State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Department of Administration
Office of Management and Budget

Fiscal Note for Proposed Administrative Rules (R.I.G.L. § 22-12-1.1)

Name of Administrative Rule: Prohibited Release of Balloons (250-RICR-140-20-6)

FISCAL IMPACT					
State Revenues		***State Expenditures***		***City/Town Expenditures***	
FY 2023	$0	FY 2023	$0	FY 2023	$0
FY 2024	$0	FY 2024	$0	FY 2024	$0
FY 2025	$0	FY 2025	$0	FY 2025	$0

Summary of Policy Change:

In 2021, the Prohibited Release of Balloons (PRB) R.I. General Laws Chapter 23-96[1]. required RIDEM to promulgate regulations prohibiting release of balloons. The PRB was intended to address severe environmental impacts that balloon releases pose to environment of Rhode Island. The law specifies that no person or entity shall intentionally release, intentionally organize the release of, or otherwise intentionally cause the simultaneous release of ten (10) or more balloons inflated with a gas that is lighter than air, except for: (1) A balloon released for scientific or meteorological purposes, on behalf of a governmental agency or pursuant to a governmental contract; (2) A hot air balloon that is recovered after launching; or (3) A balloon that is released and remains indoors. It is important to note that the PRB does ***not*** prohibit the manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, or usage of balloons that are inflated with a gas that is lighter than air.

Summary of State Fiscal Impact:

None.

City or Town Impact:

None.

[1] http://webserver.rilegislature.gov//Statutes/TITLE23/23-96/INDEX.htm