



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB0418

Introduced 2/8/2021, by Rep. Sam Yingling

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

415 ILCS 5/52.10 new

Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Provides that no person shall knowingly release or cause or organize the release of balloons into the air unless the balloons are (1) used by an institution of higher education or a governmental agency, or pursuant to a governmental contract, for bona fide scientific or meteorological purposes or (2) released indoors and remain indoors. Provides that persons who violate the amendatory Act's provisions shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$500 for each offense, and that the release of 50 balloons or fewer at one time is a single offense. Effective January 1, 2022.

LRB102 03903 CPF 13918 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning safety.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Environmental Protection Act is amended by
5 adding Section 52.10 as follows:

6 (415 ILCS 5/52.10 new)

7 Sec. 52.10. Release of balloons.

8 (a) In this Section:

9 "Balloon" means any inflatable object manufactured from
10 plastic, latex, rubber, or mylar that is filled with a
11 lighter-than-air gas, such as helium. "Balloon" does not
12 include hot air balloons used to carry human passengers.

13 "Institution of higher education" means a nonpublic
14 institution of higher education or a public institution of
15 higher education, as those terms are defined in Section 2 of
16 the Higher Education Cooperation Act.

17 (b) No person shall knowingly release or cause or organize
18 the release of balloons into the air.

19 (c) This Section does not apply to the following:

20 (1) Balloons used by an institution of higher
21 education or a governmental agency, or pursuant to a
22 governmental contract, for bona fide scientific or
23 meteorological purposes.

1 (2) Balloons that are released indoors and remain
2 indoors.

3 (d) Any person who violates this Section shall be subject
4 to a civil penalty of \$500 for each offense. The release of 50
5 balloons or fewer at one time is a single offense.

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January
7 1, 2022.