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**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 5294**

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE INTENTIONAL RELEASE OF CERTAIN BALLOONS.***

**SUMMARY**

Beginning October 1, 2022, this bill generally prohibits knowingly releasing, organizing the release of, or intentionally causing the release of helium or other lighter-than-air gas balloons into the atmosphere. Current law limits releases to fewer than 10 balloons within a 24-hour period. As under existing law, a violation of the ban is an infraction.

The bill exempts from the ban balloons deployed by the National Weather Service or similar research entities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 31 Nay 0 (03/29/2022)