

June 30, 2021

The Honorable (Insert Assemblymembers Full Name)
State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Requesting Your Yes Vote on SB 277

Dear Assemblymember (Insert Assemblymember Last Name) ,

SB 277 is important legislation that will help the State of California and the State Fire Marshal in their efforts to combat illegal fireworks. There has been no opposition to this Bill to date.

Currently the State Fire Marshal spends \$2.1 million dollars each year on the storage, shipping and destruction of seized fireworks, which have to be sent to Utah and Louisiana where they are burned in an open pit.

This \$2.1 million only allows the State Fire Marshal to dispose of 210,000 pounds of illegal fireworks each year, a mere fraction of what local jurisdictions say they could seize. SB 277 removes that cap and will allow local jurisdictions to seize more illegal fireworks without fear of them being stuck with the cost of getting rid of them.

This Bill would allow the State Fire Marshal to determine what seized fireworks are 'viable' and allow 'viable' fireworks to be re-sold by a licensed California fireworks importer/exporter or wholesaler, to one of the 29 states, NOT contiguous to California, where they are legal. The money made from re-selling the 'viable' fireworks will go to the State Fire Marshal Illegal Fireworks Enforcement Fund. 90% of the seized fireworks in California are 'viable' and 95% of those are federally-approved fireworks that are illegal in California.

Passage of this Bill would allow the state to save an estimated \$1.9 million that is being spent on disposal as well as make money from the seized 'viable' fireworks, all of which would be spent keeping these products out of California in the first place. In addition, the legislation provides that the State Fire Marshal shall establish and levy an additional fee on fireworks importers/exporters and wholesalers to fund training of local fire and law enforcement personnel on the proper identification, handling, transportation and storage of seized fireworks.

Please Vote Yes on SB 277.

Thank you for your time and your service.

Your Name
City of residence