



HB 727 Summary – Fireworks: Allow More Local Control on Usage

This legislation attempts to correct some of the issues created by the new fireworks law adopted during the 2015 legislative session. HB 727 revises when and where fireworks can be used, as well as gives local governments limited authority to enforce public health and safety laws, including noise and littering ordinances.

Under this bill, fireworks can be used, statewide, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Local ordinances can control their usage between 9:00 p.m. and 11:59 p.m.

On New Year's Eve, fireworks may be used until 11:59 p.m. On New Year's Day, they may be used from midnight until 1:00 a.m. and from 10:00 a.m. until 11:59 p.m. On July 3rd and 4th, they may be used from 10:00 a.m. until 11:59 p.m.

HB 727 restricts where fireworks may be used. Fireworks are not allowed to be used within the right of way of any public road, street highway or railroad; within 100 yards of a water or wastewater treatment plant; facilities storing more than 500 gallons of flammable or combustible liquids or gasses; within 100 yards of any public use air facility or helicopter landing platform; within any public (state or local) park, historic site, recreational area or other publicly-owned property without the government's permission; within 100 yards of a hospital, nursing home or other health care facility unless the owner grants permission; or while under the influence of drugs or alcohol to the extent that it is less safe or unlawful to do so.

If the Governor declares a drought, then the Governor may enact further regulations on the use of fireworks within the designate drought area during the period for which drought is declared -- except on New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, July 3rd and July 4th.