

*Submissions from constituents of Rep. Christina Sappey, House District 158, Chester County  
December 10, 2021*

I am a constituent and am asking you to please repeal the fireworks law of ACT 43 of 2017.  
Thank you.

Rhonda Brown  
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I would like to voice my concern and frustration with the current fireworks law. Over the past couple years, there has been an overwhelming number of evenings that people have been setting off very loud and highly disruptive fireworks. It's not just on or around a holiday anymore. It's year round. The fireworks can go on for hours. Some literally shake my house. I suffer from anxiety and PTSD so it rattles me to my core when they begin. I have to put in ear plugs, take additional medication and try to drown out the noise. Not the way I feel I should live for someone else's unnecessary pleasure. I do understand the awe and enjoyment on 4th of July so I prepare myself for that day.

My horse is boarded at a local horse farm. When it's 4th of July, we know to prepare the farm for the fireworks that evening but when they are being set off randomly throughout the year, we can't get to the horses in time to prepare the farm. It's very nerve racking, frustrating and scary not knowing what we may find when we get to the farm, an injured or loose horse from being so scared they went through a fence or were running so fast out of fear they broke a leg.

Fireworks are truly a major concern to the well being of many living beings. I feel fireworks should only be permitted on designated holidays for an allotted amount of time so those of us who have health issues and animals can prepare for the loud noise.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Kimberly Burke  
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Exton, PA 19341  
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The negative impact of the noise of fireworks on People, Horses, Cattle and domestic animals is not worth the noise they make. Farm animals have been known to run through fences and be injured. I had a golden retriever that was so scared he, on two different occasions, hid in a room and then dug out through a door and a wall. Horse I have been around have been terrified by individuals setting off fireworks, sometimes with no apparent reason ie. no holiday, so that we are not prepared to have the animals contained in another smaller area or stall for their protection. Even then they are shaking with terror.

It is just not reasonable to create the noise that currently comes with fireworks. I have heard that individuals with PTSD are severely traumatized by the noise.

I have always loved the spectacular fireworks but not the bangs and huge noise which is so disturbing. I hope that you will be able to voice the opinions and change the fireworks laws in the favor of no noise.

Stephanie W. Dahne  
Saddler Artisan  
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I am writing to you to submit my testimony of how I have been affected by fireworks. I am a property owner in Newlin Township, Chester County. On my property is my home and my livestock, consisting of horses, donkeys and chickens.

I love fireworks, but would prefer they be restricted to established venues like Longwood Gardens and official township locations, and have a hard cut-off time before midnight. When neighbors set explosive fireworks off, and at all hours of the evening into the next day, it causes my horses to panic and run down our fence lines to get away from the concussive sound. So far, none of the horses have been injured, but if one of them runs into the fence, they could be badly hurt.

Please eliminate the use of sky lanterns as well. Surrounding states have outlawed these lantern events, and I wish Pennsylvania would too.

Susan Hoffman  
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Please understand that my horses and dogs are negatively impacted every time someone sets off fireworks. Horses and dogs have no way to shut off their ears. At least the dogs are in the house. Horses are outside and they panic when they hear fireworks, which sound like gunfire to them. It is a fear like death is coming to them. Humans have no idea what negative effects their "fun" has on animals many communities away from where they are setting off fireworks. Please place a ban on them.  
Thank you.

Laura Sunstein Murphy  
1191 Telegraph Rd  
West Chester, PA 19380

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Every year we dread the arrival of holidays which seem to ring out the fireworks. They also seem to be getting more and more elaborate in the hands of the general public.

Our golden retrievers are petrified of the sound. One year, one of them scaled our fence and ran away. After hours of searching she was found trembling and scared.

Please take whatever action you can to stop the fireworks in our community.

Margaret Richards  
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Fireworks contribute in almost every kind of environmental pollution that there is. They also present safety risks. Please repeal and replace the fireworks provisions of Act 43 of 2017.

April Schmitt  
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Written Testimony for the Fireworks Law Public Hearing –

Could you, at the very least, rewrite this law using input from the ATF?

The ATF came to my property to investigate my neighbors fireworks. Just the mere fact the ATF came here has to speak volumes. My neighbor's criminal background combined with the intensity of his fireworks equals real trouble.

My understanding is because of the way this law is written is why this danger, I endure, continues. Fix the law!!

Look at the links I posted below to see the progression of how much more powerful & lengthy my neighbor's display becomes year after year.

And it's not just here. A complaint about him came through State Rep Shelby Labs Office on March 13/14th, passed on to the DA. What happened?

Fix this dangerous fireworks problem!! And PLEASE do not make it distance from buildings. At the very least make it distance from property lines. Now I have another neighbor popping fireworks off just feet from my fence line. Can you imagine what this does to horses? Picture this - I was leading my horse & this other neighbor started with the fireworks. I feel lucky to have not been trampled. What would have happened if I was riding - does anybody care??

<https://youtu.be/4ieOyENCtek>

<https://youtu.be/in08doDFxaw>

<https://youtu.be/7iLjCEVPjCI>

<https://youtu.be/TD5PdEXjfZQ>

<https://youtu.be/auWNEtjC4ls>

I have many more videos if you're interested.

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