



P. O. Bo 1318, Florence, AL 35631

Members of the House and Senate Agricultural & Rural Affairs Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to express our thoughts on fireworks in the state of Pennsylvania.

My name is Eric Turner and I serve as Director of Governmental Affairs for American Promotional Events, dba TNT Fireworks, based in Florence, Alabama

Our company, TNT Fireworks, celebrated its 100th year in the fireworks business in 2020 and is managed by 3rd and 4th generations of the founding family. We take great pride in being the largest distributor of fireworks in the United States.

TNT Fireworks sells its products through retailers, not-for-profit tents and stands, and company owned fireworks stores, throughout the United States. TNT services over 40,000 retailers in 49 of the 50 states, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In addition, over 5,000 tents and stands across the country carry the TNT brand of fireworks and provide important revenue for local not-for-profit groups. One of our largest distribution facilities in the United States is located in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania and employs many from the the surrounding area.

Our number one issue is promoting the safe and responsible use of fireworks, as citizens in the United States celebrate our nation's independence each 4th of July. This is the reason why we have safety tips on the safe use of fireworks on every assortment; and, why we support regular testing of our products overseas and in the US before it ever reaches the shelves of retailers.

We take great pride in working with state and local fire officials to make every 4th of July season as safe as possible.

Our retail partners in Pennsylvania, including such chains at Wal Mart, Target, Costco, Sam's, Kroger, BJ's Wholesale Club, Shop and Save, Food Lion, Bi-Lo, among many others, depend on TNT fireworks assortments to meet their customer needs for celebrating the 4th of July

In addition, many of our retail partners provide parking lot space for not-for-profit groups, teachers and coaches, to run a temporary TNT Fireworks tent for a week or 10 days. These temporary TNT locations become the local not-for-profit's biggest fundraiser of the year and, of course, all of their profits end up back in the local community. Across the country, some of the not-for-profits benefitting from the sale of fireworks on retailer parking lots, include Boy Scouts, Band Boosters, Soccer clubs, church groups, Lions' Clubs, Kiwanis, among many others.

We do support reasonable limits on the use of consumer fireworks, as defined in the state of Pennsylvania, as long as Pennsylvania citizens have the ability to responsibly celebrate the 4th of July and other specific holidays throughout the state.

We also support efforts to use a portion of the fireworks tax, previously enacted, for local municipalities for enforcement of fireworks regulation and the prevention of illegal fireworks coming into the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

We thank the members of the House and Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committees for reviewing consumer fireworks; and, as a company stand ready to assist the General Assembly to pass regulation of consumer fireworks that will be beneficial to consumers, local communities, enforcement officials and Pennsylvania retailers.

P. Eric Turner
Director, Governmental Affairs
American Promotional Events
d/b/a TNT Fireworks