



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Colonel Danny R. Stebbins  
Acting Commissioner

Lieutenant Edwin S. Henion  
Chief of Staff

March 3, 2011

Rep. Stephen Dargan, Co-Chairman  
Sen. Joan Hartley, Co-Chairman  
Public Safety and Security Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

### **SB 968 AN ACT REGULATING SPECIAL EFFECTS**

***The Department of Public Safety supports this bill.***

The Department of Public Safety supports Raised Bill 968, *AN ACT REGULATING SPECIAL EFFECTS*. This bill provides a mechanism for the department to regulate the use of special effects created by either pyrotechnics or flame producing devices such as a propane burner. Currently there is a void with respect to the regulation of flame effects before an audience. Further this bill will allow for the licensing of technicians specifically for the operation of these types of special effects.

The use of these types of special effects is becoming more common as an enhanced stage effect in the entertainment industry. As a result of the Station Night Club fire in Rhode Island just over 8 years ago, which claimed the lives of 100 people, the actual use of pyrotechnic material has declined. In place of this, flame effects primarily using propane and liquid alcohol have been introduced.

This proposal would permit the Department of Public Safety to develop regulations to provide minimum requirements to the manufacturers and operators for the safe operation of pyrotechnic and flame effects. It would also allow the agency to license operators and provide a mechanism for requiring permits for such events. Passage of the bill would result in uniform enforcement across the State of Connecticut.

The Department would ask that effective date of Section 2 of the bill be moved to January 1, 2013. This change would allow us to complete the regulation adoption process needed with Section 1 of this bill and not face a time where the current regulation of indoor pyrotechnics is invalid.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Col. Danny R. Stebbins".

Colonel Danny R. Stebbins  
ACTING COMMISSIONER