

Committee: House Judiciary

Bill Number: SB 29
Presented By: Stacy Warner

Date: March 13, 2013 Phone Number: 503-934-8252

Chair Barker and members of the committee,

SB 29 was developed in collaboration with the fireworks industry. The proposed measure aligns fireworks definitions in Oregon statutes with Standard 87-1 of the American Pyrotechnics Association, and adds no new restrictions to any fireworks items.

Many of the current fireworks definitions in the Oregon Statutes are different than the standardized definitions of the American Pyrotechnics Association, which are used by the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission, the U.S. Department of Transportation and the National Fire Protection Association. Fireworks manufacturers, including those in Oregon, are licensed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and must follow federal requirements which include these definitions and labeling standards.

Wholesalers within Oregon must be licensed and must follow Oregon law when selling fireworks to retailers, or display fireworks to licensed display professionals. To ensure compliance they need to sort through the two sets of definitions in order to ensure that products sold and used within Oregon comply with the Oregon statute by comparing how the item is defined by the national standard and compared with the Oregon specific definition.

Clear and consistent definitions are essential to ensure that those persons regulated understand the requirements and those who regulate fireworks are applying the requirements consistently and correctly. Adoption of this proposed legislation would resolve this issue.

This measure reduces the burden on fireworks manufacturers and wholesalers when comparing products available nationally with the specific product definitions included in Oregon statutes.

Please let me know if you need more information or have questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Warner Assistant Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Fire and Life Safety Branch Manager