



The Balloon Council reports...

Third Quarter 2002 Report

BALLOON RELATED LEGISLATION:

Suffolk County, Long Island

Suffolk County Legislator Lynn Nowick (District 13), introduced legislation that would prohibit the release of 5 or more balloons within 24-hour period.

- The bill, Introductory Resolution 1450, was introduced on April 16, 2002 and was referred to the Environment, Land Acquisition and Planning Committee.
- Introductory Resolution 1450/Resolution 710 was adopted on August 6, 2002 by the full legislature with a vote of 15-1-2.

Massachusetts

Representative Kujawski (D) has introduced legislation that would prohibit the release of 10 or more balloons.

- The bill, House Bill 1247, was introduced on January 3, 2001 and was referred to the Joint Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture. The measure was heard on May 14, 2001 and the Joint Committee set the legislation aside for study on August 3, 2001.

New York

Legislation that would ban the release of 25 or more balloons and would apply to both latex and metalized balloons has been introduced in the Assembly.

- Assembly Bill 299 was introduced by Assemblyman Grannis on January 3, 2001 and was referred to the Committee on Environmental Conservation. The measure was released from the Environmental Committee on February 26, 2002 and then referred to the Codes Committee.

TBC WEBSITE AND HOTLINE:

The TBC website has generated over 20 requests for retailer kits and 78 requests for E-mail updates, while the legislative hotline received more than twenty phone calls. Calls from retailers focused on the following issues:

- Balloon releases
- Use of balloons as signage
- The impact of balloons on the environment
- Balloon industry data for use in business plans
- The biodegradability of balloons
- The banning of balloons due to concerns about latex allergies.

Retailers continue to rely on the TBC balloon hotline to ensure that their balloon practices are conforming to state and local laws.

For more information, please contact:

The Balloon Council

160 W. State Street

Trenton, NJ

USA 08608

Toll free: 1-800-233-8887

Fax: (609) 989-7491