OLR Bill Analysis
HB 6481 (as amended by House "A")*

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

**SUMMARY**

Beginning October 1, 2023, 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. The bill exempts from the ban balloons deployed by the National Weather Service or similar research entities.

Additionally, the current penalty for a violation of the balloon release law is an infraction. The bill eliminates this penalty and instead requires violators to be issued a warning.

*House Amendment “A” reduces the penalty for violating the balloon release law from an infraction to a warning.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 1, 2023

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea  32    Nay  0    (02/17/2023)