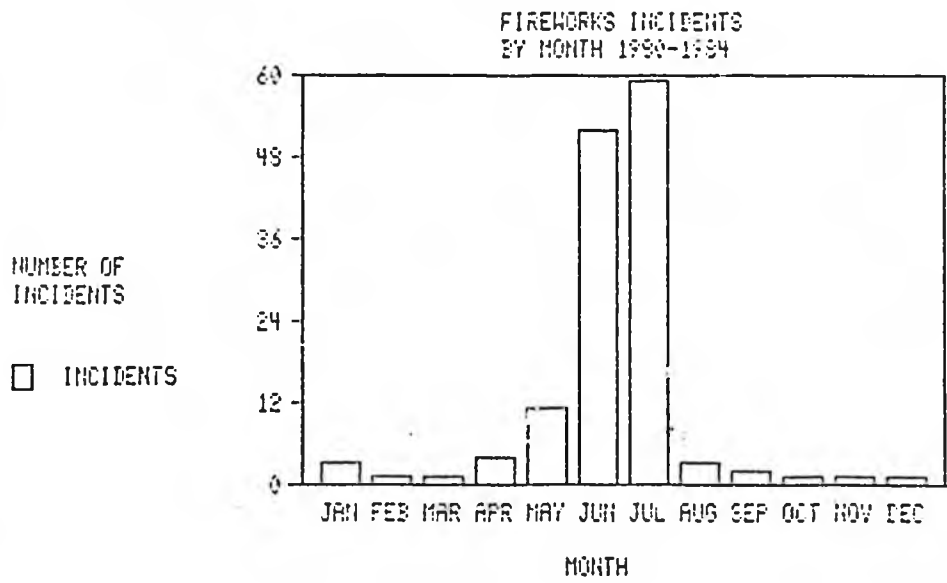
FIREWORKS

1980-1984



Source: ANFIRS

FIRES CAUSED BY
FIREWORKS
BY MONTH



Source: ANFIRS

KEY TO FIREWORKS SPECIAL REPORT (1/16/85)

FDID = Fire Department Identification Number

INCIDENT ID = Incident Number

FIXED PROPERTY USE

- 103 - Tavern
- 213 - Elementary School
- 215 - High School
- 411 - Single Family Dwelling
- 422 - 3-6 Unit Apartment
- 424 - Over 20 Unit Apartment
- 549 - Specialty Shop
- 573 - Motor Vehicle Repair, Paint Shop
- 591 - General Business Office
- 642 - Electric Transmission, Distribution System
- 648 - Sanitary Service
- 661 - Forest
- 664 - Tree (growing)
- 809 - Storage Property, Unclassified
- 856 - Log, Timber, Stored
- 884 - Heavy Machinery Storage
- 899 - General Item Storage
- 910 - Construction Property
- 911 - Building under Construction
- 915 - Vacant Property
- 931 - Open Land, Field
- 933 - Mailbox
- 936 - Vacant Log
- 939 - Outdoor Property, Not Classified
- 946 - Inland Water Area
- 951 - Railroad Right of Way
- 961 - Limited Access Highway
- 964 - Unpaved Street, Road
- 965 - Uncovered Parking Area

FORM OF HEAT OF IGNITION

- 63 - Fireworks
- 60 - Heat from Explosive, Fireworks; Insufficient Information to Classify Further
- 69 - Heat from Explosive, Fireworks, Not Classified Above

ANFIRS ONLINE MASTERFILE
SPECIAL REPORT
ALL INCIDENTS WITH FHI = 60, 63, OR 69 (FIREWORKS)

	FDID	INCIDENT ID	INCIDENT DATE	FIXED PROP. USE	EST. DOLLAR LOSS	CASUALTY NUMBER	FORM OF IGN.	TALLY
<i>JULIENNE</i>	11100	280127	7/29/82	661	600		63	
	FDID TOTAL				600			1
<i>LIHAKS</i>	12100	400036	7/05/84	931			63	
	FDID TOTAL							1
<i>KENNAKAW</i>	13000	000198	6/11/80	664			63	
	FDID TOTAL							1
<i>POND RICE</i>	13100	090003	7/07/80	661			63	
	FDID TOTAL							1
<i>ALYCEGATE</i>	13400	000036	6/16/80	931			63	
	13400	000037	6/19/80	856			63	
	13400	000038	6/21/80	411	3,000		63	
	13400	000043	6/29/80	931			63	
	13400	100078	6/09/81	411	100		63	
	13400	100080	6/13/81	411	100		63	
	13400	100090	7/17/81	591	515,000		63	
	FDID TOTAL				518,200			7
<i>CRUIE</i>	13500	300002	7/04/83	411			63	
	FDID TOTAL							1
<i>SITKA</i>	14000	000068	7/04/80	965			63	
	14000	100060	5/03/81	661			63	
	14000	280112	7/05/82	411	3,500		63	
	14000	400097	7/05/84	163	300		63	
	FDID TOTAL				3,800			4
<i>PERKINSBURG</i>	15000	280030	7/03/82	964			63	
	15000	300022	7/04/83	411			63	
	FDID TOTAL							2
<i>YAKUTAT</i>	16000	000003	6/14/80	591	2,000		69	
	FDID TOTAL				2,000			1
<i>SEWILLANBIL</i>	20000	090072	7/01/80	915			63	
	20000	300001	6/26/83	549	2,300		63	
	FDID TOTAL				2,300			2
<i>AMHERST</i>	23100	006633	2/02/80	962	20,000		60	
	23100	001501	5/14/80	964			63	
	23100	101607	5/30/81	951			69	
	23100	101917	6/21/81	911			63	
	23100	102174	7/10/81	213	10,000		60	
	23100	102699	8/25/81	931			63	
	23100	103125	10/02/81	809	2,000		60	
	23100	200193	1/16/82	884	15,000		60	

ANFIRS ONLINE MASTERFILE
SPECIAL REPORT
ALL INCIDENTS WITH FHI = 60, 63, OR 69 (FIREWORKS)

FDID	INCIDENT ID	INCIDENT DATE	FIXED PROP. USE	EST. DOLLAR LOSS	CASUALTY NUMBER	FORM OF IGN.	TALLY
23100	202131	6/21/82	946	100		63	
23100	202317	7/03/82	910	100		60	
23100	300001	1/01/83	965			63	
23100	301701	5/13/83	936			63	
23100	302628	7/04/83	936			63	
23100	302796	7/15/83	936			63	
23100	303063	7/31/83	965			63	
23100	401418	4/20/84	414			63	
23100	401959	5/18/84	917	60,000		63	
23100	402704	6/30/84	931			63	
23100	402770	7/04/84	965	2,700		63	
23100	402787	7/04/84	965			63	
23100	402793	7/04/84	936			63	
23100	402821	7/05/84	931			63	
FDID TOTAL				109,900			22
<i>ENDICOTT</i>							
23160	100021	7/05/81	931			63	
23160	400030	7/05/84	931			63	
23160	400031	7/05/84	931			63	
23160	400035	7/07/84	931			63	
FDID TOTAL							4
<i>SOUTH FORK</i>							
23500	280041	7/06/82	936			60	
FDID TOTAL							1
<i>VALDEZ</i>							
24100	300166	12/09/83	411			63	
FDID TOTAL							1
<i>GLENNVILLE</i>							
24300	400012	5/27/84	661			63	
FDID TOTAL							1
<i>LAKEES</i>							
25150	400043	3/28/84	936			63	
25150	400062	4/28/84	931			63	
FDID TOTAL							2
<i>WILLIS</i>							
25220	400003	7/01/84	931			63	
25220	400010	7/01/84	931			63	
FDID TOTAL							2
<i>KENNA</i>							
26100	181055	6/25/81	931			63	
26100	181061	7/02/81	936			63	
26100	181062	7/04/81	936			63	
26100	181063	7/04/81	936			63	
26100	300042	6/22/83	931			63	
26100	300045	6/25/83	936			63	
26100	300049	7/04/83	931			63	
26100	300053	7/10/83	936			63	
26100	400051	7/06/84	936			63	
FDID TOTAL							9

ANFIRS ONLINE MASTERFILE
SPECIAL REPORT
ALL INCIDENTS WITH FHI = 60, 63, OR 69 (FIREWORKS)

	FDID	INCIDENT ID	INCIDENT DATE	FIXED PROP. USE	EST. DOLLAR LOSS	CASUALTY NUMBER	FORM OF IGH.	TALLY
<i>MIRISKI</i>	26200	100032	7/04/81	931			63	
	26200	100033	7/04/81	931			63	
	26200	100034	7/06/81	931			63	
	26200	100036	7/08/81	931			63	
	26200	100038	7/08/81	931			63	
	26200	300050	6/06/83	931			63	
	26200	400043	7/06/84	422			63	
	26200	400044	7/06/84	931	1,000		63	
	26200	400049	8/12/84	915			63	
		FDID TOTAL				1,000		
<i>SILVER NIX</i>	26300	300027	6/02/83	931			63	
	26300	400032	5/18/84	931			63	
	26300	400035	6/02/84	931			63	
	26300	400036	6/03/84	931			63	
	26300	400041	6/12/84	931			63	
	26300	400055	7/16/84	931			63	
	26300	400064	8/14/84	931			63	
	FDID TOTAL							7
<i>COOPER LANDING</i>	26310	400005	6/14/84	664			63	
	26310	400007	6/21/84	664			63	
	26310	400008	6/30/84	664			63	
	FDID TOTAL							3
<i>RIDGEWAY</i>	26320	280011	7/05/82	899	10,000		63	
	26320	300020	6/20/83	661			63	
	26320	300022	6/25/83	661			63	
	26320	400012	5/27/84	661			60	
	26320	400013	6/03/84	661			69	
	FDID TOTAL				10,000			5
<i>SEWARD</i>	26400	400017	6/02/84	411			63	
	26400	400021	7/03/84	931			63	
	26400	400022	7/03/84	939			63	
	FDID TOTAL							3
<i>BEAR CREEK</i>	26401	181010	6/20/81	936			63	
	26401	400014	6/21/84	661			63	
	FDID TOTAL							2
<i>MOUSE PASS</i>	26410	400003	6/13/84	931			63	
	FDID TOTAL							1
<i>HOMER</i>	26500	079050	6/08/80	931			63	
	26500	180061	6/22/81	931			63	
	26500	180066	6/23/81	931			63	
	26500	300087	9/11/83	931			63	
	26500	400071	5/27/84	931			63	

ANFIRS ONLINE MASTERFILE
SPECIAL REPORT
ALL INCIDENTS WITH FHI = 60, 63, OR 69 (FIREWORKS)

	FDID	INCIDENT ID	INCIDENT DATE	FIXED PROP. USE	EST. DOLLAR LOSS	CASUALTY NUMBER	FORM OF IGN.	TALLY
	26500	400088	6/26/84	931			63	
	26500	400096	7/04/84	931			63	
	FDID TOTAL							7
<i>SELDONIA</i>	26600	400006	7/04/84	949			63	
	FDID TOTAL							1
<i>KODIAK</i>	28100	000082	6/22/80	931			63	
	28100	000087	6/28/80	931			63	
	28100	100080	6/23/81	931			63	
	28100	100081	6/25/81	573			63	
	28100	100083	7/01/81	931			63	
	28100	100088	7/04/81	965			63	
	28100	100090	7/06/81	931			63	
	28100	200002	1/05/82	424			63	
	FDID TOTAL							8
<i>DILLINGHAM</i>	29100	100002	7/04/81	931			63	
	29100	100003	7/04/81	931			63	
	29100	100005	7/05/81	931			63	
	29100	100006	7/06/81	931			63	
	FDID TOTAL							4
<i>ELLERBANKS</i>	31100	000183	4/03/80	411	18,500		63	
	31100	000667	11/04/80	422			63	
	31100	200432	6/22/82	648			69	
	31100	200641	9/24/82	215	300		69	
	31100	400587	7/11/84	933	30		63	
	FDID TOTAL							5
<i>WORTH FIELDS</i>	31300	400281	7/05/84	965			63	
	FDID TOTAL							1
<i>FT. WASHINGTON</i>	31400	100406	4/17/81	931			69	
	31400	100598	6/10/81	931			69	
	FDID TOTAL							2
<i>NORTH POLE</i>	31500	100047	6/11/81	424			63	
	31500	280051	5/21/82	215	100		63	
	31500	280053	5/26/82	215	600		63	
	FDID TOTAL							3
<i>NORTH STAR</i>	31600	300096	6/24/83	931	1,500		63	
	31600	400068	5/14/84	931			63	
	31600	400123	7/18/84	936			63	
	FDID TOTAL							3
<i>CINCINNATI GOLDSTREAM</i>	32500	280038	6/30/82	939	650		63	
	FDID TOTAL							1

ANFIRS ONLINE MASTERFILE
 SPECIAL REPORT
 ALL INCIDENTS WITH FHI = 60, 63, OR 69 (FIREWORKS)

	FDID	INCIDENT ID	INCIDENT DATE	FIXED PROP. USE	EST. DOLLAR LOSS	CASUALTY NUMBER	FORM OF IGH.	TALLY
<i>NEENAH</i>	34210	080052	7/02/80	951			63	
	34210	100011	6/17/81	931			63	
	34210	100012	6/21/81	931			63	
	34210	100013	6/23/81	931			63	
	34210	100014	7/04/81	931			63	
	34210	100015	7/04/81	931			63	
	34210	280014	6/06/82	931			63	
	34210	280017	6/26/82	931			63	
	34210	300027	6/24/83	961			63	
	34210	400019	5/25/84	931			63	
	FDID TOTAL							10
<i>TRI-VALLEY (nearby)</i>	34305	300031	6/25/83	642			63	
	FDID TOTAL							1
<i>TOK</i>	38100	000003	6/04/80	936			63	
	38100	000004	6/16/80	936			63	
	FDID TOTAL							2
FINAL TOTALS					662,460			141

141 RECORDS TOTALED

NOTES TO DECISIONS

This section represents an erroneous belief that cities are not liable in tort for negligence connected with fire-fighting activities. City of Fairbanks v. Schaible, Sup. Ct. Op. No. 97 (File Nos. 112, 113), 375 P.2d 201 (1962).

As a city which maintains a fire department may be held liable for injuries resulting from negligence con-

nected with the department's firefighting activities. City of Fairbanks v. Schaible, Sup. Ct. Op. No. 97 (File Nos. 112, 113), 375 P.2d 201 (1962). See contra: City of Fairbanks v. Gilbertson, 16 Alaska 590 (1957), aff'd, 262 F.2d 734 (9th Cir. 1959), where § 56-2-2 ACLA 1949 (now AS 09.65.070) was ignored by both the district court and the Court of Appeals.

Collateral references. — Fire departments as pertaining to the governmental or to the proprietary branch of munic-

ipality. 9 ALR 143; 33 ALR 688; 84 ALR 514.

Sec. 18.70.160. Agreement not to affect insurance rates or liability. An agreement made under AS 18.70.150 and 18.70.160 shall be carried out in a manner which does not raise insurance rates. An agreement may not reduce the liability of an insurance company in case of loss during the absence of men and equipment. (§ 1 ch 92 SLA 1957)

Article 4. General Provisions.

Section

300. Definition of building

Sec. 18.70.300. Definition of building. In this chapter "building" means a structure, installation, facility, or edifice erected or in the process of being erected and which is used or intended for use as a commercial, industrial, business, institutional, other public building, or residential building containing four or more dwelling units. (§ 4 ch 176 SLA 1968; am § 27 ch 32 SLA 1971)

Revisor's notes. — In ch. 176, SLA 1968, this section was numbered 18.70.165.

Chapter 72. State Regulation of Fireworks.

Section

10. Regulation of sale of dangerous fireworks
20. Regulation of sale of salable fireworks

Section

30. Fireworks wholesaler's license
40. Violation
50. Definitions
60. Application of chapter

Collateral references. — 31 Am. Jur. 2d, Explosions and Explosives, §§ 1-3, 48-52.

35 C.J.S., Explosives, §§ 1-3, 12, 13.

Bond conditioned for payment of damages for injury to person or damage to

property, given as condition of permission by public for fireworks display or other exhibition or entertainment, as covering non-negligent injury or damage. 138 ALR 936.

Sec. 18.72.010. Regulation of sale of dangerous fireworks.

(a) The sale or offer to sell dangerous fireworks at wholesale or retail for any purpose other than industrial, agricultural, wildlife control or public display is prohibited.

(b) A person desiring to use dangerous fireworks for industrial, agricultural, wildlife control or public display purposes shall first comply with the permit requirements of the fire safety code.

(c) All dangerous fireworks shall be purchased from a fireworks wholesaler licensed as such in this state. No fireworks wholesaler may sell dangerous fireworks to anyone, unless he has a currently valid permit required by the fire safety code, the number of which shall be affixed to each record of sale by the fireworks wholesaler, and maintained as a permanent record of the sale. (§ 1 ch 116 SLA 1969)

Sec. 18.72.020. Regulation of sale of salable fireworks. (a) A person holding a permit required by the fire safety code may sell or offer for sale salable fireworks, if

(1) the person has submitted to the state fire marshal a policy, or a certified true copy of a policy, of public liability and products liability insurance, including both accident and occurrence coverage, provided by the wholesale company selling fireworks to the person, in the amount of at least \$200,000 for bodily injury or death and at least \$50,000 property damage and the person is named as an insured party upon the policy and the policy is continuously in force while the person is engaged in the retail sale of fireworks, and

(2) an endorsement fee of \$5 is paid to the state fire marshal for each year or fraction of year during which the permit holder is engaged in the retail sale of fireworks.

(b) Upon approval of the insurance required in (a) of this section, the permit of the holder shall be endorsed by the state fire marshal to indicate the holder's right to sell fireworks at retail, and shall indicate an expiration of the authority. The expiration date shall coincide with the expiration date of the permit holder's liability insurance. (§ 1 ch 116 SLA 1969; am § 1 ch 24 SLA 1981)

Effect of amendments. — The 1981 amendment deleted "to the" preceding "fireworks," substituted "to the person" for "retailer" following "fireworks," substi-

tuted "\$200,000" for "\$300,000" preceding "for bodily injury," substituted "\$50,000" for "\$100,000" preceding "property damage," deleted "upon which policy the state

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and all governmental subdivisions of the state" preceding "and the," substituted "person is" for "permit holder shall be" preceding "named as," substituted "an insured party upon the policy" for "additional insureds," following "named as,"

substituted "the policy is" for "which shall be" preceding "continuously in force," and substituted "person" for "permit holder" preceding "is engaged" in subsection (a) (1).

NOTES TO DECISIONS

Injunction to halt enforcement of section. — See State v. Norene, Sup. Ct. Op. No. 572 (File No. 1167), 457 P.2d 926 (1969).

Sec. 18.72.030. Fireworks wholesaler's license. (a) A person who desires to sell fireworks at wholesale in the state shall first make verified application for a license to the state fire marshal on forms provided by him. The application shall be accompanied by an annual license fee of \$50.

(b) The license required under (a) of this section is valid until December 31 of the year during which it is issued, and is renewable upon the payment of each subsequent annual license fee and affirmation that the information contained in the wholesaler's original application for a fireworks wholesaler's license is currently accurate. (§ 1 ch 116 SLA 1969; am § 2 ch 24 SLA 1981)

Effect of amendments. — The 1981 amendment substituted "\$50" for "\$500" following "annual license fee of" in subsection (a).

Sec. 18.72.040. Violation. A person who knowingly and wilfully fails to comply with a provision of this chapter or fireworks regulations adopted in the fire safety code is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction is punishable by a fine of not more than \$500, or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or by both. Each day of noncompliance constitutes a separate offense. (§ 1 ch 116 SLA 1969)

Sec. 18.72.050. Definitions. In this chapter and fireworks regulations adopted in the state fire safety code

(1) "dangerous fireworks" includes all fireworks which are not defined as salable fireworks;

(2) "fire safety code" means the fire safety code of the state adopted and administered by the division of fire prevention of the Department of Public Safety;

(3) "fireworks" means salable fireworks or dangerous fireworks;

(4) "salable fireworks" are ICC Class C Common Fireworks and shall include only those fireworks enumerated as ICC Class C Common Fireworks in the regulations of the Interstate Commerce Commission, as the regulations are presently constructed, and, more specifically, shall include and be limited to the following:

(A) roman candles, not exceeding 10 balls spaced uniformly in the tube, total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed 20 grams each in weight, any inside tube diameter not to exceed $\frac{3}{8}$ inch;

(B) skyrockets with sticks, total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed 20 grams each in weight, and the inside tube diameter not to exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, with the rocket sticks being securely fastened to the tubes;

(C) helicopter type rockets, total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed 20 grams each in weight, and the inside tube diameter not to exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ inch;

(D) cylindrical fountains, total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed 75 grams each in weight, and the inside tube diameter not to exceed $\frac{3}{4}$ inch;

(E) cone fountains, total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed 50 grams each in weight;

(F) wheels, total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed 60 grams for each driver unit or 240 grams for each complete wheel, and the inside tube diameter of driver units not to exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ unit;

(G) illuminating torches and colored fire in any form, total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed 100 grams each in weight;

(H) dipped sticks, the pyrotechnic composition of which contains chlorate or perchlorate which do not exceed five grams, and sparklers, the composition of which does not exceed 100 grams each and which contains no magnesium or magnesium and a chlorate or perchlorate;

(I) mines and shells of which the mortar is an integral part, total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed 40 grams each in weight;

(J) firecrackers with soft casings, the external dimensions of which do not exceed one and one-half inches in length or one-quarter inch in diameter, total pyrotechnic composition not to exceed two grains each in weight;

(K) novelties consisting of two or more devices enumerated in this paragraph when approved by the Bureau of Explosives. (§ 1 ch 116 SLA 1969)

Sec. 18.72.060. Application of chapter. This chapter and fireworks regulations adopted under the fire safety code supersede the provisions of an ordinance adopted by a city or borough, whether before or after May 23, 1969, which are less restrictive than this chapter or the code. However, nothing in this section affects the authority of a city or organized borough under other law to prohibit or regulate more restrictively than this chapter the offering for sale, exposure for sale, sale, use, or explosion of fireworks. (§ 1 ch 116 SLA 1969)

Chapter 75. Licensing and Control of Dogs.

Section

- 10—30. [Repealed]
- 40. Power of village council to control dogs
- 50—60. [Repealed]

Sec. 18.75.010. Extension of dog control ordinances.

Repealed by § 9 ch 109 SLA 1966; § 1 ch 118 SLA 1972.

Editor's notes. — The repealed section derived from § 1, ch. 120, SLA 1962.

Secs. 18.75.020 — 18.75.030. Dog tags; enforcement.

Repealed by § 1 ch 118 SLA 1972.

Editor's notes. — The repealed sections derived from §§ 2, 3, ch. 120, SLA 1962; § 6, ch. 109, SLA 1966.

Sec. 18.75.040. Power of village council to control dogs. (a) A village council duly elected by residents of an unincorporated village not within an organized borough may destroy loose dogs in the village and may otherwise control dogs to the extent authorized first class cities.

(b) The council may impose and enforce the provisions of a dog control ordinance in the total area within 20 miles of the village. The ordinance must generally describe the area in which it is imposed. If two villages having dog control ordinances lie within 40 miles of each other, the jurisdiction of each village terminates at a point midway between them. (§ 4 ch 120 SLA 1962; am § 7 ch 109 SLA 1966)

Cross references. — As to killing of vicious or mad dogs, see AS 03.55.010. As to killing dogs annoying or evincing tendency to bite animals or fowl, see AS 03.55.030. As to permitting animals to be at large, see AS 11.60.200.

Collateral references. — 4 Am. Jur. 2d, Animals, §§ 20-25, 40-45.
3A C.J.S., Animals, §§ 11-13, 287-289.
Police power as authorizing statute providing for destruction of dogs. 56 ALR2d 1033.

Secs. 18.75.050 — 18.75.060. Enforcement; exemption.

Repealed by § 1 ch 118 SLA 1972.

Editor's notes. — The repealed sections derived from §§ 5, 6, ch. 120, SLA 1962.

NEWSCLIPPINGS

7/7/83

Opinion

JOURNAL EMPIRE

WILLIAM S. MORRIS III

JEFFREY A. WILSON

ROBERT A. MANAGE

CARL SAMPSON THOMAS KLUMENSCHNE

FRED HOWARD ROBIN HERDMAN PAUL

DONNA GRUNOW

Enforce local fireworks ban

There can be no glow of Fourth of July festivity if the fireworks problem must be solved.

Those among the crowd who regard the fireworks as a nuisance might have a change of mean. Marine Park was transformed into an outdoor "Fourth of July" with rockets and gunfire, other protective devices lining the sky and sidewalks. Children were setting off fireworks amid the crowd on the Alaska Steamship Dock. People were shooting rockets at boats in the Gastineau Channel, and rockets were sent arching over the Marine View Apartments.

All of which is very bold, considering the number of people in the crowd and the number of wooden buildings in the area.

Here is one thing we bet you didn't know about fireworks: They are illegal.

Under city borough code, the sale or use of fireworks is prohibited. The only exceptions are public displays such as that presented by the city borough, and they must have special permits.

Fireworks are a Fourth of July tradition. So too are fireworks injuries and fireworks-caused fires. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 74,000 people have been injured by fireworks during the last 16 years. Those injuries were mainly to eyes, ears and hands. Fires started by fireworks also cost the public in property damage and time spent by firefighters extinguishing them. Just last year, local firefighters were called to douse a fireworks-caused blaze.

Because fireworks had not posed a serious problem in the past, local authorities had not strictly enforced the prohibition.

This year's proliferation of the use and abuse of fireworks, however, is forcing the hand of local authorities. Already, city borough officials are looking at the alternatives, which include:

- Enforcing the prohibition, which first would require publicizing it. This year, authorities had their hands tied because the ban had not been publicized. The reason it hadn't been publicized is fireworks hadn't been the problem in past years that it was this year.

- Abolishing the prohibition. If it is not enforced, why have it?

We would opt for publicizing and enforcing the prohibition. It will stem the growing threat to public safety posed by the inconsiderate and unsafe use of fireworks.

Fireworks highlight festivities

Midnight display is bigger than last year — Parker

By KYOHAKENOLE

Japanese residents will be treated to a midnight display of fireworks which will start up between seven o'clock and midnight on July 15th this year.

There will be hundreds of shells and rockets and other fireworks which will be exploded in the city and town. Parker, chairman of the committee organized the display which will start at seven o'clock and will be most visible from downtown Junction and West Junction.

A barge carrying a crew of fireworks handlers, EMIs and several firemen will be in Gaslineau Channel to shoot the colorful explosives into the air. For safety, boat owners should keep a distance of at least 300 feet from the barge, Parker said.

As with most shows, the midnight fireworks display will start small and end big. Predominant colors will be red, white and blue, although there will be some yellow and

blue shells.

A committee of seven men took to the water and a boat to arrange for setting them off on a special boat 400 yards from the shore. A committee of ten citizens, including Parker, will set off the performance.

Not to be outdone by the two other cities, West Junction will also have a display. The committee for West Junction will set off the fireworks in the city and town. Parker said that the display will be most visible from downtown Junction and West Junction.

Four Chinese wheels will be displayed from the barge too. Although three feet across, when lit these wheels are said to have an effective radius of 10 feet, Parker said.

The shells were purchased from the Pyrotecne Company of Red Devil Fireworks Company, as they like to call themselves in Tacoma, Wa., Parker said. Most of the purchased shells were made in Taiwan. Shells from Brazil and Canada will also be in the show.

There are more than 100 shells in the show this year, Parker said. About 100 shells, costing \$1,000, were purchased for the display. A committee of ten citizens, including Parker, will set off the performance.

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Fireworks fires burn up fire-fighters

As the season
to be careful

"Fireworks are one of those apple pie and motherhood things," said Kenai Fire Chief Walt Winston. People cling to the tradition of setting them off to celebrate, especially in the summer.

While fireworks symbolize a good time for most people, they represent added fire danger to area firefighters. So far this summer, Kenai, Soldotna and Ridgeway have each had one fireworks-caused fire, and a Nikiski Fire Department spokesman said he wouldn't be surprised if that office handles some this summer.

The fires so far have been small brush fires which have been put out quickly and with a minimum of damage. But costs do

add up, and the potential for a major fire is there, department spokesmen said.

Winston said that last year the Kenai Fire Department put out 8-10 fireworks-caused fires. Because fire fighters are on duty all the time, there aren't any increased wage costs when they fight a fire. But Winston said other expenses on the brush fires average \$200 — \$300 per blaze.

The sale, use and possession of fireworks are banned within the city limits of Kenai and Soldotna. But they can be and are sold and used in unincorporated areas of the borough.

One sign of summer in this area are the fireworks stands which sprout up, especially along the Soldotna city limits. The stands remain up all summer, providing a ready supply for the fireworksophile.

The main problem seems to be the careless use of fireworks. Lt. John Heath of Nikiski said he thinks most fireworks fires are caused by rocket-type devices. "People really have no control over where they go," he said, "and they stay hot for two to three minutes."

No fireworks stands have been set up this year in the Nikiski area, and Heath said that may be the reason no fireworks fires have been reported there. A lack of local suppliers dramatically reduces the number of children buying fireworks, he said.

Heath said most of the fireworks fires he's seen have been caused by children. Winston said "it's about 50-50 between kids and adults. It's just careless use and adults are probably more careless than the kids."

See PENINSULA, back page

ALASKA CLIPPING SERVICE

The Peninsula
Clarion
Kenai, AK

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ALASKA CLIPPING SERVICE

Juneau Empire
Juneau, AK

JUL 1 1984

Peninsula fireworks

Continued from Page 1

"A lot of people don't realize the makeup of fireworks," Winston continued. The dry cardboard wadded up in the cones and other devices smolders on long after the sparkle has died out, he said.

Peninsula fire chiefs have lobbied the Borough Assembly for the past five years, trying to get the sale and use of fireworks banned on the entire peninsula.

Each year the Assembly has rejected the plan. Winston said he thinks the Assembly's action is a mixture of sentimental feelings toward fireworks, a casual attitude about their use and a feeling that a ban would be unenforceable.

Kenai and Soldotna have found it isn't possible to keep fireworks out of residents' hands entirely. Mike Huckabay of the Soldotna Fire Department said he doesn't feel there are many violations within the city limits.

The most visible evidence of violations within Kenai is found on the beaches of Cook Inlet. Remains of fireworks are found near the city's sewage treatment plant.

Winston pointed out that it's illegal to use fireworks on the beach. Although the sand may appear to be a fire-safe area, Winston said that isn't the case. "There is fire danger on the beach, in the grass on the bluff and on that berm area. We've had a couple of fires there over the years."

All three fire departments conduct fire safety programs for area school children.

But Winston was the only one who said fireworks safety is included. Heath said fireworks aren't a topic that usually come up during the winter, but he said he might add it to his program.

With or without a fireworks safety program, there are a few simple rules that everyone can follow to use fireworks in a prudent and enjoyable way.

- Children should never be allowed to use fireworks of any kind without adult supervision.
- Fireworks should be used on a fire-proof surface, such as cement, or well-watered grass.
- Fireworks should be kept away from trees, bushes, dry grass and buildings.
- After allowing a moment for the devices to cool off, they should be disposed of in a bucket of water.

'Thank you' for help at Funter Bay fire

Dear Editor:

Our Funter Bay home, warehouse and tool shed were destroyed by a fire the evening of the 4th of July.

All of our neighbors and many friends and visitors that were in the bay for the 4th came to help as soon as the smoke was seen. Fire fighters were brought from town by helicopters, several of the firemen staying until morning. Without all of this help the Austin house and many more of the surrounding trees would have been lost.

Although the fire destroyed most everything we had at the bay we were not hurt. We came back to Juneau with little to carry but with something more important than the things we lost — they can be replaced.

Most important and what will never be forgotten is the fact that when we needed them our neighbors, friends and even strangers came to help. Words can not express the gratitude and appreciation we feel. Our very, very sincere thanks to everyone.

Sincerely,
Mary and Harold Hargrave
Funter Bay

Anniversary
Suggested

ALASKA CLIPPING
SERVICE

Homer News

Homer AK

APR 5 - 1984

Assembly defeats plan to ban sale of fireworks during fire danger

Special to the Homer News

SOLDOTNA — For the third time in a year, the fuse has sputtered and died on efforts to curb the sale and use of fireworks on the Kenai Peninsula.

Tuesday night the Borough Assembly voted 11-5 to extinguish an ordinance prohibiting the sale of blackpowder toys during periods of high fire danger.

Local fireworks vendors opposed the restriction, saying it would be unfair to require them to monitor the media in order to find out if and when state officials ban open burning. Such bans are commonly announced during the course of the summer season.

Members of the Alaska Fireworks Association contended the ordinance would only duplicate state laws, and claimed that fireworks have never been conclusively linked to a forest fire in Alaska. Borough Mayor Stan Thompson spoke against the ordinance, saying the problem was not the sale of fireworks during times of dry weather, only their irresponsible use.

"Let's not pass our first restrictive ordinance," he said.

The assembly's action means the peninsula will remain a mecca for fireworks merchants and those who delight in their wares.

The sale and use of fireworks are outlawed in Anchorage, Kenai, Soldotna, Seward and Homer, but the

pyrotechnics can be legally purchased from dozens of vendors who set up shop every summer along the highways.

A year ago the assembly considered a similar ordinance, but the move failed, as did an effort to limit fireworks sales to a few short weeks in summer.

In other business the assembly appropriated \$195,000 to cover the cost of an unexpected 6,000 ton garbage overrun at the Kenai and Soldotna landfills. So far, 18,931 tons of solid waste have been processed at the two Central Peninsula land-

fills this year, up almost 50 percent over last year.

The assembly also agreed to trade 11.6 acres of land along the Kaslof River for three bluff lots in Clam Gulch, which total 6.7 acres of usable land and 350 feet of frontage on Cook Inlet.

Assemblyman Phil Nash of North Kenai argued that the borough should retain public land on peninsula salmon streams. But Mr. Thompson pointed out that the borough would keep a 50-foot easement along the river, and a 50-foot access easement through the property to the river.

Fireworks-caused fires cost \$5,000 to put out

Fires started by fireworks on the Chugach National Forest are costly to fight, according to forest Supervisor Dalton Du Lac. "The public is looking at approximately \$5,000 for Forest Service efforts in fighting a recent six-acre blaze set off by fireworks in the Hope area," he said.

Residents unable to control the fire burning in the beetle-killed spruce three miles south of Hope in the Resurrection Creek drainage called in the Forest Service to help extinguish the flames.

Forest Service crews continue to clean up and secure this summer's second fire caused by fireworks, he said. A state of Alaska helicopter

based at Soldotna also assisted by dropping water to douse the flames.

Mr. Du Lac said, "The first fire started by fireworks was at Quartz Creek campground earlier this summer. It was controlled by Forest Service crews and volunteers from the Cooper Landing Fire Dept."

Although forest vegetation is fairly green this year, spring and summer rains have not wet things down enough to relieve the fire danger, he said.

"With grass, needles, and leaves being as dry as they are now, fire could wipe out campgrounds, forested areas, and private property near forested areas."

Fires blamed on fireworks

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Forest Service crews and volunteers from the Cooper Landing Fire Department."

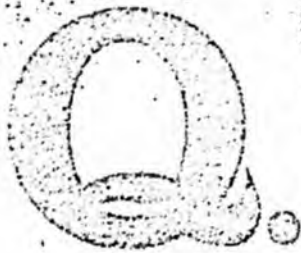
Du Lac cautions Forest neighbors and visitors that although forest vegetation is fairly green this year, spring and summer rains have not wet things down enough to relieve the fire danger.

"With grass, needles, and leaves being as dry as they are now, fire could wipe out campgrounds, forested areas, and private property near forested areas," says Du Lac.

ALASKA CLIPPING
SERVICE *Des. by*
Anchorage ~~Forum~~ 1
Anchorage, AK

JUN 23 1984

you tell 'em



Should fireworks be legal in Anchorage?

For fire and safety reasons, the sale and use of fireworks is prohibited in Anchorage except in specially authorized exhibitions. But that doesn't stop all residents from indulging an old Fourth-of-July pastime. Fireworks still can be purchased legally on the Kenai Peninsula, and some of them wind up being used in Anchorage before the holiday is over.

Should fireworks be sold here at home? Are they worth the risk to life and limb? Can they be handled and regulated safely here? Are July 4th fireworks a thing of the past?

We'll publish your response in this space next week. Send comments to PEOPLE'S FORUM, The Daily News, Pouch 6616, Anchorage 99502.

Safety council stresses safe use of fireworks

Each year during Fourth of July celebrations, thousands of people require emergency room treatment for injuries associated with fireworks.

While most states vary on their fireworks-control laws, the National Safety Council says that a total ban of all fireworks — except those used by a professional pyrotechnician under controlled circumstances — is the best way to minimize firework-related injuries.

It recommends that people

visit one of the many community celebrations to observe firework displays, rather than having home displays. Because it is illegal for private citizens to possess fireworks within the Anchorage Municipality, the Municipality holds an annual fireworks display to which the public is invited.

For those on the Kenai Peninsula, where fireworks can legally be sold and possessed, and others insistent upon having a home display, the Council offers these tips:

- Store fireworks in a dry, cool place. Avoid roughhandling that might damage the fuse or handles.

- Always read the directions which explain how properly to ignite a firework device.

- Never allow children to handle fireworks. Young ones comprise the group most often afflicted by fire-works related injuries — such as the loss of hands or eyes.

- Ignite fireworks outdoors in a clear area away from houses and flammable materials — like dry grass, sawdust, wood chips, underbrush.

- Never place fireworks in metal or glass containers.

- Light one device at a time. Maintain a safe distance after lighting the device. Keep a bucket of water nearby.

ALASKA CLIPPING
SERVICE

Anchorage Times
Anchorage, AK

JUN 26 1984

ALASKA CLIPPING
SERVICE

Anchorage Daily
News
Anchorage, AK

Fireworks cause of fires, not fun

If: "Q" is for question, (Forum, June 23, 1984) and

"A" is for answers, (Forum, June 30, 1984) then

"E" is for expletive (Cooper Landing, July 1, 1984).

Tonight we were very lucky. The daytime wind had died; dusk brought humidity and heavy air; the misty rain a blessing. The hot little fire stayed where the skyrocket gave it birth. It is out. Three hours earlier it would have been an inferno!

It is now 1:30 a.m., July 1. I have just returned from the third fire in two weeks — each started by fireworks. Thirty men in private vehicles and three fire trucks responded to defend our families and homes, our beautiful valley and mountains; from the "fun" of "celebration" purveyed by the Kenai Peninsula's "comfortable amount of stands."

Mr. Louie R. March, Ms. Helen March — will the Alaska Fireworks Association pay for my \$150 boots? How about hundreds of man-hours? Will you re-build our world when your "patriotism" finally gets one going out of control? Perhaps you'll fire a last "salute" to any lost in the line of duty.

Let's knock this . . . off. Now!

— Jack Raudue, volunteer fireman
Cooper Landing, Kenai Peninsula

Lighting or holding firework may net \$1,000 fine, jail term

If you shoot off a firecracker in your back yard, it can cost you as much as \$1000 or 30 days in jail.

Those are the penalties for selling, using or possessing fireworks in Chugiak - Eagle River and the rest of the Anchorage municipality.

Although you can buy fireworks in many parts of Alaska, it's against the law to shoot them off in Anchorage.

Fire Chief Ross Fosberg emphasizes that means anywhere from the south border of the municipality at Portage to the Knik River to the north.

The only exception are the public fireworks displays and Fosberg says these are allowed by individual permit only after

stringent safety and licensing requirements are met.

Fosberg said the codes prohibiting fireworks were adopted because of numerous fires and injuries associated with their use. He added that Anchorage police officers are required to confiscate all fireworks that they encounter.

ALASKA CLIPPING
SERVICE

Chugiak-Eagle
River Star
Eagle River, AK

JUN 21 1984

Fires caused by fireworks set Fourth of July record

By LARRY CAMPBELL
Daily news reporter

Fireworks are being blamed for more minor fires Wednesday than in any other Fourth of July in Anchorage's history, according to the Anchorage Fire department.

Some Anchorage residents who firecracked, cherry-bombed and bottle-rocketed their way through Independence Day caused at least 26 minor blazes in a 24-hour period. That is at least a three-

fold increase over last year, said Lee Crossman, department spokesman.

"Usually we'll have a few every year. You always expect it," Crossman said. "This year was unbelievable. It was all over town."

Fires broke out in garbage dumpsters, in peat moss piles, on open grass fields and in wooded areas. All were relatively minor. Some had

See Back Page. FIREWORKS

Firework

Continued from Pa

burned themselves out. Between the time they were reported and the time firefighters arrived.

No fireworks-related injuries were reported to firefighters, Crossman said. No burned fingers or injured eyes showed up at either Providence or Humana Alaska hospitals.

The 26-fire estimate is incomplete, Crossman said. There may have been more fires that burned out before firefighters arrived or didn't show obvious evidence that fireworks were to blame.

Despite that, Crossman said the increase was surprising.

"The nice weather, people still here (in Anchorage) instead of gone for a weekend, it could be a lot of things. Just more people in town during a celebration," he said.

Possessing or using fireworks within the municipality is a city misdemeanor. Conviction brings a sentence of up to 30 days in jail, \$1,000 fine or both.

The fire department conducts education programs advising people about the dangers of using fireworks.

"I don't know what we can do to prevent it besides doing what we already do," Crossman said. "I guess we've just got to keep telling people."

ALASKA CLIPPING
SERVICE

Anchorage Daily
News
Anchorage, AK

JUL - 5 1984

Many fireworks users irresponsible

I live on the Kenai Peninsula; I am completely against the sale of fireworks anywhere!

Last year my husband and I were new to Alaska and of course in need of work. We were offered a job selling fireworks; we accepted. I was very surprised at the age of kids coming in alone to buy fireworks, some as young as 6 or 7. I'm sure their parents had no idea, so where do you think these kids went to set these off? The woods!

At the time we accepted the job, I had never given it any thought. But I'd never do it again!

We are responsible people; most of your readers are. But what about the ones who aren't? How many people get drunk and then set them off? How many kids set off fireworks, hiding in the woods from their parents? How many responsible, careful people have accidents?

I've watched 400,000 acres burn in California. Watched my in-laws cry as they evacuated their home. The cause was fireworks.

I know I don't want to wake up to and drive through a black, lifeless forest.

People do have their rights, though! I'll give up mine to save our forest.

- Sue Hoppman
Soldotna

ALASKA CLIPPING
SERVICE

Anchorage Daily
News
Anchorage, AK

JUL - 6 1984

**Too immature,
inconsiderate
to use fireworks**

I'm writing concerning fireworks alloted to be legal in Anchorage. My neighbors here in Anchorage have been shooting fireworks every day for two weeks now, but what's really bad is they are either shooting them at each other or they shoot them at late hours like 11:30 p.m. and 3:30 a.m. when people are trying to sleep. Mostly rockets and whole packages of fire crackers all at once.

I hope and pray they never legalize fireworks in Anchorage because people are too immature and inconsiderate to shoot them and use them wisely.

— Marcia Tschetter



**Fireworks OK
in safe areas
outside towns**

Fireworks are fun. Fortunately there are areas Alaskans can still experience the traditional thrill of celebrating with fireworks.

By following three simple rules we will guarantee safe enjoyment of fireworks: 1) Use common sense; 2) Always have adult supervision; and 3) Only discharge fireworks in a safe area.

On the Kenai Peninsula there are many areas where fireworks may be used safely, such as Fourth of July Beach in Seward and Clam Gulch near Anchor Point. However, populated cities are not the place to discharge fireworks.

Seward, Kenai and Homer all prohibit fireworks within the city limits. As president of the Alaska Fireworks Association, I feel Anchorage should maintain its prohibition against fireworks.

Anchorage is a populated city, basically not suited for fireworks. I invite all those who enjoy fireworks to come down to the Kenai Peninsula and safely celebrate a tradition that's been around for over 200 years.

— Louise R. March Jr.

President of the Alaska Fireworks Association

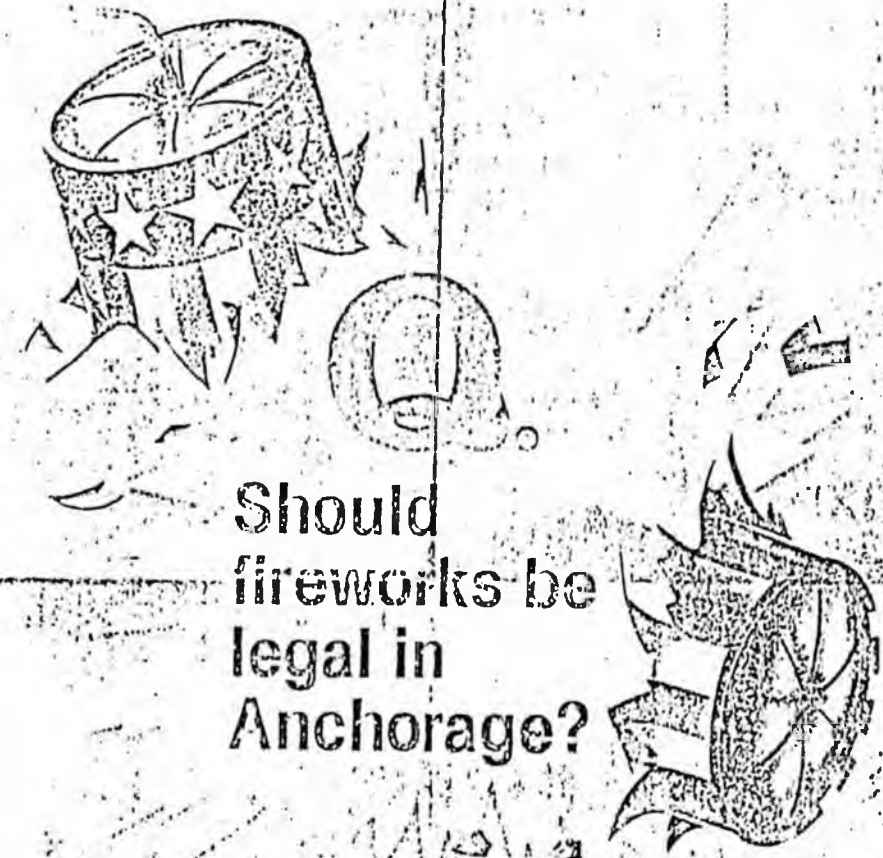
Seward



**Too dangerous
to be used at
all, anytime**

Fireworks are dangerous! We don't need to test them on white mice to know that they take our eyes and rip off fingers year after year. Why is it that people who are afraid of the health risks of saturated fat, gleefully and deliberately risk maiming themselves with stinky noises and bursts of light?

The Fourth of July after 9 p.m. is not much of a holiday. The only time fireworks should be used is during the day.



**Should
fireworks be
legal in
Anchorage?**

Inconsiderate neighbors make me feel like I am in a war zone, while they endanger my family and home.

Instead of debating whether or not to legalize fireworks inside city limits, the question should be how we are going to enforce the existing laws.

— Marie Cotting



**Disturbing
peace deserves
punishment**

In answer to your question regarding fireworks legislation: no way, Jose.

The primary gripe I have is that there is usually some nitwit in every neighborhood who is primarily delinquent in that he or she

loudly of most obnoxious ordinance device obtainable. Naturally, the only time this menace to civilization is able to carry out his/her sole function in life are the hours when we unappreciative souls wish to grab a quick nap for the brief duration of darkness.

We must also consider the fact that a large majority of local kiddies lack the proper parental supervision that God gave a parent. They have no concept of respect or human compassion so any time at all is game for them to prove that they were able to learn all by themselves how to strike a match and actually can ignite a fuse. Bravo.

The local constabulary has better things to do than play nursemaid to jerks. Losing a finger or an eye is the price paid for improper use of pyrotechnics. That's what stupidity

and quiet of others is a crime which should be punishable by deportation to Lower Siberia.

The sale and use of pyrotechnic ordinance devices should be outlawed today. The use and importation of these fun gizmos should be legally restricted to those who are trained and licensed in their use. If the inconsiderate boobs must have their fun, set aside a small lot in an obscure area for those folks to get their jollies.

— Neal D. Cooper



**Leave fireworks
on Peninsula**

I believe fireworks should not become legal in Anchorage. There are more than 250,000 people living in the Anchorage area. Plus you have to take into consideration the many vehicles being driven around there, your huge buildings, etc. I personally feel this will promote a problem safetywise and otherwise.

Fireworks stands would be set up almost all over Anchorage. Then too, because of the dense population in Anchorage plus your influx of tourists at this time, hazardous conditions will arise. There are more lives and limbs lost as a result of "wars" here and abroad than with anything else.

The Kenai Peninsula has a comfortable amount of stands. I say let's keep it this way. There are enough fireworks here to take care of the Anchorage people's needs. And besides a trip down the Seward Highway is refreshing anyway, also its surrounding areas. I cannot over-emphasize enough to have responsible people and parents to accompany young children when buying and setting off the fireworks. And please — read your instructions! Use common sense. Abide by all of the safety laws put into effect. The 4th of July can be a fun day.

It's been a tradition since 1776. The signing of "The Declaration of Independence." Personally I feel to consider fireworks a thing of the past would be like eliminating the year "1776."

— Helen March Seward



**Celebrate
without the
fireworks**

If anyone has experienced the "display" of fireworks in Honolulu, during Chinese New Year, on the people of Anchorage would rise and say NO! I'd suggest the mayor's office contact officials in Honolulu and get the facts first-hand on the noise, pollution caused by the smoke, the trauma that the children, elderly and ill and also the pets will endure. I am all for celebrating the 4th, but not with fireworks.

Fireworks hints: How to avoid trouble

Continued from Page 1

Nikiski Fire Department Lt. John Heath said he thinks the drop in fireworks-caused fires is because only one fireworks stand is operating in the North Kenai area. "Last year we had seven or eight stands," Heath said. "But I'm surprised we haven't had any fires yet."

The Soldotna Fire Department has extinguished four fires caused by fireworks since mid-May. All of the fires were small and no one was injured in any of the fires, said Fire Prevention Officer Michael Huckabay. One fire occurred on Funny River Road, another at the rodeo grounds, a third next to a fireworks stand behind Sizzler's. The most recent fireworks fire was doused early Monday morning near Slikok Creek.

The Soldotna crew from the state Division of Forestry has doused four fireworks-related fires so far this summer. Fire Manager Larry Adams said one of his crew members also doused a fire that had been ignited on his front lawn from a neighbor's bottle rocket.

"They were just sitting in their house (in Soldotna) watching TV when they saw a bottle rocket shoot into their yard, and then saw smoke coming up from the lawn," he said. "That can happen to anyone."

The forestry department's fire warning needle pointed to "Moderate" fire conditions Thursday morning, but Adams said it could easily go up to "High" by late Thursday afternoon.

"It looks like the sun's coming out," Adams said. "And if it stays clear and things dry out rapidly, we anticipate responding to at least four or five calls (relating to

fireworks) around the fourth of July, and possibly as many as seven."

Both Kenai and Soldotna have laws prohibiting the discharge of fireworks within the city limits. A violation of the law could result in a misdemeanor citation, which means a mandatory court appearance and a maximum fine of \$500.

If people choose to discharge fireworks outside the city limits, fire officials ask people to take precautions.

"Use them in a good area where there is no dry grass or woods around," Heath cautioned. "And kids should use them under an adult's supervision."

"People should be shooting them off in a gravel pit, or at a beach out over the water, or in a plowed field," Adams advised. "The ones that are small and don't travel anywhere, that just lay there and go 'boom', could be done in a driveway."

"A lot of those fireworks with sharp plastic points can do an eye in real easy," he added. "They don't always go straight up (in the air) like they're supposed to. They often whirl around and come back at you," Adams said.

Huckabay advises people to discharge fireworks in an open area outside the city limits, like a gravel pit.

Firefighters worry on 4th

This is the week firefighters dread most — the week of the Fourth of July.

The Fourth is Wednesday, but firefighters were already busy late last week with the Hidden Lake island fire, preliminary blamed on fireworks. With the holiday coming up, the most hopeful sign for firefighters was the Sunday rain that dampened the undergrowth on the central peninsula.

So far, this fire season has not been a bad one for fireworks-related fires.

The Kenai Fire Department had doused only one such fire as of last week, a small brush fire in the Thompson Park area. The Nikiski Fire Department hadn't had a single fire from fireworks at week's end.

See FIREWORKS, back page

ALASKA CLIPPING SERVICE

The Peninsula Clarion Kenai, AK

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ALASKA CLIPPING SERVICE

Anchorage Times Anchorage, AK

JUL 11 1984

Fireworks' fires surprise couple

A local couple was rudely awakened recently when two bottle rocket fireworks went awry, one of them catching the boxsprings of the couple's bed on fire.

Two men accidentally shot the rockets through the Young Street couple's bedroom window at about 1:30 a.m. on July 5. The rockets broke the window, the screen and damaged the curtains before one of them hit the sleeping man's foot. One rocket caught the boxsprings on fire and

the other flew into the living room where it started a fire on the carpet.

According to police reports, the men who fired the rockets ran to the rescue of their unintended victims. After making sure the couple was all right, the two men, who declined to identify themselves, vacuumed the floor and used a fan to blow the smoke out of the house.

The victims want only to be compensated for the damages. They do not intend to press charges.

8-Daily News Miner, Fairbanks, Alaska, Thursday, June 21, 1984

Study finds education no help against fireworks injuries

CHICAGO (AP)—Educating people about the dangers of fireworks doesn't seem to reduce Fourth of July injuries, according to a health study that suggests the only solution may be legislation controlling their use.

The study, focusing on the Seattle area, found the majority of injuries

during last year's Fourth of July holidays were caused by legal fireworks. It also found that the number of injuries doubled after a change in state law that allowed more dangerous varieties to be sold.

The study, published in Friday's *Journal of the American Medical Association*, concluded that firecrackers and aerial devices such as rockets or Roman candles cause the most injuries.

The Consumer Products Safety Commission reported in 1981 that 1.1 million fireworks-related injuries nationwide in 1981. Of those, more than 90 percent required

no hospitalization. Using the study's average charge of \$72 for medical care for each injured person, the total cost of fireworks-related injuries nationwide could exceed \$1.6 billion.

Lynne McFarland, one of the study's authors, said public education doesn't seem to help curtail the burns, cuts and other injuries resulting from fireworks accidents.

She noted that when Washington changed its law in 1982, legislating firecrackers and some aerial devices, "they had a fair amount of public awareness," with a large fireworks

safety education campaign.

But during the July 4 holiday after that change, the study found, there were 22 injuries requiring emergency care—up from 19 a year earlier.

"Legislation, on either a federal or state level, to decrease the availability of these... devices may result in a decrease in the number of fireworks-related injuries," the report said.

The "majority of injuries were due to the misuse of fireworks and not malfunctioning devices..." McFarland said. "People are fireworks as toys."

"They're not toys, they're small weapons."

The study was conducted by the University of Washington and the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services in conjunction with the federal Centers for Disease Control.

The researchers looked at 116 people injured by fireworks who sought emergency care during the July 4 holiday in 1981. Of those, 7 percent were hospitalized.

The study found:

- The average charge for medical care was \$72 and the average cost for those hospitalized was \$5,411.
- Lack of parental supervision was a big risk factor.
- Multiple injuries were most common, followed by burns, eye injuries, cuts and ear injuries. Those hurt most frequently were adult males.
- Firecrackers and devices used on the ground each accounted for about a third of all injuries.

ALASKA CLIPPING
SERVICE

The Peninsula
Clarion
Kenai, AK

JUN 14 1984

Fireworks start fire behind Sizzler

Soldotna firefighters put out a small brush fire behind the Sizzler restaurant about 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

According to a fire department spokesman, the fire was caused by fireworks. Firefighters were able to put the fire out quickly and only a small area was burned. There were no damage estimates.

ALASKA CLIPPING
SERVICE

The Peninsula
Clarion
Kenai, AK

JUN 5 1984

Fireworks cause 3 brush fires

Soldotna and Ridgeway firefighters doused three brush fires this weekend that were caused by fireworks. One "controlled burn" that went out of control was also extinguished.

A fire department spokesman said one brush fire was ignited by fireworks at the rodeo grounds Saturday evening. Another brush fire was doused Sunday afternoon behind the Birch Street Apartments. That fire was also started with fireworks.

The Ridgeway Fire Department extinguished a third brush fire, started by fireworks, in the OTECO gravel pit on Kobuk Street. The spokesman said though the gravel pit fire was small, it could easily have spread much farther.

The "controlled burn" took place in a burn pile on Karen Street that had been smoldering for about three months, officials said. Wind and warm weather combined to ignite the pile Sunday evening. Though the fire was small when it was contained, it was close to some tall spruce trees.

Fireworks ban sought

by Carole Jaffa
Fireworks were the hot item on City Council's Monday night agenda, with arguments for and against the controversial devices culminating in passage of Resolution 84-87, requesting a borough-wide ban on fireworks sales. Councilmembers Williams, Cripps, Hilton and Gillespie voted yes, Meehan opposed. City staff launched the discussion with fire chief John Gage, Sgt. David Brossow and city manager Ron Garzini stating why the ban should be requested.

Of five fires over July

4th, three were definitely from fireworks," Gage said. The other two were of "undetermined cause, but fireworks were probable." He added there has been a history of fireworks-related blazes in Seward, and that "with our old, close-together buildings downtown, we are walking on thin ice."

Sgt. Brossow said the four officers on foot patrol downtown July 3 wrote citations and seized lots of fireworks, but "you could only control the area where you stood. It only takes a second to light a firecracker and run away...the law does not

ban carrying fireworks, only lighting them."

Ron Garzini complained of fireworks being set off well before the 4th in residential areas and commented there were "more important things for the cops to deal with."

Speaking on behalf of fireworks, used with discretion, were Lonie March and Robert Paul, both of whom operated fireworks stands outside city limits this year.

March, the president of Alaska Fireworks Association, said he had

See COUNCIL, pg. 3

Council...

discussed the enforcement problem with Chief Ben-cardino. "He said the department had been lax and would be stricter next year," March stated.

"We also talked about posting a sign outside town, saying fireworks were illegal...that, plus getting tougher, would do the trick, we figured."

March felt passage of Resolution 84-87 would be unfair to those who use fireworks safely. "We don't ban gun sales because someone shoots a guy." He favored designated areas for fireworks use.

"We'll help," he continued, "by making a sign, working with the City in whatever way we can" to solve the problem.

Robert Paul, who ran the Golden Dragon fireworks stand this year, said most fireworks are shot in non-crowded areas. Ten percent at most are shot in town.

"The Borough Assembly defeated a similar measure last winter," he added, "because most members felt it was too strong an infringement on individuals...most people enjoy and respect fireworks."

Paul said a poll is being circulated this fall regarding fireworks sales, and he expected 75 percent would oppose a ban on sales outside city limits.

He said more fires are caused by smoking, and more deaths by drunken drivers.

He vowed the Fireworks Association members would do their part to eliminate use in

town, handing out flyers to purchasers, stating that there was a city ordinance against use in town, that was strictly enforced.

Paul also suggested enacting a possession law and enforcing it. "you'd see a dramatic decrease" in the problem, he said.

Crossfire in the Council chamber firecracker war came from Oscar Watsjold, Harry Gieseler, and Phil Yeziarski. Watsjold, a fireman 44 years, and chief for 22, noted "for years, everyone knew everyone, and we told 'em where to shoot...now there's thousands of people. We don't know them. The only way to control this, is to ban sales."

Harry Gieseler doubles

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Seward

Phoenix Log

Seward AK

JUL 26 1984

haven't started yet

By KRIS CAPPS
Staff Writer

Like a crop of summer flowers, they pop up every year.

Fireworks stands. They're brightly colored booths filled with bangs, pops and sparkles.

They're also illegal in the city of Fairbanks and in the North Star Borough. But outside the borough, the stands have set up shop and are doing a booming business.

The stands are licensed by the state, and owners must apply for a permit from the state fire marshal's office. This year, the Fairbanks office has issued about 10 permits in the immediate area, about the same as last year.

Owners of the stands must also check with the Department of Transportation, which has regulations about where they can erect signs and how far they must be from right-of-ways.

Stand owners who break the rules can be issued a misdemeanor citation. Officials may also close the stand and seize the fireworks.

"Periodically we go down and look

at all the stands and make sure they're in compliance," said Deputy State Fire Marshal Ernie Misewicz.

"We do get a number of complaints each year for one reason or another, that they're too close to the road or too close to the buildings."

One stand, which was advertising "Legal Fireworks" at the corner of Cushman Street and Airport Way, was ordered this week to move outside city limits by police.

"According to the city attorney, there is no such thing as legal fireworks in the city of Fairbanks," said one officer.

City police always have lots of complaints about fireworks this time of year and say they vigorously enforce the law prohibiting their use in city limits.

"We have quite a bit of a problem," said Lt. Roland Bonneville.

Police expect to collect a bag or two of confiscated fireworks before the season is over. The fireworks are either destroyed or used in training exercises by a special police team.

Fireworks can't be sold in the (See FIREWORKS, page 3)

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News Miner

Fairbanks AK

FIREWORKS

(Continued from page 1)

borough either.

"You can't sell fireworks within the borough, period," Misewicz said.

The city of North Pole also has a city ordinance against the sale and discharge of fireworks, but the chief of police said enforcement is generally not a problem.

Not so in Nenana.

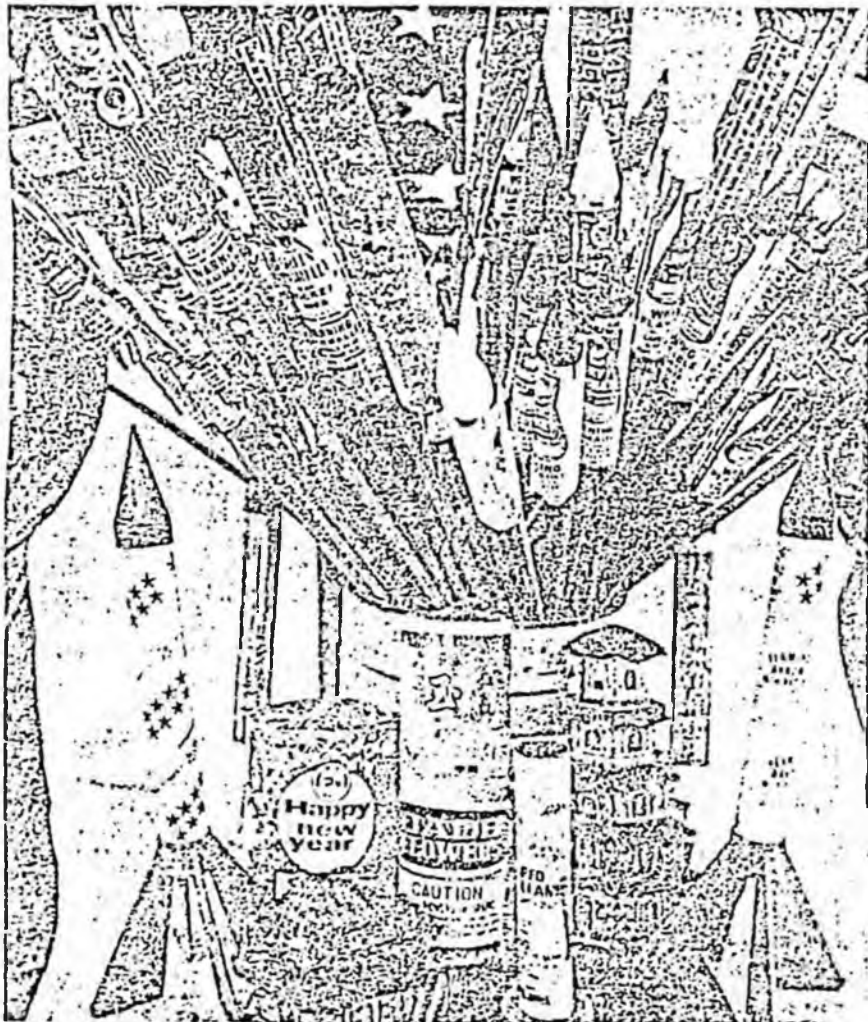
"Yes, we have problems," said Chief Wayne Walters. "We get numerous complaints about noise."

There is an occasional fire as well. The fireworks aren't sold in the city of Nenana, but they are certainly sold nearby.

"We try to let people live a little bit, but ask them to use a little discretion and caution and use them in the proper areas," Walters said.

Fireworks can be a real hazard, causing injury or fires.

"For the most part, the biggest problem is in wildland areas," the deputy state fire marshal said. "Brush



If you're looking for fireworks, you'll have to go outside the city and borough to find them.

fires. The drier the weather gets, the more susceptible it is."

Causing a fire this way can result in a misdemeanor citation for criminally negligent burning and a fine of \$5,000 or up to one year in jail.

Fireworks can also cause injury. Blown off fingers. Burned hands.

Sparklers burn at a very high temperature and can burn hands. The noise from a loud firecracker bang can rupture an eardrum.

"All of them are dangerous if not used properly," Misewicz said. "Children shouldn't be allowed to use them unless they're under adult supervision."

Fireworks

Cont. from Page 1
 rockets cause the most danger because once they are fired they are out of control, sometimes landing as much as 1,000 feet away. That may be too far away to stop a grass fire caused by the hot remnants from spreading. On the Spit, it could be much worse, he said.

There is no state law banning the sale of fireworks, but there are regulations about their use. According to state statutes, it is illegal to shoot fireworks on any lands on which grass, brush, timber, or any natural vegetation grows. The state has left enactment of sales ordinances up to local cities and boroughs.

Anchorage Borough has made it illegal to sell the devices, so many Anchorage residents drive an hour or two outside city limits to purchase fireworks at roadside stands, many of which flourish along the roadsides in the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Homer wrote its own fireworks ordinance into law in 1960, but as yet, there is no Kenai Borough law banning either use or sale, though several attempts have been made to control them because of fire danger.

"There is a state law against reckless endangerment," said Mr. Daugherty. "And, I suppose if you intentionally shot a bottle rocket directly at someone it could be called assault in the fourth degree."

If your fireworks start a fire you could be held accountable for the expense of extinguishing the blaze, said the chief.

"You can be slapped with the bill from the fire department neither local or state," he said. "That could be very expensive."

How expensive would depend on things like time, personnel, and equipment needed, but last year a Kenai man was sent a Dept. of Forestry bill for \$179,000 after a fire he caused was put out by state fire fighters. Although fireworks were not proven to be the cause, it illustrates the possible consequences. According to Tom Marock of the Alaska State Div. of Forestry, this case is in the hands of the state Attorney General.

Homer Purcell, fire station manager, said his department is not looking to ban fireworks altogether, but rather to encourage people to use them wisely.

It is a crime to fail to control a fire, he said, leading to a charge of arson in the fourth degree. But, he said that while it is theoretically criminal, people who start fires by accident, are not generally charged unless investigation shows "obvious gross disregard" for safety.

He does not want to discourage people from reporting accidental fires for fear of costs, he added.

"In extreme cases, the fire department has the option to go to court to recover costs," he said. The same option applies to neighbors whose property might have been damaged.

He said costs for even a

small blaze can run into hundreds of dollars, and a substantial fire into the thousands.

According to Mr. Marock, a 1981 fire at Mile 101 Sterling Highway which state troopers determined was caused by fireworks, cost \$20,000 to extinguish. No one was sent the bill, however, because police could not discover who had started the fire.

"We look for a case of gross negligence," said Mr. Purcell. He said it has to be a case where no reasonable person would have allowed a situation so dangerous that it caused a fire.

"We all know accidents happen," he said. Those kinds of fires, even if touched off by fireworks, are unlikely to draw a bill for services from the department, but it is possible.

Each year, the controversy comes before the Kenai Borough Assembly, but so far its members have not passed a ban on the use or sale of fireworks. One assemblyman recently, expressing a commonly heard sentiment, said he was bound and determined to preserve the right of every American kid to be able to set off his own firecrackers.

Arguments made during debate have suggested that there are no cases of fires which are directly linked to the use of fireworks. Mr. Purcell says that is just plain wrong.

"We know of several cases where fires have been started with fireworks," he said. A bottle rocket caused a grassfire on Diamond Ridge a couple of years ago, and another rocket ignited a tree in Anchor Point, said Mr. Purcell.

"Then just a few weeks ago we put out a car fire on East End Road which was caused by fireworks," he stated.

On Monday, a fire at Mile 109 East End Road was attributed to children playing with fireworks, according to a Homer Fire Dept. spokeswoman. Another along the Kenai River on Monday was also linked to fireworks.

Mr. Purcell said a group of fire chiefs from around the borough have tried unsuccessfully during the last three years to ban the sale of fireworks in the borough.

"We even looked at tying the use of fireworks to the fire season danger level," he said. That would have banned their use whenever there was a "no burn" alert. "That was blocked," he added.

"We have no interest in banning fireworks displays," he said, "but we do want to prevent fires."

The state statutes that ban shooting fireworks where things grow does allow them in certain safe areas, and Mr. Marock encourages people to go there for their displays.

He suggested beaches on Kachemak Bay and Cook Inlet, over large lakes, gravel pits, and large plowed fields.

"I want to emphasize 'large,'" he said. "Some of those devices can really travel."

Fireworks off limits in the city

by Hal Spence
 Staff Writer

As the Fourth of July approaches each summer, Homer begins to sound like downtown Beirut.

But this year, in town at least, the long arm of the law will be busy interceding in the annual firecracker wars.

Each year, buzzing bees, firecrackers, and bottle rockets fill the air with whistles, loud reports — and fire danger.

And each year the short fused controversy surrounding the use of these at once delightful and hazardous pyrotechnical devices is rekindled.

But this year, backed up by the threat of \$500 fines, Homer police plan a serious crackdown on violators of the city's anti-fireworks ordinance.

Police say it is illegal for any person to "use or explode any type of firecracker, skyrocket, blank cartridges, explosives, pyrotechnics, or any other device commonly known as 'fireworks' within the limits of the City of Homer" without a public display permit.

"I'll be calling in extra officers for July 4th," said Homer Police Chief Mike Daugherty. He said none of his officers will have that day off.

While it is against the law to explode, or for that mat-

Inside:

There's profit in pyrotechnics

Page 19

What's open, closed on 4th

Page 19

ter, purchase, fireworks anywhere within the city limits. Mr. Daugherty said he is most concerned with their use on the Spit where highly flammable fuels and old wooden structures create a high degree of fire danger. In that regard, he called the highly popular bottle rocket the most hazardous.

"Last year it really got dangerous," he said. "There were large crowds of people and many who were shooting off fireworks were intoxicated."

He said the potential for disaster is great when it comes to fireworks near the old, creosote soaked pilings on the city dock and the fuel storage tanks nearby.

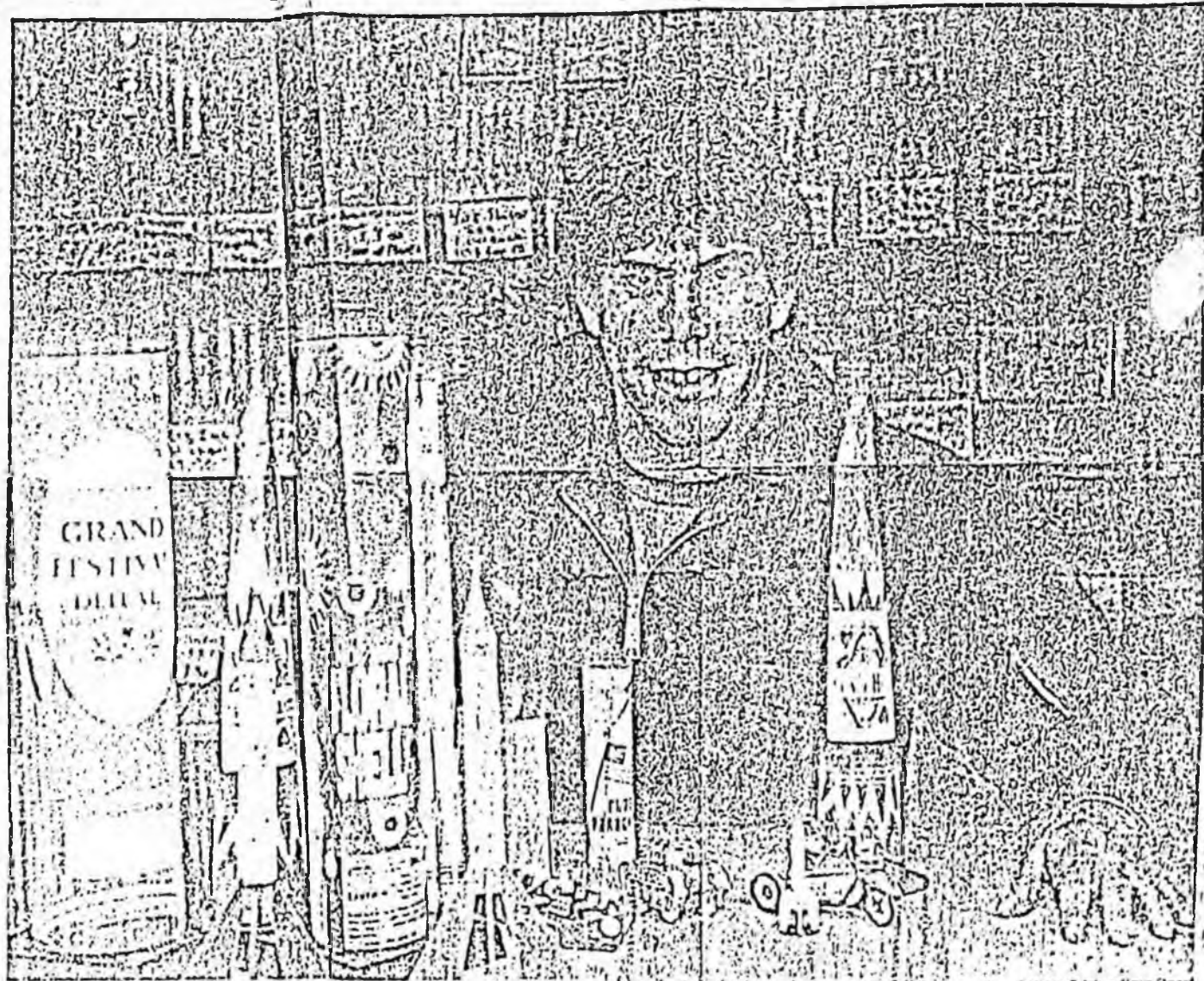
"Those tanks have a venting system on top which emit fumes to allow for expansion in warm weather," Mr. Daugherty said. "If a bottle rocket were to be shot up their we could conceivably have an extreme problem in a hurry."

Expended rockets have been found on top of the tanks, according to Brantley Edens, owner of the Chevron fuel depot on the Spit.

"I don't know what people are thinking when they shoot them towards the tanks," he said. "I don't know for certain that a spark would ignite the tanks, but would you really want to find out?"

He said he does not like to be on the Spit on the Fourth of July.

Mr. Daugherty said bottle



John Brinker, who owns and operates the Fireworks Factory on the Sterling Highway, says his business is booming — and will get better.

Fireworks spark concern of state, local officials

By RONNIE CHAPPELL
Daily News reporter

SOLDOTNA — Between May 1 and Sept. 30, the use of fireworks is illegal almost everywhere in Alaska. The sale of fireworks is not.

As a result, tens of thousands of dollars are spent every year stamping out brush fires set by careless kids playing with more than matches, according to public safety officials across the state. State officials believe bottle rock-

ets touched off a blaze in Metlakatla that leveled a \$100,000 building several years ago. Fireworks have also been linked to a brush fire that caused \$30,000 in damages to two Fairbanks area homes last year. In 1981, a forest fire south of

Soldotna burned 379 acres, threatened several homes and cost the state \$90,000 to extinguish. Children playing with fireworks were seen in the area before the blaze.

See Back Page C11C12C

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Miscellaneous

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Let's make the Fourth safe again

It is supposed to be a celebration of democracy and the rule of law, but it has instead become something far different:

A license to act like jerks and juvenile delinquents, regardless of age, race, creed, sex, national origin or social position. A license to endanger life, flaunt liberty and pursue craziness. A license to make an utter mockery of what was once a solemn American holiday.

The Fourth of July has become a nightmare, a debauchery with explosive devices, an excuse to inflict gonzo outrages on the entire state for 10 days. From normally peaceful La Conner to normally quiet Queen Anne, the silent majority is being abused by a noisy minority, a minority that sees the Fourth as an excuse for irresponsible behavior that wouldn't be tolerated any other time of the year.

The culprit is clearly the state's fireworks law, which the Legislature liberalized in a fit of naivete and greed last year. The cure is clearly a return to the state's old law, which only allowed sale of July Fourth fireworks deemed "safe and sane."

The horror stories have been accumulating over the last two Fourths in sufficient quantity for a lengthy gothic novel. There have been horror stories of needless property losses, including the \$330,000 Bellevue home burned to the ground last year when errant fireworks ignited its roof. There have been horror stories of senseless injuries, including a fatal stabbing in Seattle this year that resulted after a neighborhood dispute over fireworks erupted in violence.

There are, also, reams of statistics being kept by what seem to be the two main protagonists in this noisy battle. The fireworks manufacturers and sellers, who are reaping increased profits from this intolerable situation, versus the fire departments, who are wasting precious manpower trying to contain it.

The fireworks lobbyists blithely say that fire losses and injuries are not that much worse than they ever were and that many of the losses result from illegal fireworks. The fire departments counter that things have gotten bad enough and that only luck and wet weather have prevented far greater tragedies.

Fireworks cause six building fires

"The entire Seattle Fire Department was tied up all day on the Fourth," says Seattle Fire Marshal Bob Hansen. "We had 91 fires on the Fourth."

"There were 52 grass and brush-type fires, including several that were very close to going out of control and involving buildings. There were nine fires in buildings and six of those were from fireworks, causing \$162,000 in damage, more than three times the losses last year (\$47,000)."



John Marshall

Fire statistics and figures on fireworks' injuries compiled by hospital emergency rooms capture only a small part of the madness that now surrounds the Fourth.

They do not recount the terrorized pets that must be tranquilized over the holiday, the senior citizens who feel like prisoners in their homes, the nights of sleep disturbed by thoughtlessness, the trashed city parks that take days and dollars to clean up afterward.

Nor can the statistics capture the emotional mindset that now has come to characterize the Fourth. More people than one could have imagined are using the Fourth as an excuse to unleash anything explosive they can get their hands on, including practice grenades smuggled from Fort Lewis.

Open season for bozos with bombs

Street-corner sales of stronger fireworks have produced such a soundscreen of noise in every neighborhood that the thinking of many fireworks users seems to be: *Who'll possibly notice when I set off my illegal M-80s or worse? Who'll ever know the difference?*

Thus the liberalized fireworks law has removed the past societal pressure against the use of illegal fireworks and whatever fears there were of getting caught. Instead, it's become open season for bozos with bombs, which is the new law's worst legacy.

Fire Marshal Hansen spent last Monday in the battleground called Myrtle Edwards Park and he seriously considered withdrawing fire department personnel from the park because of fears for their safety. Hansen also watched in horror as occupants in two Queen Anne apartment buildings engaged in a fireworks' firefight, shooting rockets between the two buildings, while the rest of Queen Anne exploded with enough fireworks to remind many of Vietnam.

"It's going to be a miracle if we don't have a serious fire tonight," Hansen told an aide. Fortunately, that "miracle" occurred.

Members of the public were just as aghast. Thousands of angry callers swamped the switchboards of the Seattle police and fire departments, slowing their response time and raising fears that someone with an emergency to report might get only a busy signal.

And there was one woman whose plaintive call put into words what many others were thinking: "Enough, enough, enough. I want to surrender. Who in the hell can take it?"

Similar angry cries were raised last year, prompting the widespread public assumption that the Legislature would return to the tougher standards of the past.

Victory for special interests

But when the Legislature finally considered the issue in March, the cries had died to a whisper and the fire department campaigners were left to wage a lonely fight. They were outmuscled by fireworks' lobbyists who stressed the \$2 million in fireworks taxes that the strapped state would lose with a return to the tougher standards.

Chalk up yet another victory in this state for the special interests over the public good, yet another fireworks' perversion of what the Fourth of July is supposed to represent.

The same thing threatens to happen again next year. Time is on the fireworks industry's side since it's hard for the public to keep angry for months. Fireworks lobbyists are better organized, better financed.

But as each year passes under the liberalized law, the stakes grow higher and it becomes tougher to return to the past standards. In a few years, people will think this 10-day Beirut bombardment is the way the Fourth always has been, the way the Fourth always has to be.

Then it will probably take some terrible tragedy, some loss of life to compel the Legislature to do what it should have done in 1983.

ture for a recent publication.' The cloacogenic variety of anorectal cancer is the kind that has been described in this population. Recently, Li and associates¹ from the National Cancer Institute described two further cases of anorectal carcinoma, albeit squamous, associated with homosexuality. In view of this rarity and to facilitate future analyses, I suggest that, in the future, each such case in the homosexual population be reported.

Another line of investigation would be to attempt to reproduce the disease in animals, perhaps by repeated applications of oil lubricants or seminal plasma to an artificially traumatized transitional cloacogenic region of the anorectum. It would be of interest if either substance is capable of producing the tumor and, if so, whether this is in substantially greater frequency than a control group that has, for instance, been subjected to just trauma to the area. The possibilities are exciting and should provide answers pertaining to future prevention efforts.

PHILIP H. KORCOCK, MD
MILAN HOSPITAL CENTER
NEW YORK

1. Kandajoodi P. Cloacogenic carcinoma in homosexual males. *Am J Dermatol* 1982;71:592.
2. Li FP, Osburn D, Chou R, CM. Anorectal squamous carcinoma in two homosexual men. *Lancet* 1982;791.

Graduate Medical Education

To the Editor.—I would like to respond to an article in THE JOURNAL by Milan Korcock entitled "Medical Education: *Prosperitas Interrupta*" (1983;249:12). Dr Korcock seems to lament that "teaching hospitals, faced with continuing cost constraints, might have to reduce the size of the residency programs."

In my inaugural address as President of the American Medical Association in June 1970, I recommended that the four-year in-hospital residency might be improved by substituting at the end of a shortened in-hospital service a preceptorship with an approved practicing physician. My recommendation elicited considerable response—mostly unfavorable. Those who agreed with me did so by private communication.

Within weeks, I was invited to the National Institutes of Health to an international symposium on graduate medical education. The attendees from the European countries did not initially withhold their criticism of my recommendations, but by the end of the seminar, as I stood my ground and presented my reasoning, they were my friends and admitted that my proposals made sense.

As I remember back to my medical school days, I recall that among my teachers were Kanavel, Curtis, Elliott, and DeLee. None of these had served the equivalent of a long residency nor have I, in the intervening 55 years, sat at the feet of more brilliant teachers or providers of patient care!

In my opinion, reduction of the residency to two years of in-hospital indentureship followed by two years of supervised practice would do three important things.

It would provide a competent preceptor service with a competent preceptor would provide a decent wage to a young physician who, ten years after high school, is 28 years old and may have a wife or husband and the prospect of one or two children. He or she needs to go to work!

It would provide practical supervised experience outside of the medical halls of ivy.

It would cause a substantial reduction in the amount being paid by insurance companies and Medicare, thus benefiting almost all of those involved.

Has the teaching hierarchy that promotes ever-increasing length of the residency become blind to the tremendous wealth of teaching in the outpatient world? The largest demand for medical care is outside of the hospital, so why not move the young physicians out into the real world of ambulatory patient care for a few years of supervised learning?

Four and more years of in-hospital servitude, in my opinion, is wasteful of a lot of money and an already highly schooled mind, especially since the alternative sounds so sensible.

WALTER C. BORNHEIMER, MD
Sedro-Cool

Injuries From Fireworks

To the Editor.—Effective in 1982, Washington state changed its law governing the sale of fireworks during the July 4 holiday period. Previously, only nonexplosive ground-display devices known as "Safe and Sane Fireworks" were legally available in the state, elsewhere than on Indian reservations, where aerial devices and exploding firecrackers containing less than 50 mg of gunpowder were legally available. This year, all three types, except skyrockets and missile rockets, were sold throughout the state. To determine if this change in the law affected the number of fireworks-related injuries, we contacted 15 hospitals in nine counties and asked them to report the number of fireworks-related emergency room visits

for June 28 to July 6, the period of legal fireworks sale, for 1981 and 1982. The hospitals surveyed are distributed throughout Washington state, and we assume that neither population served nor the number of emergency room visits for other causes increased substantially from 1981 to 1982. We classed the fireworks-related injuries into five types—eye injuries, burns, lacerations, amputations, and other injuries. We also contacted one large fireworks wholesaler and asked him to estimate the effect the law change had on sales.

Fourteen (93%) of the 15 hospitals contacted responded, and 11 (73%) provided the total number of fireworks-related visits for both years. Ten of the hospitals provided a breakdown by the five categories. Ten hospitals reported an increase in the number of fireworks-related injuries for 1982. The 11th hospital reported no fireworks-related injuries for either year. The total number of visits for fireworks-related injuries increased significantly, from 39 for 1981 to 88 for 1982 ($P < .001$, paired-difference t test). Most of the difference was accounted for by burns which increased in number significantly, from 17 to 46 ($P < .001$, paired-difference t test). The number of eye injuries and lacerations also increased, but not significantly, from ten to 15 and from three to eight, respectively. No amputations were reported for either year. Other fireworks-related visits increased significantly, from one to five.

The wholesaler contacted estimated that his company sells half the non-Indian reservation fireworks sold in the state. The company's 1982 July 4 holiday sales were 2½ times its 1981 July 4 holiday sales. It sold 160 million exploding firecrackers in 1982 and none in 1981. The wholesaler does not know what effect the law change had on Indian reservation sales.

These data demonstrate that the 1982 change in the fireworks law in Washington state was associated with a statistically significant increase in the number of fireworks-related injuries during the July 4 holiday period. This increase accompanies an increased use of firecrackers and aerial devices made possible by their greater availability. Other states may wish to consider our findings before legalizing fireworks that are not "Safe and Sane."

JOHN R. HANSEN, MD
JOHN KOBAYASHI, MD, MPH
FLYNN FOSTER, PhD
Washington State Department
of Social and Health Services
Seattle

T...

Original Contributions

Risk Factors for Fireworks-Related Injury in Washington State

Lynne V. McFarland, MS; Jeffrey R. Harris, MD; John M. Kobayashi, MD, MPH; Richard C. Dicker, MD, MPH

To determine the frequency and effects of and risk factors for fireworks-related injury, we identified all 146 persons who were injured by fireworks and sought emergency care during the 1983 July 4 holiday in the Seattle area. The mean charge for medical care for the injuries received was \$562; 7.1% of those injured required hospitalization. In a matched-pair case-control study, use of either of two fireworks types—firecrackers or aerial devices—was significantly associated with injury (odds ratios [ORs], 3.3 and 2.9, respectively; 95% confidence intervals [CI], 1.2, 8.5, and 1.2, 6.6, respectively). Also associated with injury were several fireworks misuse behaviors, including lack of adult supervision of children (OR, 11.5; CI, 2.8, 100.6). We conclude that fireworks cause serious injuries that theoretically could be prevented by behavioral changes or decreased availability of high-risk fireworks devices.

(JAMA 1984;251:3251-3254)

IN 1982, Washington State changed its law governing the sale of fireworks. Under federal law, fireworks are categorized into three classes: class A and B devices contain more than 50 mg of gunpowder and are illegal for sale to the general public, and class C devices contain 50 mg of gunpowder or less. The sale of individual types of class C fireworks is under state control. Previously, Washington State allowed only the sale of class C ground-display devices (devices that stay on the ground, often emitting sparks). However, in 1982, the sale of class C firecrackers (devices that explode and make noise) and some class C aerial devices (devices that either fly or shoot projectiles into the air) was legalized, but

skyrockets and missile rockets remained illegal. During the July 4 holiday that followed the law change, we reported a doubling, from the previous year, in the number of fireworks-related injuries reported by 11 hospitals, from 39 injuries in 1981 to 88 injuries in 1982. In response to this increase, in 1983, we conducted active surveillance to determine the number, circumstances, and costs of these injuries and a case-control study to determine risk factors for injury.

METHODS Surveillance

We identified all fireworks-related injuries in King County (metropolitan Seattle, population, 1.3 million) by active surveillance of all emergency rooms and emergency clinics open during the legal days of fireworks sale (June 25 to July 6, 1983). A designated contact person, usually the emergency room supervisor, collected demographic and injury information on all patients. Injured persons were counted as cases if they had been admitted to an emergency facility with an injury related to fireworks and the injury they received had occurred during the legal days of

fireworks sale. We designated two types of cases: those in active users (persons who were using fireworks at the time of injury) and those in innocent bystanders (persons who were not using fireworks themselves at the time of injury).

After the patients were identified, we mailed each a letter that explained our study and included a picture of fireworks types (for determining which device caused their injury). After one week, we called the patients, verified the age, sex, and injury information, and administered a standard questionnaire about the circumstances and costs of injury, fireworks exposure, and fireworks use behaviors. In most cases, charges for medical care were ascertained directly from medical bills. We interviewed only the parents of children aged 5 years or younger but interviewed all other injured persons directly.

Case-Control Study

We conducted a matched-pair case-control study by telephone. For each active user who was a King County resident, we obtained a control who was a King County resident, had used fireworks during the 1983 July 4 holiday but remained uninjured, and who was matched by sex and age plus or minus two years. Controls were contacted by a modified random-digit dialing technique. The first five numbers of the injured person's telephone number were fixed, then combined with two other numbers obtained successively from a random number table, until a proper match was found. Each control was interviewed immediately after completion of the corresponding injured person's interview. As with the injured persons, we interviewed only the parents of children aged 5 years or younger but interviewed all other controls directly. We obtained informed verbal consent from both the injured persons and controls before administering the questionnaire. When children were interviewed, we obtained consent from both the child and a parent. Injured persons and

From the Department of Epidemiology, University of Washington (Ms McFarland), and the Department of Social and Health Services, Division of Health, Office of Public Health Laboratories and Epidemiology (Dr Kobayashi), Seattle, and the Divisions of Field Services (Dr Harris) and Surveillance and Epidemiologic Studies (Dr Dicker), Epidemiology Program Office, Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta.

Reprint requests to Division of Field Services, Epidemiology Program Office, Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, GA 30333 (Dr Harris).

platelet, not an protection.

controls were asked identical questions regarding exposure to fireworks and their methods of fireworks use. The questions on fireworks use were designed to reflect the "customary" use of fireworks and not the circumstance that led to injury. All interviews were performed by one person (L.V.M.), and all interview questions were read in a standard manner.

Data Analysis

Differences in means for the surveillance data were analyzed by Student's *t* test for unpaired data. The matched-pair data were analyzed in matched fashion, and McFemmar χ^2 , odds ratios (ORs), and exact 95% confidence intervals (CI) were calculated,¹ and conditional logistic regression analysis was carried out.² Differences between the means of matched-pair groups were analyzed with Student's *t* test for paired data. A significance level of .05 was used for all tests.

RESULTS

A total of 146 persons with fireworks-related injuries were identified in King County during the study period. All 22 hospitals and ten emergency clinics open during the July 4 holiday participated. Of the 146 injured persons, 126 (86%) were initially treated in hospital emergency rooms, and 20 (14%) were initially treated in emergency clinics.

The site and type of injury (Table 1) were available for all 146 persons, while age and sex were available for all but one person. Most common were multiple injuries, followed by single-site burns, eye injuries, lacerations, and ear injuries (usually perforated eardrums). Isolated eye injuries made up 16% of the total injuries; however, nine of the multiple injuries involved the eye, so that overall, 32 (22%) of the 146 injuries involved the eye. Two of the multiple injuries resulted in amputation (one of a finger and one of a complete hand). Injured persons were from 2 to 64 years old; 72 (50%) were younger than 16 years. One hundred six (73%) of the injured were males, and 39 (27%) were females.

We were able to interview by telephone 113 (77%) of the 146 injured persons. Of those not interviewed, 12 refused participation and 21 were lost due to unavailable or incorrect telephone numbers. Those persons interviewed did not differ significantly by age or sex from those persons not interviewed. For the persons inter-

Table 1.—Fireworks-Related Injuries, by Site and Type, King County, Washington, July 4 Holiday, 1983

Injury Site	No. Injured (%)
Multiple sites	57 (39)
Single site	
Burns	41 (28)
Eye	23 (16)
Lacerations	17 (12)
Ear	0 (0)
Other	2 (1)
Total	146 (100)

Table 2.—Fireworks-Related Injuries and Hospitalization Rates, by Responsible Device, King County, Washington, July 4 Holiday, 1983

Fireworks Type	No. Injured (%)	No. Hospitalized (%)
Ground display	41 (36)	1 (2)
Firecrackers	38 (34)	3 (8)
Aerial	26 (23)	2 (8)
Homemade	4 (5)	2 (33)
Public display	1 (1)	0 (0)
Other	1 (1)	0 (0)
Total	113 (100)	8 (7)

*Percent is number hospitalized divided by number injured times 100, for a given fireworks type.

viewed, the mean time from injury to interview was 25 days. From the telephone interviews we obtained information on the race of the injured persons, their county of residence, the charges for medical care they received for their injury, the type of fireworks that caused their injury, and the circumstances of injury. The race of those interviewed reflected the racial composition of King County: 101 (89%) were white and 12 (11%) were nonwhite.

The county of residence information allowed a population-based estimate of the incidence of fireworks-related injury during the July 4 holiday in King County. Of the 113 persons interviewed, 98 (87%) were King County residents. Applied to the total of 146 injured persons, this provided an estimated total of 126 King County residents injured by fireworks. The incidence of fireworks-related injury, therefore, was 126 per 1.3 million King County residents, or 9.7 per 100,000 persons for the nine-day interval from June 28 through July 6. The information obtained on medical care charges included both dollars spent and the type and amount of treatment required. The mean dollar charge for care for all injured persons was \$562 (median,

Table 3.—Fireworks-Related Injuries and Hospitalization Rates, by Federal Legal Status of Device Causing Injury, King County, Washington, July 4 Holiday, 1983

	No. Injured (%)	No. Hospitalized (%)
Federally legal	86 (58)	2 (3)
Illegal	22 (16)	4 (18)
Unknown status	25 (22)	2 (8)
Total	113 (99)	8 (7)

*Percent is number hospitalized divided by number injured times 100, for a given fireworks type.

\$132), and 14% of those interviewed required care that cost more than \$500. Eight (7%) of those interviewed required hospitalization, for an average of seven days. For these, the average charge for medical care was \$5,431 (median, \$4,688). The other 105 (93%) injured persons were not hospitalized but required an average of 2.4 outpatient visits, at a mean charge of \$191 (median, \$130). Twenty percent of those injured remained under medical care a month after injury.

The type of fireworks device responsible for injury was also determined for all 113 persons interviewed (Table 2). Ground display devices caused 36% of all injuries, 47% of burns, 43% of multiple injuries, and 25% of eye injuries. Firecrackers caused 34% of all injuries, 75% of ear injuries, 42% of lacerations, and 35% of multiple injuries. Aerial devices caused 23% of all injuries, 44% of eye injuries, and 42% of lacerations. Homemade devices, such as lead pipe bombs, caused 5% of all injuries. Hospitalization rates differed by device type, ranging from 0% for injuries caused by public display devices to 33% for injuries caused by homemade devices (Table 2).

We were able to determine the legal status of 88 (78%) of the fireworks devices causing injury (Table 3). If the devices are classified according to the 1982 Washington law, 58 (66%) of the 88 classifiable injuries were caused by legal fireworks and 30 (34%) by illegal fireworks. Nineteen (22%) of the injuries were caused by devices "newly legalized" in 1982. If the devices are classified according to federal law, 66 (75%) of the 88 classifiable injuries were caused by legal devices. The hospitalization rate for persons injured by devices illegal

Fireworks-Related Injuries on Rates, by Federal of Device Causing Injury, King County, Washington, July 4 Holiday, 1983

No. Injured (%)	No. Hospitalized (%)*
68 (28)	2 (3)
22 (19)	4 (18)
25 (22)	2 (8)
113 (100)	8 (7)

*Hospitalized divided by number of given fireworks type

Of those interviewed at least one more than of those interviewed only once, for an average of 2.4 days. For these, the average medical care was \$688. The other 105 persons were not hospitalized on an average of 2.4 days at a mean charge of \$11. Twenty percent remained under medical care after injury.

Fireworks device recovery was also determined for persons interviewed who used display devices. Of 113 injuries, 47% of multiple injuries and 75% of serious injuries. Firecrackers caused 75% of ear perforations, and 35% of eye injuries. Aerial devices caused 44% of eye lacerations. Such as lead pipe caused 7% of all injuries. Injuries differed by device from 0% for ground display devices to 100% for home-made devices.

To determine the legal status of the fireworks injury (Table 3). If classified according to the law, 58 (66%) of the injuries were caused by legal fireworks and 30 by illegal fireworks. Nineteen injuries were caused by fireworks "classified" in 1982. If classified according to the law, 58 (66%) of the injuries were caused by legal fireworks and 30 by illegal fireworks.

Table 4.—Fireworks-Related Injuries, by Circumstances at Time of Injury, King County, Washington, July 4 Holiday, 1983

Circumstance	No. Injured (%)
Misuse of devices	
Holding in hand	35 (31)
Altered device	12 (11)
Relighting	9 (8)
Hit by thrown device	6 (5)
Exploding inside container	6 (4)
Misused aerial devices	4 (4)
Horseplay	3 (3)
Carried in pocket	1 (1)
Malfunctioning devices	17 (15)
Other	
Hit by sparks	16 (14)
Hit by car while avoiding fireworks, etc	5 (4)
Total	113 (100)

under federal law (18%) was six times higher than that for persons injured by devices legal under federal law.

Information on the circumstances of injury included the date and time of day of injury, the fireworks use behavior at the time of injury, and whether the person injured was actively using fireworks at the time of injury. Seventy-nine (70%) of the injuries occurred over the three-day July 4 holiday weekend. Of the 113 injuries, 81 (72%) occurred before dark and only 32 (28%) occurred after dark. The fireworks use behaviors at the time of injury are given in Table 4. Misuse or mishandling of fireworks was the cause of 75 (66%) of the injuries, while malfunctioning fireworks caused only 17 (15%) of the injuries. Holding fireworks in the hand was the most common misuse behavior.

Of the 113 persons interviewed, 97 (86%) were actively using fireworks at the time of their injury, and 16 (14%) were innocent bystanders. The active users were predominantly male (78%) and older (mean age, 19.1 years), while the innocent bystanders were more commonly female (62%) and younger (mean age, 14.2 years).

Eighty-four of the injured persons were active users from King County and thus were eligible for the case-control study. Injured persons were compared with controls for both their quantity of exposure to fireworks and their fireworks use behaviors. The quantity of exposure to fireworks over the entire July 4 holiday season,

Table 5.—Risk of Fireworks-Related Injury, by Device Used, King County, Washington, July 4 Holiday, 1983*

Fireworks Type	Discordant Matched Pairs†	Odds Ratio (Confidence Interval)‡
Firecrackers	19/8	3.3 (1.2, 8.5)
Aerial	23/8	2.9 (1.2, 6.6)
Ground display	13/13	0.9 (0.4, 2.1)

*n=168

†Case exposed, control not exposed/case not exposed, control exposed.

‡Odds ratio from conditional logistic regression model.

§95% confidence intervals, precision-based.

Table 6.—Risk Factors for Fireworks-Related Injuries, King County, Washington, July 4 Holiday, 1983*

Behavior	Discordant Matched Pairs†	Odds Ratio (95% Confidence Interval)‡
Not usually supervised by adult	23/2	11.5 (2.8, 100.6)§
Drinking¶	11/13	0.8 (0.3, 2.0)§
Relighting	27/3	8.8 (1.8, 43.0)§
Throwing	30/4	6.5 (1.2, 25.2)§
Holding in hand	24/6	4.7 (1.2, 18.0)§
Bending over to light	32/9	4.0 (1.3, 12.0)§
Carrying in pocket	22/3	1.9 (0.4, 8.3)§
Others throwing	24/13	1.8 (0.6, 4.9)§
Exploding inside containers	24/12	0.8 (0.2, 2.5)§
Others drinking	16/25	2.3 (0.1, 0.9)§

*n=168 unless otherwise indicated.

†Case exposed, control not exposed/case not exposed, control exposed.

‡If aged 15 years or younger, n=82.

§McNemar odds ratio, with exact 95% confidence intervals.

¶If aged 16 years or older, n=82.

‡Odds ratio from conditional logistic regression model with precision-based 95% confidence intervals.

as measured by dollars spent and number of days used, was not significantly different for injured persons and controls. Injured persons spent a mean of \$41 (median, \$24) on fireworks, and controls spent \$31 (median, \$20). Injured persons used fireworks for a mean of 3.0 days, and controls used fireworks for a mean of 2.7 days.

Injured persons and controls did differ significantly in their use of specific fireworks types (Table 5). Use of firecrackers had the highest risk of injury, and use of aerial devices also carried a significant risk. Use of ground display devices, however, was not associated with injury. A conditional logistic regression model that included all three of these variables yielded similar results (Table 5).

The risks of injury associated with various fireworks use behaviors are given in Table 6. The highest risk was associated with lack of adult supervision (asked only of those aged 15 years or younger). Other behaviors with significantly elevated risk in a univariate analysis were relighting fireworks that do not ignite at first, throwing fireworks, carrying fire-

works in one's pocket, bending over fireworks to light them (instead of approaching them from the side), and holding fireworks in the hand. Behaviors that were not found to carry a significantly elevated risk of injury were exploding fireworks inside of containers, accompanying persons who were throwing fireworks, drinking alcohol while using fireworks (asked only of those aged 16 years or older), or accompanying persons who were drinking alcohol while using fireworks. A conditional logistic regression model included the eight behavior questions that were asked of persons of all ages and excluded the parental supervision and alcohol use questions. Results were similar to those of the univariate analysis; however, carrying fireworks in one's pocket was no longer significantly associated with injury in this model.

COMMENT

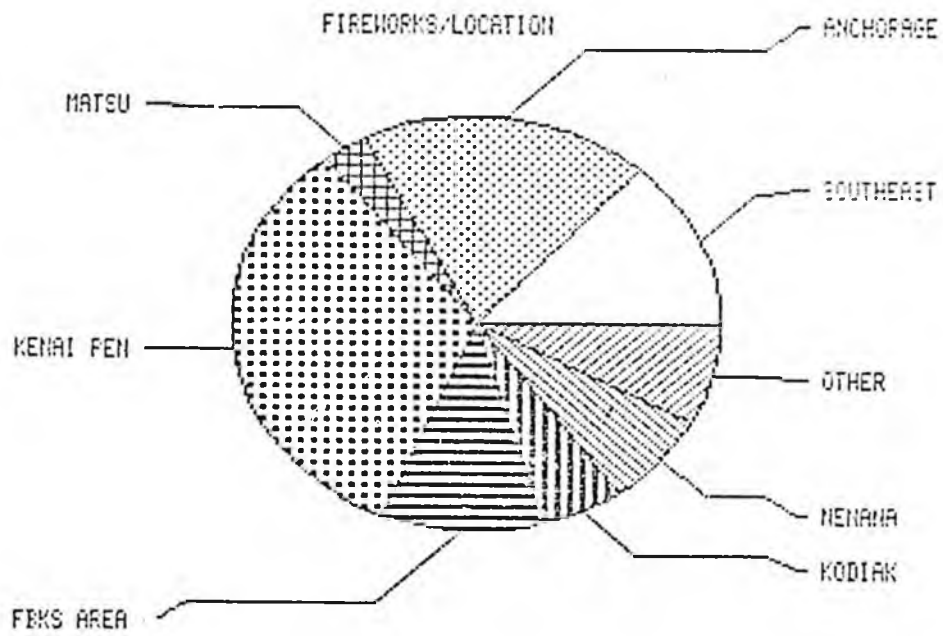
We carried out active surveillance of fireworks-related injuries via emergency facilities in the metropolitan Seattle area during the 1983 July 4 holiday and found a substantial number of expensive injuries. Our

LOCATION OF FIRES CAUSED

BY

FIREWORKS

1980-1984



Source: ANFIRS

gets better. I would just like to say the legislature will put it off and put it off until someone dies or a major riot occurs. Why does it always have to come to that?

Doug Smith

Pourchot explains fireworks bill

I would like to respond to the inaccurate and misleading Jan. 24 letter by Louie March, President of the Alaska Fireworks Association.

I would have expected the association president to have a better knowledge of my bill. His comments suggest he either has not read my bill or is intentionally misleading the public.

House Bill 35 would amend state statutes to restrict use and sale of *dangerous* fireworks statewide to effectively enforce prohibitions on fireworks already imposed by Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau and Ketchikan.

House Bill 35:

- Does not prohibit, as Mr. March implies, the public fireworks display at Fur Rendezvous and Independence Day celebrations. These would continue to be permitted by the state fire marshal.

- Does not prohibit, as Mr. March alleges, the sale and use of novelty fireworks, including toy pistols and cap guns.

- Does not prohibit cone fountains, cylindrical fountains, sparklers, illuminating torches and wheels.

- Does not bar, as Mr. March says, the use of model rockets and their propellants.

House Bill 35:

- Does prohibit the sale and unlicensed use of dangerous fireworks, which include fire-

crackers, M-80s, and exploding skyrockets.

Increased regulation of the availability of certain fireworks is similar to restrictions on the use and availability of alcohol. Like the misuse of alcohol, the misuse of fireworks has become a significant public problem.

Given the above information, I believe most people would agree that regulation of dangerous fireworks is both reasonable and necessary. House Bill 35 is an effective resolution to this public hazard and nuisance.

— Rep. Pat Pourchot
District 13

Energy subsidy proposal attacked

The Governor's Task Force, which recently proposed a costly plan for power cost subsidization in Alaska will only increase dependency on government with no guaranteed end in sight to that subsidy nor a plan to produce energy without subsidy.

A basic assumption for the success of this plan is the building of major capital projects needed to keep the average statewide cost of power low building such as Susitna and Bradley Lake.

The task force proposes that such capital projects be financed *entirely* by tax-exempt revenue bonds. But, in January 1984 the Kenco report prepared for the Chamber of Commerce examined the use of tax-exempt bonds and concluded that, at the current time, Susitna is not eligible for tax-exempt financing.

To make it eligible would require a change in the power purchase and delivery system to meet federal exemptions. The second approach require a congressional exemption which may be difficult as Congress has been limiting the

ADN 2/5/85

FIREWORKS FACTS

IS A TOTAL BAN EFFECTIVE?

There has been frequent discussion on the effectiveness of total prohibition of the use of fireworks by the general public in reducing the number of annual fireworks-related injuries.

The American fireworks industry, through the American Pyrotechnics Association, has long maintained that the controlled sale and use of legal fireworks, together with a vigorous safety education program, is the best approach to fireworks safety. Where legal fireworks are not available, bootleggers and home manufacturers produce and sell highly dangerous items with no quality control or concern for the health and welfare of the public.

The only statistically valid survey of fireworks injuries is performed annually by the Bureau of Epidemiology of the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission, through its National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS). In this system, selected hospital emergency rooms are linked via computer to CPSC headquarters, and all types of product injuries are reported and tabulated.

The NEISS figures for 1975, 1976 and 1977 have been analyzed to determine the effectiveness of a total ban. States were divided into three categories: Group 1 (states with a total ban on the public use of fireworks); Group 2 (states permitting sparklers and certain novelty items); and Group 3 (states permitting at least some type of common fireworks to be used by the public).

The number of states in each category, the percent of states in each category, percent of NEISS hospitals located in each category, the number of fireworks-related injuries occurring in states in each category and the percent of total fireworks-related injuries occurring in states in each category were determined. The results of this analysis are shown in the following table:

It can be clearly seen from these figures that there is not a reduction in fireworks-related injuries associated with the adoption of a total ban on the use of sparklers and common fireworks.

Over 40% of the fireworks-related injuries reported to the CPSC during the years 1975-1977 occurred in states with a total ban on the public use of fireworks, and many of these were very serious injuries from homemade fireworks and federally-banned large explosive devices.

Regulation, public education and supervision of children by responsible adults are the keys to fireworks safety. These figures and other information has shown that prohibition does not work, cannot work and is counter-productive.

(Note: Detailed injury information regarding location of hospitals was not available for years past 1977.)

<u>Type of fireworks law as of 1977</u>	<u>Number of states in each category</u>	<u>Percent of states with such a law, 1977</u>	<u>Percent of NEISS hospitals in category</u>	<u>Number of firework injuries</u>	<u>Percent of total injuries in Group</u>
Group 1 Total ban	15	30.0	38.0	311	40.7
Group 2 Only sparklers and novelties allowed	13	26.0	31.0	232	30.3
Group 3 Some or all common fire-works allowed	22	44.0	31.0	222	29.0
	<u>50</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>765</u>	<u>100.0</u>

FIREWORKS FACTS

FIREWORKS INJURIES BY TYPE OF DEVICE

June 23 - July 20 Holiday Periods

1974-1980

<u>Type of Device</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Estimated Injuries</u>
Illegal explosive devices	28.7
Legal firecrackers	30.3
Sky Rocket	2.5
Bottle Rocket	5.0
Missile Rocket	0.5
Roman Candle	4.9
Sparklers	8.7
Cone or base fountain	3.9
Handle or spike fountain	0.6
California candle	0.1
Toy smoke device	3.2
Wheel	0.7
Other types of fireworks	2.9
Homemade devices	3.1
Public display accidents	4.7

Average number of injuries during the holiday period, per year for the period 1974-1980 was 4,480.

Data from "Fireworks Injuries" 1980. Report by Deborah Kale and Beatrice Harwood. U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Directorate for Hazard Identification and Analysis -- Epidemiology.

FIREWORKS CONTROL LAWS

(as of 3/1/84)

I. States which allow Class C fireworks as approved by enforcing authority, or as specified in law (total of 26 states plus the District of Columbia):

Alabama	Louisiana	Oregon
Alaska	Michigan	South Carolina
Arkansas	Mississippi	South Dakota
California	Missouri	Tennessee
District of Columbia	Montana	Texas
Idaho	Nebraska	Utah
Indiana	New Mexico	Virginia
Kansas	North Dakota	Washington
Kentucky	Oklahoma	Wyoming

II. States having no fireworks laws, except at county level (total is 2):

Hawaii Nevada

III. States which allow only sparklers and/or snakes (total is 8):

Colorado (sparklers)	Iowa (sparklers & snakes)
Florida (sparklers)	Wisconsin (sparklers & snakes)
Illinois (sparklers)	
Maine (sparklers)	
Maryland (sparklers)	
Pennsylvania (sparklers)	

IV. States which ban all Class C fireworks (total is 14):

Arizona	Minnesota	Ohio
Connecticut	New Hampshire	Rhode Island
Delaware	New Jersey	Vermont
Georgia	New York	West Virginia
Massachusetts	North Carolina	

ESTIMATES OF INJURIES ASSOCIATED
WITH CONSUMER PRODUCTS

July 1, 1980 - June 30, 1981

Source: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

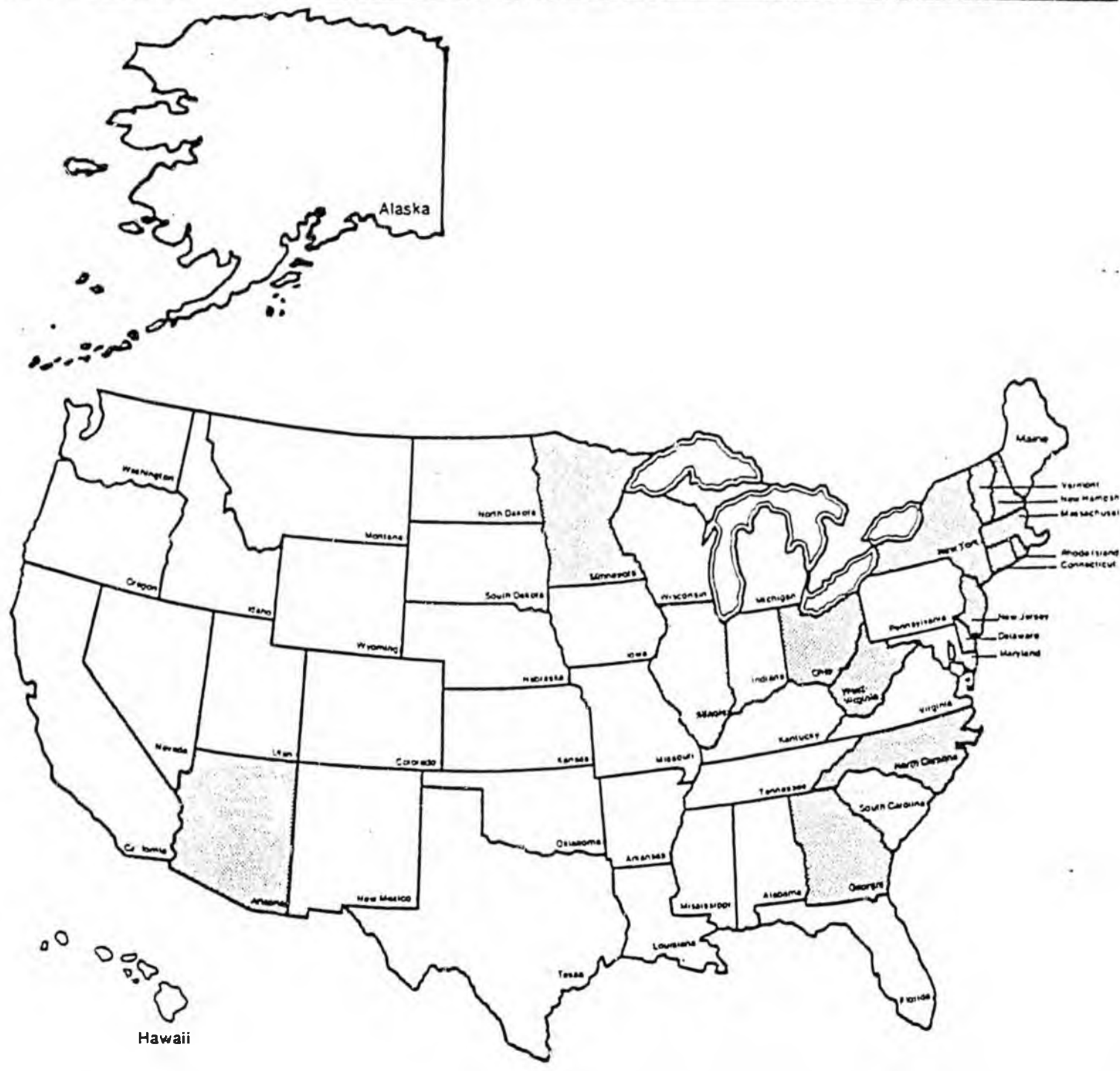
<u>Product & Rating</u>	<u>Est. Injuries (in 1,000)</u>	<u>Product & Rating</u>	<u>Est. Injuries (in 1,000)</u>
1. stairs	763	26. volleyball	76
2. bicycles	518	27. clothing access.	74
3. baseball	478	28. table/flatware	70
4. football	470	29. porches/balconies	69
5. basketball	434	30. lawn mowers	68
6. nails, tacks	244	40. motor scooters	53
7. chairs, sofas	236	50. workshop tools	40
8. skating	225	60. sleds/toboggans	32
9. tables (non-glass)	225	70. roofing (& material)	27
10. glass doors/windows	208	80. automotive tools	22
11. beds	199	90. martial arts	19
12. playground equipment	165	100. fans (electric)	16
13. lumber	151	110. paper money/coins	14
14. knives & cutlery	140	120. drain/oven cleaners	13
15. glass bottles	140	130. furnaces	11
16. desks/cabinets	126	131. home cleaning equip.	11
17. swimming	126	132. pressure containers	10
18. drinking glasses	111	133. lockers	10
19. ladders/stools	99	134. trimmers/small tools	10
20. fences	99	135. chains	10
21. soccer	96	136. high chairs	10
22. cans	93	137. pruning equipment	10
23. bathtubs/showers	83	138. lacrosse	10
24. exterior structures	78	*139. fireworks	10
25. power workshop saws	76	140. boxing	10

* The fireworks injury estimate is for all types of fireworks. A significant percentage of this estimate results from the use of dangerous, illegal explosive items and homemade "fireworks".

FIREWORKS CONTROL LAWS

(as of 3/1/84)

- I. States which allow Class C fireworks as approved by enforcing authority, or as specified in law (total of 26 states plus the District of Columbia):
- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Alabama | Louisiana | Oregon |
| Alaska | Michigan | South Carolina |
| Arkansas | Mississippi | South Dakota |
| California | Missouri | Tennessee |
| District of Columbia | Montana | Texas |
| Idaho | Nebraska | Utah |
| Indiana | New Mexico | Virginia |
| Kansas | North Dakota | Washington |
| Kentucky | Oklahoma | Wyoming |
- II. States having no fireworks laws, except at county level (total is 2):
- | | |
|--------|--------|
| Hawaii | Nevada |
|--------|--------|
- III. States which allow only sparklers and/or snakes (total is 8):
- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Colorado (sparklers) | Iowa (sparklers & snakes) |
| Florida (sparklers) | Wisconsin (sparklers & sna |
| Illinois (sparklers) | |
| Maine (sparklers) | |
| Maryland (sparklers) | |
| Pennsylvania (sparklers) | |
- IV. States which ban all Class C fireworks (total is 14):
- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Arizona | Minnesota | Ohio |
| Connecticut | New Hampshire | Rhode Island |
| Delaware | New Jersey | Vermont |
| Georgia | New York | West Virginia |
| Massachusetts | North Carolina | |



- State law permits fireworks of some type
- State law does not permit fireworks of any type

FIREWORKS INJURIES

1981

Deborah Kale

Beatrice Harwood

U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Directorate for Epidemiology

Division of Hazard Analysis

FIREWORKS

Summary

Firework-related injuries have increased, albeit irregularly, since 1974. The 1981 estimate, 11,400 injuries, equals the previous high of 11,100 estimated for the Bicentennial year.

An annual study conducted during the Independence Day holidays indicates that firecrackers continue to account for a major portion of firework-related injuries. Injuries attributed to the more powerful devices, the federally banned Class B firecrackers, appear to have decreased somewhat in recent years. However, injuries identified with Class C firecrackers, a category which since December 1976 has included both legal and illegal devices, have demonstrated an increase over the last couple of years to a point above that estimated for 1976. (In 1976 CPSC reduced the amount of permissible pyrotechnic charge in Class C firecrackers from 130 to 50 milligrams, but their physical dimensions, historically about 1½ by ¼ inch diameter, do not necessarily identify the amount of charge). Injuries associated with fireworks other than firecrackers have also increased over their previous high reported during the Bicentennial year.

Fire department data, which was reviewed from four states for years 1977 through 1980 indicates an increase in firework-related fires during this time period. Unlike personal injury cases, which involved firecrackers more frequently than other kinds of fireworks, house fire incidents most frequently involved rocket-type fireworks, which usually ignited roofing materials.

Data from previous years have indicated that most injuries associated with both (federally) legal and illegal fireworks involved misuse rather than product malfunction. Moreover, injuries attributed to permissible fireworks, from either misuse or malfunction, were generally minor, and did not often require hospitalization.

Nevertheless, the upward trend in injuries and fires over the last several years is disconcerting. Even if the increase merely reflects production and sales trends, the fact that fireworks continue to be associated with a large number of preventable injuries each year is a problem of continuing concern.

Introduction

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) adopted new federal regulations for fireworks in December 1976. These regulations reduced the amount of permissible pyrotechnic charge in firecrackers from 2 grains (about 130 milligrams) to 50 milligrams (.772 grains), and established various construction, performance, and labeling requirements for other types of fireworks.

The Commission monitored firework-related hospital emergency room injuries during the 1981 Independence Day holiday period (June 23-July 20) in order to evaluate the effects of these regulations. Hospital personnel were provided with a chart illustrating types and sizes of fireworks (see attachment) for the purpose of identifying the type of firework associated with each injury reported to them during the special study period. This information was evaluated and compared to similar data for the same time periods in 1974 through 1980.

In addition, fire department data from the U.S. Fire Administration was reviewed for years 1977 through 1980 for possible trends in firework-related fires.

National Estimates

Table I presents estimates of firework-related injuries for all years since 1974. These estimates were projected from data collected through CPSC's National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS), a computer based network of statistically selected hospital emergency rooms located throughout the U.S. In calendar year 1981, there were an estimated 11,400 injuries associated with fireworks. Firework injuries have increased, albeit irregularly, since 1974, and the 1981 estimate represents the highest level reached. since such injuries peaked at 11,100 during the Bicentennial year.

Table 1.
 Total Estimated Firework Injuries for
 Complete Years and Special Study Time Periods, 1974 - 1981

Calendar Year	Total Annual Estimated Injuries	Estimated Injuries June 23 - July 20	Special Study Period - Percent of Total
1974	5,200	3,600	69%
1975	4,700	2,700	57%
1976	11,100	6,500	59%
1977	8,200	5,100	62%
1978	7,100	3,900	55%
1979	8,100	4,700	58%
1980	9,400	5,000	53%
1981	11,400*	7,000	61%

*Estimate may be subject to minor increase.

Source: National Electronic Injury Surveillance System, 1974 - 1981

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission/EPHA

Specific types of fireworks associated with these injuries were determined from hospital emergency room reports received during the special study time period. Table 2 provides estimates of firework-related injuries by type of device for all years since 1974. These estimates were obtained by applying the proportion of injuries attributed to each type of firework in the sample to the total estimate of firework-related injuries for that time period. Injuries from unknown types of fireworks were prorated according to the distribution of known kinds.

Firecrackers:

The estimate of 3,500 injuries associated with firecrackers during the 1981 holiday period was the highest reported for all years since 1974.

Class C firecrackers, a category which includes both legal and illegal devices*, accounted for almost 2,200 injuries, as compared to 1,300 estimated for Class B types, which have been illegal for some years now. Further, injuries attributed to the Class C devices reached their highest point since the 1974 holiday period.

Injuries associated with Class B firecrackers continued an apparent decline from their highest point of 2010 injuries, which had been estimated for 1979.

*As noted in Epidemiology's 1980 report on firework injuries, size is no longer a reliable indicator of the amount of charge in a firecracker, due to changes in firecracker construction in recent years. Thus, injuries associated with either Type A or Type AA firecrackers, as specified on the fireworks chart, have been combined and discussed under the broader category of Class C firecrackers. While this category therefore includes both legal and illegal firecrackers, further distinction between the two is not possible.

Table 2.

Estimates of Fireworks Injuries by Type of Device
(June 23 - July 20, 1974 - 1981)

	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
N =	108	80	136	162	180	205	124	131
Total Estimated Injuries	7,000*	5,000	4,700	3,900	5,100	6,500	2,700	3,600
<u>Firecrackers</u>	<u>3,500</u>	<u>3,330</u>	<u>2,950</u>	<u>2,700</u>	<u>2,240</u>	<u>3,440</u>	<u>1,520</u>	<u>2,340</u>
Large (Class B)	1,300	1,510	2,010	1,410	850	1,660	750	800
Small (Class C)	2,190	1,820	940	1,280	1,391	1,780	780	1,540
<u>Other Common Fireworks</u>	<u>3,500</u>	<u>1,290</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,070</u>	<u>2,370</u>	<u>2,530</u>	<u>990</u>	<u>940</u>
Sparklers	800	410	280	180	650	780	200	220
Cone or Base Fountain	220	-	130	130	120	370	160	310
Handle or Spike Fountain	-	-	30	-	30	100	-	30
Sky Rocket	150	200	60	50	120	100	200	60
Bottle Rocket	660	340	130	230	340	440	70	30
Missile Rocket	150	-	30	30	30	-	20	30
Roman Candle	220	70	160	160	520	340	180	90
California Candle	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-
Smoke Bomb	70	270	90	130	180	200	40	90
Wheel	-	-	30	-	30	100	40	30
Other	1,240	-	250	160	340	100	40	30
<u>Home Made Device</u>	-	<u>70</u>	<u>310</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>270</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>Public Display</u>	-	<u>270</u>	<u>220</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>370</u>	<u>230</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>250</u>

*Column detail may not add up due to rounding.

Source: National Electric Injury Surveillance System, 1974 - 1981.

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission/EPHA

Other Class C Fireworks:

Injuries were evenly divided between those associated with firecrackers and those attributed to other common fireworks, both with 3500 injuries. It should be noted, however, that over a thousand of the injuries, shown in the "other" column for non-firecracker types of devices involved a "ground-spinner" type of firework, reported primarily from one hospital in the NEISS system. Because this appears to have been a problem in that locale only, and not representative of a national problem, the estimate of injuries associated with other Class C devices may be artificially high.

However, even if injuries from this local device are excluded, a substantial increase would be indicated from estimates for most previous years. Sparklers and bottle rockets were the devices associated with the largest number of injuries, with such injuries reaching their highest levels since 1974. For other types of Class C fireworks, no readily discernible trends were evident, aside from a peak in 1976.

Characteristics of Victims:

As in past years, almost half of the victims were under age 15, and about three-fourths were under 25. About two-thirds of the victims were males. Over one-third of the injuries involved the arm area, including shoulders, hands, and fingers, and another third involved the head, including neck, face, mouth, eyes, and ears. Almost 60 percent of the injuries were burns; another 25 percent involved contusions/abrasions or lacerations. The hospitalization rate averaged about 9 percent for all years since 1974, with about 10 percent being reported for the 1981 Independence Day period.

Fire Department Data

Data from the U.S. Fire Administration was also examined for recent trends in fireworks fires. As shown in Table 3, fire department data from California, Missouri, Ohio, and Oregon was reviewed for years 1977 through 1980. While the number of residential fires from all causes remained fairly constant or declined slightly (about four percent) over this time period, fires started by fireworks increased about 17 percent. Each year, about three-fourths of these fires involved the ignition of exterior structural components, primarily the roof.

While it is not possible to specify from this data the types of fireworks involved, a special study sponsored by the Los Angeles County Chapter of the California Fire Chiefs Association* does provide some of this information. Of 382 structure fires reported by participating fire departments during their June 13 to July 13, 1981 study period, 78 percent involved the ignition of wooden roofing materials. Over 59 percent of the structure fires, and over 68 percent of the structure fires specifically involving a wooden roof were caused by bottle rockets. An additional 14 percent and 13 percent of these fires, respectively, were attributed to other types of rocket devices such as sky rockets, missile rockets, and rockets of unspecified type.

*"The 1981 Los Angeles County-wide Study of Fireworks Related Fires and Injuries." Sponsored by the Los Angeles County Chapter of the California Fire Chiefs Association and prepared by the Los Angeles City Fire Department Information Systems Division. August 1981.

Table 3.

Comparison of Residential Fires in Which Fireworks
Were the Form of Heat of Ignition
(California, Missouri, Ohio, Oregon - 1977 to 1980)

<u>Year</u> <u>Total, 4 States</u>	<u>All</u> <u>Fires</u>	<u>Firework</u> <u>Fires</u>	<u>Form of Material First Ignited</u>	
			<u>Exterior Roof,</u> <u>Sidewall and Trim</u>	<u>Other</u> <u>or</u> <u>Unknown</u>
1977	69,043	263	179	84
1978	68,375	317	245	72
1979	66,964	390	315	75
1980	66,332	309	253	56
Percent Change, 1977-1980	- 4%	+17%	+41%	-33%

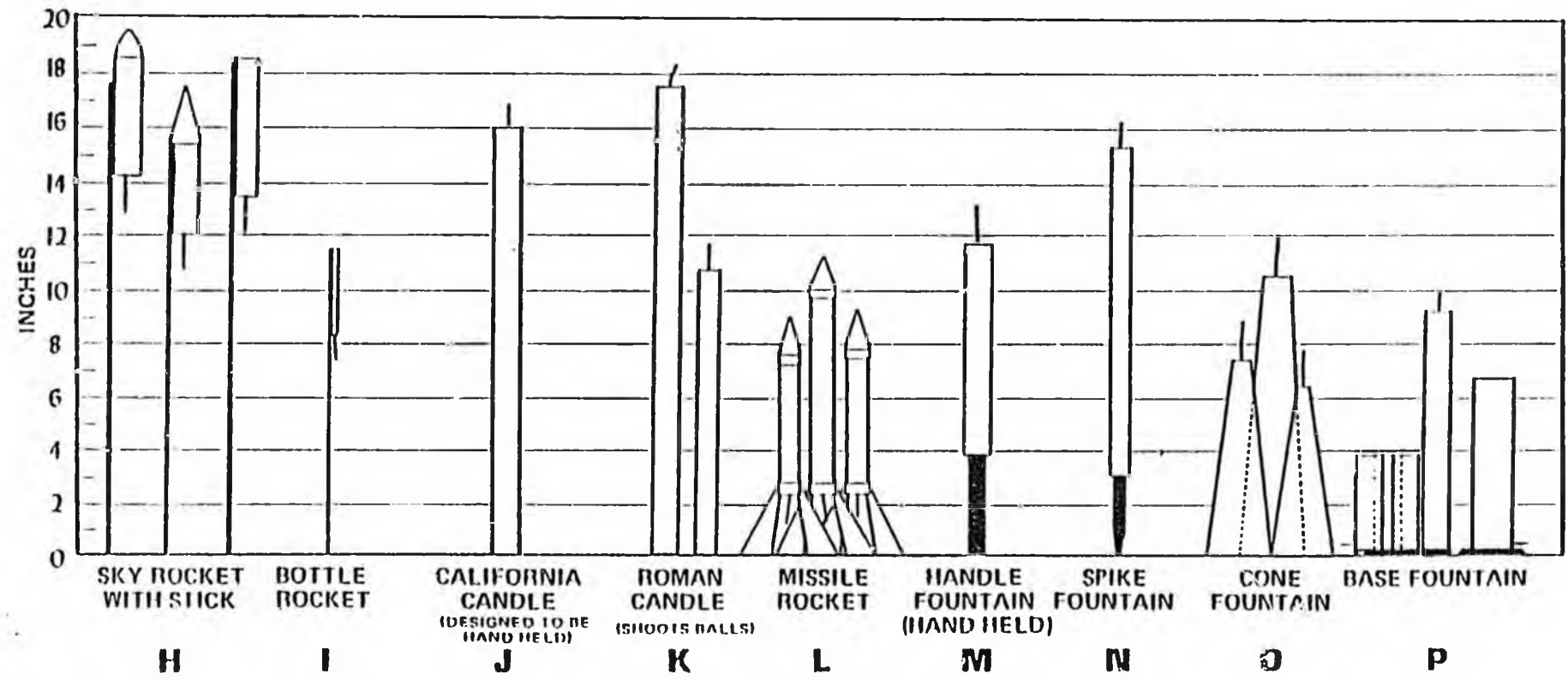
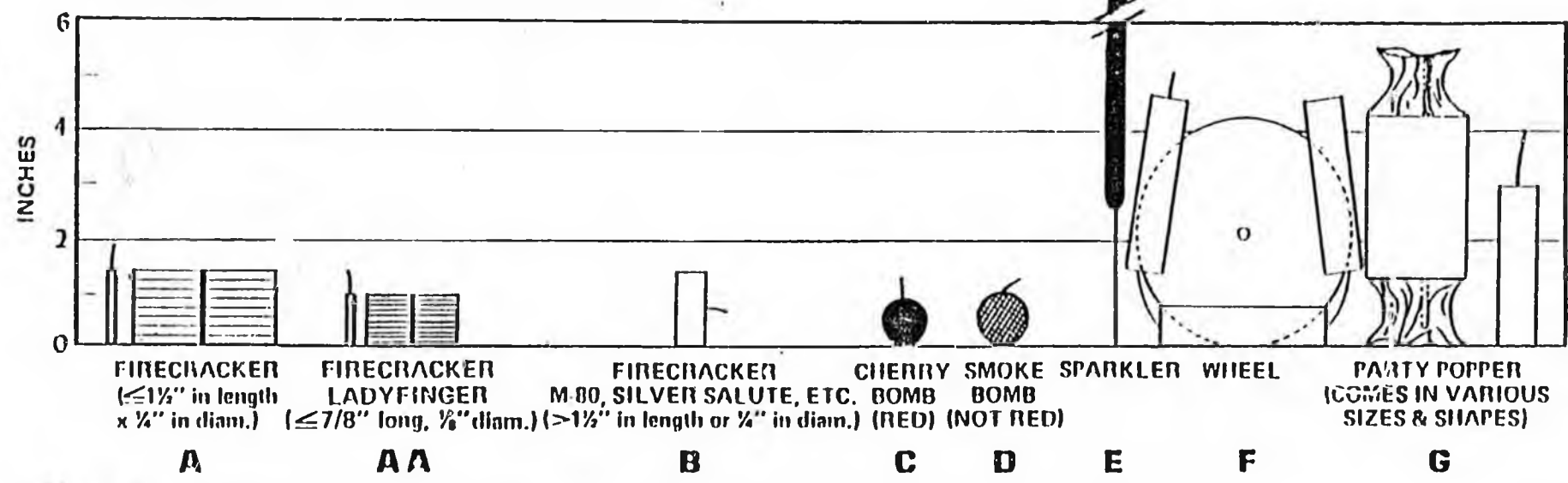
Source: Data obtained from U.S. Fire Administration 1977-1980
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission/EPHA

Discussion

Analysis of specific hazard patterns involved in fireworks injuries is outside the scope of the present report. However, previous studies have shown that a majority of the injuries, particularly those that involved devices that are permissible under CPSC standards, involved misuse rather than a product defect. Further, misuse-type accidents with permissible fireworks generally did not involve serious injuries. Few of the victims required hospitalized care.

Nevertheless, the upward trend in injuries and fires over the last several years is discomfoting. Even if the increase merely reflects production and sales trends, the fact that fireworks continue to be associated with a large number of preventable injuries each year is a problem of continuing concern.

Types of Fireworks



TO: REPS. BOUCHER, CATO, COLLINS, HURLEY, JENKINS, MILLER, M.M., NAVARRE

FROM: LOUIE MARCH
PRESIDENT AK FIREWORKS ASSOC.
BOX 1292
SEWARD, AK 99664
224-3645

MAR 13 1985

SUBJECT: HB 35 FIREWORKS
MESSAGE: I AM AGAINST THE AMENDED HB 35. I DO APPRECIATE THE JULY 15TH ENACTIVEMENT DATE, BUT AS IT READS NOW THIS WILL STILL RUIN US. AS PRESIDENT OF AK FIREWORKS ASSOC. AND BUSINESSMAN, I ENCOURAGE YOU TO VOTE AGAINST THIS BILL GOING ANY FURTHER. THANK YOU.
EOM

*
* DELIVER TO: TCJNU *
* *
* ORIGINAL *
* SENT: 02/01/85 TIME: 16:51 *
* FROM: LIOBAR *
* SUBJECT: FINAL STATS. *
* PRINT DATE: 02/01/85 TIME: 16:51 *
* *

FINAL STATSFINAL STATS***FINAL STATS***FINAL STATS***

DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 1985.
SITE/LOCATION: BARROW LIO.
SPONSOR/SUBJECT: (H)SA/FIREWORKS.

-----TESTIFY/OBSERVE
BARROW PARTICIPANTS:

1) BARROW HAD NO PARTICIPANTS.

TESTIFIED: 0 OBSERVED: 0 TOTAL: 0
T/C STARTED: 3:15 T/C ENDED: 4:50

EOM

* DELIVER TO: TCJNU

*
*

* ORIGINAL

* SENT: 02/04/85 TIME: 10:39

* FROM: LIONOM

* SUBJECT: H.B. 35 STATE AFFAIRS

* PRINT DATE: 02/04/85 TIME: 10:39

*

*** FINAL T/C STATS ***

DATE: 2/1/85

SITE: NOME, ALASKA

SPONSOR: HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: H.B. 35 FIREWORKS REGULATIONS

LOCAL MODERATOR: ALTON A. WALLUK

TESTIFIED:

NAME/REPRESENTING

ADDRESS

PHONE

--0--0--0--

--0--0--0--

OBSERVED:

NAME/REPRESENTING

ADDRESS

PHONE

TESTIFIED: -----

OBSERVED: -----

TOTAL: -----

TIME START: -----

TIME END: -----

```

*
* DELIVER TO: TCJNU
*
*
* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 02/04/85 TIME: 08:40
* FROM: TCGLN
* SUBJECT: FIREWORKS T-C
* PRINT DATE: 02/04/85 TIME: 08:40
*
*****

```

```

*****
E_I_N_A_L_____S_I_A_I_S
*****
LEGISLATIVE TELECONFERENCE NETWORK
*****

```

```

DATE: 2-1-85
SITE-MODERATOR: GLENNALLEN-REBA
SPONSOR: HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS
SUBJECT: STATE FIREWORKS

```

```

1 TESTIFIED T-C BEGAN: 3:08
0 OBSERVED T-C ENDED: 4:55
1 TOTAL JNU MODERATOR DIIM DORIS

```

```

*****
NAME ADDRESS-PHONE TESTIFIED - OBSERVED
*****
1. RANDY SPECKELS NORTH STAR FIREWORKS X
SR BOX 226
COPPER CENTER, AK 99573

```

EOM

```

*
* DELIVER TO: TCJNU
*
* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 02/01/85 TIME: 17:23
* FROM: LIOSOL
* SUBJECT: FINAL STATS
* PRINT DATE: 02/01/85 TIME: 17:23
*
*****

```

FINAL T/C STATS

```

DATE: __FRI. FEB. 1, 1985__
SITE: __SOLDOTNA__
SPONSOR: HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS
SUBJECT: HR 35: AN ACT RELATING TO STATE FIREWORKS
LOCAL MODERATOR: IIM

```

```

TESTIFIED:
NAME/REPRESENTING ADDRESS PHONE
1. ROGER HANSEN BOX 744, STERLING 262-6440
2. JOHN WILLIAMS BOX 1315, KENAI 282-4960
3. JASON ELSON, PRES. AK STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSN., BOX 2712, KENAI, 283-7666
4. FRANK MULLEN, K.F. BOROUGH ASSEMBLY, 43955 STERLING HWY, SOLDOTNA 262-5612
5. PAUL WROE, BOX 3133, KENAI 262-5280

```

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OBSERVED: NAME ADDRESS PHONE
1. MARIE KING BOX 257, STERLING 262-5626
2. THOMAS REINHART BOX 2487, SOLDOTNA 283-9338
3. BARRY THOMSON BOX 457, KENAI
4. ALAN PHILIPS/SOLDOTNA FIRE DEPT., 23150 STERLING HWY, 262-4792

```

```

TESTIFIED: 5__ TIME STARTED: __3:00P
OBSERVED: __4__ TIME FINISHED: 4:45P
TOTAL: __9__

```

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*                                     *
* ORIGINAL                             *
* SENT:          02/01/85  TIME: 17:22 *
* FROM:          PAULA GRAY           *
* SUBJECT:       F/STS FIREWORKS/HSTA *
* PRINT DATE:   02/01/85  TIME: 17:22 *
*                                     *
*****

```

*** FINAL T/C STATS ***

```

DATE: 2-01-85-----
SITE: FAIRBANKS-----
SPONSOR: HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS-----
SUBJECT: REGULATION OF FIREWORKS-----
LOCAL MODERATOR: _____PAULA GRAY_____

```

TESTIFIED:

NAME/REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE
1. HARRY NIEHAUS, PO BX 55090 N.P. AK, 99705		488-9328
2. BROTHER TOM PATMOR, PO BX 124, CLAM GLUCH, AK		262-5978
3. WAYNE GRIEME, 6230 GRIEME RD., N.P. AK 99705		488-3083
4. MARTON WUBBOLD, PO BX 60773, FBX, 99706		457-7603
5. JOHN WARD, PO BX 74233, FBX, 99701		455-6339

OBSERVED: NAME/REPRESENTING ADDRESS PHONE

1. PAUL JURGENS, 2350 LORI LANE, N.P. AK 99705 457-7603

```

TESTIFIED:  5-----
OBSERVED:   1-----
TOTAL:      6-----

TIME START: 3:10 PM-----
TIME END:   4:40 PM-----

```

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*
* DELIVER TO: TCJNU
*
* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 02/01/85 .IME: 17:10
* FROM: TCANC
* SUBJECT: HB 35 FIREWORKS
* PRINT DATE: 02/01/85 TIME: 17:10
*
*****

```

*** FINAL T/C STATS ***

```

DATE: 2/1/85
SITE: ANCHORAGE MAIN
SPONSOR: HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS
SUBJECT: HB 35 FIREWORKS
LOCAL MODERATOR: JEANMARIE SMITH

```

TESTIFIED:

NAME/REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE
ROBERT HALL	1205 W 47TH	563-0672/276-02265
ROSS FOSBERG/FIRE CHIEF	ANCH. 1301 E 80TH	267-4934
SAM NEAL	PO BOX 6313 ANCH.	269-5491
ED RHODE S	625 'C' ST. ANCH.	264-4364
THOMAS SPENCER	1409 NUNAKA DR.	337-2955

OBSERVED:

NAME/REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE
A C SCHALH/FIRE MARSHALL	DPS	269-5004
LUELLA M SPENCER	1517 NUNAKA DR. ANCH.	3331036

```

TESTIFIED: 5
OBSERVED: 2
TOTAL: 7

```

```

TIME START: 3:00PM
TIME END: 4:45PM

```

 * DELIVER TO: TCJNU *
 * ORIGINAL *
 * SENT: 02/01/85 TIME: 17:23 *
 * FROM: BONNIE POTTER *
 * SUBJECT: 2/1/85 T/C HB 35 FIREWORKS *
 * PRINT DATE: 02/01/85 TIME: 17:23 *

*** FINAL T/C STATS ***

DATE: ___2/1/85___
 SITE: ___KETCHIKAN___
 SPONSOR: ___HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS___
 SUBJECT: ___HB 35 RE STATE FIREWORKS___
 LOCAL MODERATOR: ___JUNE ROBBINS___

TESTIFIED:
 NAME/REPRESENTING ADDRESS PHONE

1. J. RAY ROADY, 605 MAIN ST., KETCHIKAN, AK. 99901, 225-3551

TESTIFIED: ___1___ TIME START: ___3:00 PM___
 OBSERVED: ___0___ TIME END: ___4:30 PM___
 TOTAL: ___1___

*
* DELIVER TO: TCJNU *
*
* ORIGINAL *
* SENT: 02/04/85 TIME: 09:08 *
* FROM: LIKOT *
* SUBJECT: T/C HB 35 *
* PRINT DATE: 02/04/85 TIME: 09:08 *
*

*****FINAL T\C STATS*****

DATE: _____ 2\1\85 _____
SITE: _____ KOTZEBUE _____
SPONSOR: _____ HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS _____
SUBJECT: _____ HB 35: FIREWORKS _____
LOCAL MODERATOR: _____ SUSAN LIE, RES.LIO _____

TESTIFIED:

KOTZEBUE

0

AMBLER

0

OBSERVED:

KOTZEBUE

0

AMBLER

0

TESTIFIED: _____ 0 _____

TIME STARTED: 3:00

PM

OBSERVED: _____ 0 _____

TIME ENDED: 4:30

PM

TOTAL: _____ 0 _____

*****EOM*****

*
 * DELIVER TO: TCJNU *
 *
 * ORIGINAL *
 * SENT: 02/04/85 TIME: 13:29 *
 * FROM: TCHOM *
 * SUBJECT: FINAL STATS-FIREWORKS *
 * PRINT DATE: 02/04/85 TIME: 13:29 *
 *

*** FINAL T/C STATS ***

DATE: _____ FEBRUARY 1, 1985 _____
 SITE: _____ HOMER _____
 SPONSOR: _____ HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS _____
 SUBJECT: _____ FIREWORKS _____
 LOCAL MODERATOR: _____ JEAN SCHROEDER _____

TESTIFIED:

NAME/REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE
1. MARC COWART\KACH.	LIBERTARIANS BOX 2173,	HOMER 235-5405
2. DAVE BENTLEY	41955 SPENCER DR.,	HOMER, AK. 99603 235-7389
3. BEVERLY JONES,	STAR RT. A, BOX 17,	HOMER, AK. 99603 235-8637

OBSERVED:

NAME/REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE
-------------------	---------	-------

TESTIFIED: _____	3	TIME START: _____	3:00
OBSERVED: _____	0	TIME END: _____	4:45
TOTAL: _____	3		

 *
 * DELIVER TO: TCJNU
 *
 * ORIGINAL
 * SENT: 02/05/85 TIME: 11:35
 * FROM: TCMAT
 * SUBJECT: 2/1, HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS
 * PRINT DATE: 02/05/85 TIME: 11:35
 *

*** FINAL T/C STATS ***

DATE: _____ FEBRUARY 1, 1985 _____
 SITE: _____ MAT-SU LIO _____
 SPONSOR: _____ HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS _____
 SUBJECT: _____ HB 35, FIREWORKS _____
 LOCAL MODERATOR: MARIE/MARY _____

TESTIFIED:
 NAME/REPRESENTING ADDRESS PHONE

WILLIAM PEPPER, BOX 189, WILLOW 99688 495-6229

OBSERVED:
 NAME/REPRESENTING ADDRESS PHONE

TESTIFIED: --- -1- --- TIME START: _____
 OBSERVED: --- -0- --- TIME END: _____
 TOTAL: --- -1- ---

 *
 * DELIVER TO: TCJNU *
 *
 * ORIGINAL *
 * SENT: 02/05/85 TIME: 11:54 *
 * FROM: TCMAT *
 * SUBJECT: HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS/HB 35 *
 * PRINT DATE: 02/05/85 TIME: 11:54 *
 *

*** FINAL T/C STATS ***

DATE: _____ FEB. 1, 1985 _____
 SITE: _____ SEWARD _____
 SPONSOR: _____ HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE _____
 SUBJECT: _____ HB 35/FIREWORKS _____
 LOCAL MODERATOR: JACKIE CAMERELL _____

TESTIFIED:

NAME/REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE
1. LOUIE R. MARCH, JR.--	BOX 1292, SEWARD	99664
2. C. DAVID BROSSOW--	BOX 1242, SEWARD	
3. DAVID SQUIRES--	BOX 832, SEWARD	
4. LEONARD WEINAR--	BO X 916, SEWARD	

OBSERVED:

NAME/REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE
1. JOHN GAGE--	BOX 984, SEWARD	

TESTIFIED: ---4-
 OBSERVED: ---1-
 TOTAL: ---5-

TIME START: _____
 TIME END: _____

*
* DELIVER TO: TCJNU *
*
* ORIGINAL *
* SENT: 02/01/85 TIME: 16:36 *
* FROM: LIODJT *
* SUBJECT: FINAL TC STATS *
* PRINT DATE: 02/01/85 TIME: 16:37 *
*

***** DELTA FINAL TC STATS *****

DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 1985

SPONSOR: HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: HB 35: A: ACT RELATING TO STATE FIREWORKS AND
PROVIDING OR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

SITE: DELTA

LOCAL MODERATOR: LIZ SARVER

TESTIFIED:

OBSERVED:

TESTIFIED: 0

OBSERVED: 0

TOTAL: 0

EOM

 * DELIVER TO: TCJNU *
 * ORIGINAL *
 * SENT: 02/01/85 TIME: 16:54 *
 * FROM: LIOKOD *
 * SUBJECT: FIREWORKS T/C FINAL STATS *
 * PRINT DATE: 02/01/85 TIME: 16:54 *

*** FINAL T/C STATS ***

DATE: _____ FEBRUARY 1, 1985 _____
 SITE: _____ KODIAK L.I.O. _____
 SPONSOR: _____ HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS _____
 SUBJECT: _____ HB: 35 AN ACT RELATING TO STATE FIREWORKS _____
 LOCAL MODERATOR: _____ LORNA _____

TESTIFIED:
 NAME/REPRESENTING ADDRESS PHONE

*****NO PARTICIPANTS TO TESTIFY*****

OBSERVED:
 NAME/REPRESENTING ADDRESS PHONE

1. JOEL HAYES, BOX 1414, KODIAK, AK. 99615 486-5961

TESTIFIED: ____0_____
 OBSERVED: ____1_____
 TOTAL: ____1_____
 TIME START: 3:00 PM
 TIME END: 4:50 PM