
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that civilian use of
2 unmanned aerial vehicles or unmanned aircraft systems, more
3 popularly known as "drones", is on the rise. Drones have many
4 potentially useful and life-saving applications, both commercial
5 and non-commercial. These uses include emergency search and
6 rescue operations; fighting forest fires; helping farmers apply
7 fertilizer and pesticides in a more targeted manner; invasive
8 species detection and control; watershed management; earthquake
9 and tsunami damage assessment and relief operations; motor
10 vehicle traffic management; lava flow monitoring; aerial
11 photography and videography; land use surveys; and geographical,
12 geological, and archaeological surveys.

13 Currently, the Federal Aviation Administration, through the
14 FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, is determining how to
15 safely integrate unmanned aircraft systems into the national
16 airspace system. To this end, the Federal Aviation
17 Administration has established an Unmanned Aircraft Systems
18 Integration Office, which is developing a comprehensive plan to



1 integrate and establish operational and certification
2 requirements for unmanned aircraft systems. In addition, the
3 Federal Aviation Administration has established unmanned
4 aircraft systems research programs at six national test sites
5 that will be used to develop operating standards and regulations
6 for unmanned aircraft systems.

7 Hawaii, in partnership with Alaska (one of the six national
8 test sites), is beginning its first formal drone test flights
9 under the auspices of the Pan-Pacific Test Range Complex. Due
10 to its location and geographical features, Hawaii is uniquely
11 positioned to have an active role in the testing and development
12 of unmanned aircraft systems operations for military and
13 civilian use.

14 It is foreseeable that in developing these applications,
15 many research, education, and business opportunities will arise,
16 and so will the need for common-sense regulation, to complement
17 any emerging federal regulation and address public safety and
18 privacy concerns. The legislature further finds that Hawaii's
19 aerospace advisory committee, located within the office of
20 aerospace development of the department of business, economic
21 development, and tourism, would be the ideal party to monitor



1 drone technology and advise the legislature on any potential
2 regulation.

3 The purpose of this Act is to:

4 (1) Specify that the purpose of the aerospace advisory
5 committee includes tracking drone development and use;

6 (2) Require the aerospace advisory committee to appoint a
7 drone regulation temporary working group to study and
8 report to the legislature on recommended legislation;
9 and

10 (3) Provide funding for administrative costs associated
11 with the above activities.

12 SECTION 2. Section 201-72.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

14 "(c) The purpose of the aerospace advisory committee shall
15 be to advise and assist the legislature and state agencies in
16 monitoring, assessing, and promoting aerospace development
17 statewide by:

18 (1) Tracking state, national, and global trends and
19 priorities in aerospace development, which shall
20 include the development and use of unmanned aircraft
21 systems;



- 1 (2) Assisting in identifying and promoting opportunities
2 to expand and diversify aerospace development and
3 aerospace-related industries in this State;
- 4 (3) Supporting the office of aerospace development's
5 effort in networking with national and international
6 aerospace agencies, institutions, and organizations to
7 develop public-private partnerships to support the
8 growth of aerospace development and aerospace-related
9 industries in this State;
- 10 (4) Recommending innovative scientific, educational, and
11 economic strategies and government and education
12 policies to promote the growth and diversification of
13 the aerospace industry in this State; and
- 14 (5) Appointing temporary working groups, as deemed
15 appropriate in the committee's discretion, to assist
16 the office of aerospace development in research and
17 analysis activities required to complete any report to
18 be submitted to the legislature and the governor by
19 the office of aerospace development."

20 SECTION 3. The aerospace advisory committee, located
21 within the office of aerospace development of the department of
22 business, economic development, and tourism, shall appoint a



1 drone regulation temporary working group no later than September
2 1, 2015. The working group shall submit a report to the
3 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
4 the regular session of 2016 on its findings and recommendations
5 as to potential legislation. Potential legislation may include,
6 but is not limited to, implementation of the International
7 Association of Chiefs of Police Aviation Committee's Recommended
8 Guidelines for the use of Unmanned Aircraft; prohibiting
9 firearms aboard unmanned aircraft systems used for commercial
10 purposes; operating an unmanned aircraft system or model
11 aircraft in a manner that causes a nuisance to persons or
12 property; prohibiting warrantless searches conducted with
13 unmanned aircraft systems and subsequent use of data collected;
14 and criminalizing the use of unmanned aircraft systems or model
15 aircraft to conduct surveillance on a specific person without
16 the person's consent.

17 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and the
20 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
21 2016-2017 for administrative costs arising out of the aerospace
22 advisory committee's monitoring of unmanned aircraft systems



1 development and use, and the drone regulation temporary working
2 group's research and recommendations on potential legislation,
3 as well as any associated costs.


4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
5 of business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes
6 of this Act.

7 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon approval.

9

INTRODUCED BY:



Fehi Poul

JAN 23 2015



H.B. NO. 636

Report Title:

Unmanned Aircraft Systems; Aerospace Advisory Committee;
Temporary Working Group

Description:

Specifies that the purpose of the aerospace advisory committee includes tracking drone development and use. Requires the committee to appoint a drone regulation temporary working group to study and report to the legislature on recommended legislation. Makes an appropriation.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

