

House File 2112 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2112
BY JONES

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the retrieval of wounded deer by use of a
2 registered unmanned aerial vehicle, and providing penalties.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **481A.56B Retrieval of wounded deer**
2 **by use of a registered unmanned aerial vehicle.**

3 1. A person having a valid hunting license and a valid deer
4 hunting license who has wounded a deer while hunting or a person
5 with a valid hunting license accompanying the person who has
6 wounded a deer while hunting may use a registered unmanned aerial
7 vehicle to track and retrieve the wounded deer. The person who
8 has wounded a deer may dispatch the deer using a legal method of
9 take authorized by the person's deer hunting license consistent
10 with all rules and regulations for that season. The person who
11 has wounded a deer shall not use that method of take to hunt,
12 wound, or kill any animal other than the deer that the hunter
13 is tracking, except in self-defense. Using a registered unmanned
14 aerial vehicle on private property is permissible at any hour
15 with consent of the property owner.

16 2. All unmanned aerial vehicles must be registered with
17 the department of natural resources and the federal aviation
18 administration. The commission shall implement a registration
19 procedure for unmanned aerial vehicles to be used in wounded
20 deer recovery. The registration requirements must comply with
21 the federal aviation administration regulations. The commission
22 shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to implement this
23 section.

24 Sec. 2. Section 481A.125A, Code 2026, is amended by adding
25 the following new subsection:

26 NEW SUBSECTION. 5. This section does not apply to the use of
27 a registered unmanned aerial vehicles to retrieve a wounded deer
28 pursuant to section 481A.56B.

29 Sec. 3. Section 805.8B, subsection 3, paragraph q, Code 2026,
30 is amended to read as follows:

31 q. For violations of ~~section~~ sections 481A.56A and 481A.56B,
32 the scheduled fine is two hundred fifty dollars.

33 EXPLANATION

34 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
35 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

1 This bill allows a person with a valid hunting license and
2 deer hunting license who wounds a deer while hunting or a person
3 with a valid hunting license accompanying the person who has
4 wounded a deer while hunting to use a registered unmanned aerial
5 vehicle to track and retrieve the wounded deer. The person who
6 wounded the deer may dispatch the deer using a legal method of
7 take authorized by the person's valid deer hunting license. The
8 bill allows a person to use a registered unmanned aerial vehicle
9 to track a wounded deer on private property at any time with the
10 consent of the property owner.

11 Persons must register the unmanned aerial vehicle for wounded
12 deer retrieval with the department of natural resources and the
13 federal aviation administration. The natural resource commission
14 (NRC) is directed to create a registration process that complies
15 with the federal aviation administration's regulations for
16 unmanned aerial vehicles. The bill directs NRC to adopt rules
17 to implement the bill's provisions.

18 A violation of the bill's provisions is punishable by a
19 scheduled fine of \$250.