

**FIREWORKS AMENDMENTS**

2023 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Candice B. Pierucci**

Senate Sponsor: Daniel McCay

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies provisions regarding the discharge of fireworks.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ provides that fireworks may be discharged between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. on January

1.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**53-7-225**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 189

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **53-7-225** is amended to read:

**53-7-225. Times for sale and discharge of fireworks -- Criminal penalty --**

**Permissible closure of certain areas -- Maps and signage.**

(1) Except as provided in Section **53-7-221**, this section supersedes any other code provision regarding the sale or discharge of fireworks.

(2) A person may sell class C common state approved explosives in the state as follows:

- 30 (a) beginning on June 24 and ending on July 25;
- 31 (b) beginning on December 29 and ending on December 31; and
- 32 (c) two days before and on the Chinese New Year's eve.

33 (3) A person may not discharge class C common state approved explosives in the state  
34 except as follows:

35 (a) between the hours of 11 a.m. and 11 p.m., except that on July 4 and July 24, the  
36 hours are 11 a.m. to midnight:

- 37 (i) beginning on July 2 and ending on July 5; and
- 38 (ii) beginning on July 22 and ending on July 25;

39 (b) (i) beginning at 11 a.m. on December 31 and ending at 1 a.m. on the following day;  
40 or

41 (ii) if New Year's eve is on a Sunday and the county, municipality, or metro township  
42 determines to celebrate New Year's eve on the prior Saturday, then a person may discharge  
43 class C common state approved explosives on that prior Saturday within the county,  
44 municipality, or metro township; ~~and~~

45 (c) between the hours of 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. on January 1; and

46 ~~(c)~~ (d) beginning at 11 a.m. on the Chinese New Year's eve and ending at 1 a.m. on  
47 the following day.

48 (4) A person is guilty of an infraction, punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000, if the  
49 person discharges a class C common state approved explosive:

- 50 (a) outside the legal discharge dates and times described in Subsection (3); or
- 51 (b) in an area in which fireworks are prohibited under Subsection 15A-5-202.5(1)(b).

52 (5) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (5)(b) or (c), a county, a municipality, a metro  
53 township, or the state forester may not prohibit a person from discharging class C common  
54 state approved explosives during the permitted periods described in Subsection (3).

55 (b) (i) As used in this Subsection (5)(b), "negligent discharge":

56 (A) means the improper use and discharge of a class C common state approved  
57 explosive; and

58 (B) does not include the date or location of discharge or the type of explosive used.  
59 (ii) A municipality or metro township may prohibit:  
60 (A) the discharge of class C common state approved explosives in certain areas with  
61 hazardous environmental conditions, in accordance with Subsection 15A-5-202.5(1)(b); or  
62 (B) the negligent discharge of class C common state approved explosives.  
63 (iii) A county may prohibit the negligent discharge of class C common state approved  
64 explosives.  
65 (c) The state forester may prohibit the discharge of class C common state approved  
66 explosives as provided in Subsection 15A-5-202.5(1)(b) or Section 65A-8-212.  
67 (6) If a municipal legislative body, the state forester, or a metro township legislative  
68 body provides a map to a county identifying an area in which the discharge of fireworks is  
69 prohibited due to a historical hazardous environmental condition under Subsection  
70 15A-5-202.5(1)(b), the county shall, before June 1 of that same year:  
71 (a) create a county-wide map, based on each map the county has received, indicating  
72 each area within the county in which fireworks are prohibited under Subsection  
73 15A-5-202.5(1)(b);  
74 (b) provide the map described in Subsection (6)(a) to:  
75 (i) each retailer that sells fireworks within the county; and  
76 (ii) the state fire marshal; and  
77 (c) publish the map on the county's website.  
78 (7) A retailer that sells fireworks shall display:  
79 (a) a sign that:  
80 (i) is clearly visible to the general public in a prominent location near the point of sale;  
81 (ii) indicates the legal discharge dates and times described in Subsection (3); and  
82 (iii) indicates the criminal charge and fine associated with discharge:  
83 (A) outside the legal dates and times described in Subsection (3); and  
84 (B) within an area in which fireworks are prohibited under Subsection  
85 15A-5-202.5(1)(b); and

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(b) the map that the county provides, in accordance with Subsection (6)(b).