

H.69 Public Comment
House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife

Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 11:01 AM
To: House Natural Resources
Subject: Balloons

Good Day:

I am asking that you share our support for H.69 with the committee to limit balloon releases. I find these in the forest all the time. People place them on the sign posts below us to announce parties, etc., then leave them and they stay until the wind takes them and drops them into the forest. I know the young raccoons play with them because I have seen their tracks. I also heard, last year, of a horrible story where a calf found a balloon in the field, ate it and suffered terribly. I am not certain if it survived, but I grew up around farms and one day found a dry cow in distress and when I went over she had eaten the plastic that covers hay bales. I pulled and pulled and got armfuls of plastic out of her throat and mouth and beyond.

Anything you can do to stop this unnecessary pollution would be appreciated by us.

Thank you.

-Kerry and William Edmunds
Craftsbury Common, VT 05827

Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 11:34 AM
To: House Natural Resources
Subject: H.69

Hi- plse. share my support of the above Bill with the Natural Resources Committee- the overabundance of balloons is not only detrimental to wildlife, it also results in litter thru out the woods, roads, & landscape. Plse. consider this important bill- wildlife, & domestic animals, can use all the help they can get. Especially, sadly, in Vermont- for a state with such natural beauty & wildlife, it's unfathomable that legalized animal cruelty in the forms of trapping, hounding, & unlimited open seasons exists.

Thank you for your time.

-Paula Spellacy, Hancock VT

Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 2:53 PM
To: House Natural Resources
Subject: Support House Bill H.69

Although I am guilty of doing this in the past I now know the ramifications that releasing balloons into the atmosphere can cause irreparable harm to wildlife and it needs to stop. I support H.69 but would like the amended to not just 5 balloons but ALL balloons.

Annie Smith
Westminster VT

Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 6:00 PM
To: House Natural Resources
Subject: H.69

Hi,
I'm writing because I'm very excited to learn that a bill, H.69, has been introduced that would limit the number of balloons from being released at once to 5. I personally think it would be best to ban the release of balloons altogether but 5 is a start! I don't think people realize how easily balloons can injure and kill wildlife. Please support H.69, hold a hearing on it and vote it out of committee.

Thanks very much!
Dottie Nelson
Middlebury

Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 10:25 AM
To: House Natural Resources
Subject: Support H.69 and save wildlife from balloons

Dear House Natural Resources Committee:

Please support H.69 to limit the number of balloons being released into the air because they result in pain and death for wildlife. There's no good reason to purposely release

balloons into the sky. [There are many other ways to celebrate or honor an event that don't involve balloons.](#) Meanwhile, balloons kill over 100,000 marine animals and plus land animals every year. So-called biodegradable balloons are not much better. I hope you will quickly move this bill out of committee and support it in a house vote. Find more information about damage balloons have on wildlife: <https://www.fws.gov/news/blog/index.cfm/2015/8/5/balloons-and-wildlife-please-dont-release-your-balloons>

Sincerely,
Kristen Cameron
Burlington, VT

Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 1:40 PM
To: House Natural Resources
Subject: In support of Balloon Bill H.69

Please support H.69 to limit the number of balloons being released into the air. This is a senseless form of littering and can be harmful to wildlife.

Thank you.

John Zelig
Burlington, VT

Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 8:22 AM
To: House Natural Resources
Subject: No Balloons please

I am writing to ask that you consider banning all balloon releases for the sake of wildlife at risk of getting caught up in them. There is no good reason to release this garbage into our environment ever. Please consider doing the right thing for wild animals, who have enough challenges without balloon garbage in their habitat. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ann Kellam
Putney Vermont