



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 4385



Offered by:

SEN. LOPES, 6th Dist.

SEN. HARDING, 30th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 452

File No. 369

Cal. No. 256

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE RELEASE OF LIGHTER-THAN-AIR
BALLOONS."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 26-25c of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5 (a) No person, nonprofit organization, firm or corporation, including
6 the state and its political subdivisions, shall knowingly release, organize
7 the release of or intentionally cause to be released into the atmosphere
8 [within a twenty-four-hour period ten or more] any helium or other
9 lighter-than-air gas [balloons] filled balloon in the state.

10 (b) Any violation of [subsection (a) of] this section shall be an
11 infraction.

12 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) On and after January 1,
13 2027, any retailer that sells or offers for sale any helium or other lighter-

14 than-air gas filled balloon in the state to any consumer shall not provide
15 such filled balloon to a consumer unless a weight is attached to such
16 filled balloon that is sufficient to prevent such filled balloon from rising
17 into the atmosphere.

18 (b) Any retailer who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this
19 section shall be subject to a civil penalty imposed by the Department of
20 Consumer Protection in the amount of twenty dollars per violation.

21 (c) For purposes of this section, "retailer" means any firm,
22 partnership, association or corporation that utilizes universal product
23 coding in totaling a retailer customer's purchase. "Retailer" does not
24 include any carnival, as defined in section 29-133 of the general
25 statutes."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	26-25c
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026 (</i>	New section