

CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No. 45

RESOLUTION

R - 2021

Introduced by City Council and the Administration on April 7, 2021

A resolution supporting HB 988, specifically, the repealing of Act 43 of 2017 which expanded the sale and use of fireworks in Pennsylvania to “consumer fireworks.” These fireworks have an aerial and explosive element compared to “ground fireworks” for sale prior to Act 43. Since enactment, public safety personnel have reported a significant increase in fireworks-related incidents and injuries, as well as significant constituent complaints. Furthermore, Act 43 preempts local regulation via municipal ordinance.

Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That

WHEREAS, Act 43 of 2017 expanded the sale and use of fireworks in Pennsylvania to “consumer fireworks.” These fireworks have an aerial and explosive element compared to “ground fireworks” for sale prior to Act 43. Since enactment, public safety personnel have reported a significant increase in fireworks-related incidents and injuries, as well as significant constituent complaints. Furthermore, Act 43 preempts local regulation via municipal ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the use of fireworks poses safety issues especially in densely populated urban areas; and

WHEREAS, City Council and the Administration and the Police and Fire Departments, have received numerous complaints about fireworks since the enactment; and

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 988 was introduced on March 19, 2021 to repeal sections of Act 43 and sponsored by the Lehigh County’s representatives.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Allentown City Council hereby supports House Bill No. 988 and the repealing of Act 43 of 2017.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to local state representatives urging their support for the legislation.