



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 404

February Session, 2026



AN ACT CONCERNING FIREWORKS, FOUNTAINS AND NOVELTIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 29-356 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3 As used in this section and sections [29-356] 29-357 to 29-365,
4 inclusive, as amended by this act:

5 (1) "Fireworks" means and includes any combustible or explosive
6 composition, or any substance or combination of substances or article
7 prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by
8 combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation, and includes blank
9 cartridges, toy pistols, toy cannons, toy canes or toy guns in which
10 explosives are used, the type of balloons which require fire underneath
11 to propel the same, firecrackers, torpedoes, skyrockets, Roman candles,
12 Daygo bombs, and any fireworks containing any explosive or
13 flammable compound, or any tablets or other device containing any
14 explosive substance, except that the term "fireworks" shall not include
15 sparklers, [and] fountains, novelties and toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns
16 or other devices in which paper caps manufactured in accordance with
17 the regulations of the United States Interstate Commerce Commission
18 or its successor agency for packing and shipping of toy paper caps are
19 used and toy pistol paper caps manufactured as provided [therein] in

20 such regulations.

21 (2) "Sparklers" means a wire or stick coated with pyrotechnic
22 composition that produces a shower of sparks upon ignition.

23 (3) "Fountain" means any cardboard or heavy paper cone or
24 cylindrical tube containing pyrotechnic mixture that upon ignition
25 produces a shower of colored sparks, crackling effects, whistling effects
26 or smoke. "Fountain" includes, but is not limited to, (A) a spike fountain,
27 which provides a spike for insertion into the ground, (B) a base fountain
28 which has a wooden or plastic base for placing on the ground, [or] (C) a
29 handle fountain which is a handheld device with a wooden or
30 cardboard handle, or (D) any nonexplosive and nonaerial item that
31 produces the primary effect of spinning on the ground, flashing or
32 strobing, but does not produce a report.

33 (4) "Novelties" means flitter sparklers, party poppers, novelty smoke
34 devices, snappers and novelty snakes, as such terms are described in
35 American Pyrotechnics Association Standard 87-1A, as amended from
36 time to time.

37 Sec. 2. Section 29-357 of the general statutes is repealed and the
38 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

39 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, no person,
40 firm or corporation shall offer for sale, expose for sale, sell at retail or
41 use or explode or possess with intent to sell, use or explode any
42 fireworks. A person who is sixteen years of age or older may offer for
43 sale, expose for sale, sell at retail, purchase, use or possess with intent to
44 sell or use sparklers, [or] fountains or novelties of not more than one
45 hundred grams of pyrotechnic mixture per item, which are
46 nonexplosive and nonaerial, provided (1) such sparklers [and fountains]
47 do not contain magnesium, except for magnalium or magnesium-
48 aluminum alloy, (2) such sparklers [and fountains] containing any
49 chlorate or perchlorate salts do not exceed five grams of composition
50 per item, and (3) when more than one fountain is mounted on a common
51 base, the total pyrotechnic composition does not exceed [two] five

52 hundred grams.

53 (b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
54 shall adopt [reasonable] regulations, in accordance with the provisions
55 of chapter 54, for the granting of permits for supervised displays of
56 fireworks or for the indoor use of pyrotechnics, sparklers and fountains
57 for special effects by municipalities, fair associations, amusement parks,
58 other organizations or groups of individuals or artisans in pursuit of
59 their trade. Such permit may be issued upon application to said
60 commissioner and after (1) inspection of the site of such display or use
61 by the local fire marshal to determine compliance with the requirements
62 of such regulations, and (2) approval of the chiefs of the police and fire
63 departments, or, if there is no police or fire department, of the first
64 selectman, of the municipality wherein the display is to be held as is
65 provided in this section. No such display shall be handled or fired by
66 any person until such person has been granted a certificate of
67 competency by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
68 Protection, in respect to which a fee of two hundred dollars shall be
69 payable to the State Treasurer when issued and which may be renewed
70 every three years upon payment of a fee of one hundred ninety dollars
71 payable to the State Treasurer, provided such certificate may be
72 suspended or revoked by said commissioner at any time for cause. Such
73 certificate of competency shall attest to the fact that such operator is
74 competent to fire a display. Such display shall be of such a character and
75 so located, discharged or fired as in the opinion of the chiefs of the police
76 and fire departments or such selectman, after proper inspection, will not
77 be hazardous to property or endanger any person or persons. In an
78 aerial bomb, no salute, report or maroon may be used that is composed
79 of a formula of chlorate of potash, sulphur, black needle antimony and
80 dark aluminum. Formulas that may be used in a salute, report or
81 maroon are as follows: (A) Perchlorate of potash, black needle antimony
82 and dark aluminum, and (B) perchlorate of potash, dark aluminum and
83 sulphur. No high explosive such as dynamite, fulminate of mercury or
84 other stimulator for detonating shall be used in any aerial bomb or other
85 pyrotechnics. Application for permits shall be made in writing at least

86 fifteen days prior to the date of display, on such notice as the
87 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection by
88 regulation prescribes, on forms furnished by the commissioner, and a
89 fee of one hundred dollars shall be payable to the State Treasurer with
90 each such application. After such permit has been granted, sales,
91 possession, use and distribution of fireworks for such display shall be
92 lawful for that purpose only. No permit granted [hereunder] under the
93 provisions of this section shall be transferable. Any permit issued under
94 the provisions of this section may be suspended or revoked by the
95 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection or the local
96 fire marshal for violation by the permittee of any provision of the
97 general statutes, any regulation or any ordinance relating to fireworks.

98 (c) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
99 may grant variations or exemptions from, or approve equivalent or
100 alternate compliance with, particular provisions of any regulation
101 issued under the provisions of subsection (b) of this section where strict
102 compliance with such provisions would entail practical difficulty or
103 unnecessary hardship or is otherwise adjudged unwarranted, provided
104 any such variation, exemption, approved equivalent or alternate
105 compliance shall, in the opinion of the commissioner, secure the public
106 safety and shall be made in writing.

107 (d) Any person, firm or corporation violating the provisions of this
108 section shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor, except that (1) any
109 person, firm or corporation violating the provisions of subsection (a) of
110 this section by offering for sale, exposing for sale or selling at retail or
111 possessing with intent to sell any fireworks with a value exceeding ten
112 thousand dollars shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor, and (2) any
113 person, firm or corporation violating any provision of subsection (b) of
114 this section or any regulation adopted [thereunder] pursuant to said
115 subsection shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor, except if death or
116 injury results from any such violation, such person, firm or corporation
117 shall be guilty of a class C felony.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 29-356 |
| Sec. 2 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 29-357 |

PS *Joint Favorable Subst.*