

AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO
COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 19-13

AN AMENDMENT TO
A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT CONCERNING the Prohibition of the Release of Non-Biodegradable Balloons within Queen Anne's County as set forth herein;

FOR THE PURPOSE of amending pending County Ordinance No. 19-13 to authorize the release of pilot balloons (pibals) in connection with the safe operation of hot air balloons;

BY AMENDING pending County Ordinance No. 19-13.

SECTION I

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND that pending County Ordinance 19-13 be and is hereby AMENDED to read as follows:

Article IV Release of Balloons

§13-14 Definitions.

Balloon

A. A nonporous bag of tough light material, generally latex or mylar, whether filled or unfilled.

Person

A. Any natural person, firm, corporation, partnership, or other organization or group, however organized.

§13-15. Release of Balloons Prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to knowingly and intentionally release, organize the release of or intentionally cause to be released into the atmosphere of Queen Anne's County any Balloon unless such Balloon is either biodegradable or photodegradable.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to (i)

Balloon(s) released by or on behalf of any agency of the State of Maryland, or the United States or pursuant to a contract with the State of Maryland, the United States, or any other state, territory or government for scientific or meteorological purposes; (ii) hot air Balloon(s) that are recovered after launch; ~~or~~ (iii) the negligent and unintentional release of any Balloon(s); or (iv) Pilot balloons (pibal) released by hot air balloon pilots to determine meteorological conditions such as wind speed and direction.

§13-16 Violations and Penalties

Any person who violates this Article shall be guilty of a civil infraction and subject to a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00).

SECTION II

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Amendment shall take immediate effect following its enactment.

INTRODUCED BY: Commissioner Corchiarino

DATE: August 27, 2019

VOTE: 5 Yea 0 Nay

DATE OF ADOPTION: August 27, 2019