

These are the issues I raised against the passage of this bill:

Being a community leader I am questioned concerning the following:

- Fireworks being shot off late into the night, disturbing the sleep of working people
- Firework shells, sometimes still intact, being found by neighborhood children
- The sound of exploding fireworks causing distress among our military residents
- Fireworks and gunshots sound very similar. In our neighborhoods where we are experiencing an increased level of shootings, the sound is disturbing to say the least!

The point is this.

- Community leaders are the grassroots workers, Those persons in the trenches trying to maintain and increase neighborhood livability
- Most neighborhood housing sits only 10 to 20 feet apart from one another. Fireworks being used at one house will definitely affect the one next too it and those closely surrounding.
- Community leaders have many more important items "on our plates" - the need for low income housing, assaults and shootings, food insecurity , lack of social services. Fireworks are an unnecessary addition to an already full agenda of problems.

Closing thoughts.

Community leaders recognize that this issue has very little to do with the individual right of firework enjoyment. It has more to do with the accumulation of money! Money for the firework manufacturers, retailers, stockholders, committee members and friends of each. There is little regard to who the passage of this bill will affect because those who are passing it will not experience the results of their actions.