

Senate File 2283 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2283
BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2105)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the use of unmanned aerial vehicles by law
2 enforcement officers.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 321.492B, Code 2026, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **321.492B Use of unmanned aerial vehicle for traffic law**
4 **enforcement prohibited.**

5 1. The Except as provided in subsection 2, the state or a
6 political subdivision of the state shall not use an unmanned
7 aerial vehicle for traffic law enforcement.

8 2. A certified law enforcement officer, meeting the
9 requirements of subsection 3, may operate an unmanned aerial
10 vehicle in order to assist other law enforcement officers in
11 apprehending a driver eluding or attempting to elude a pursuing
12 law enforcement vehicle in violation of section 321.279, and may
13 cite the driver for any traffic violations committed during the
14 pursuit.

15 3. An operator of an unmanned aerial vehicle shall be
16 certified under 14 C.F.R. pt. 107 or have a federal aviation
17 administration certificate of authorization or other applicable
18 federal certification or license. The unmanned aerial vehicle
19 shall be registered with the federal aviation administration,
20 and shall not enter controlled airspace or runway flight paths.
21 Unmanned aerial vehicle operators shall adhere to applicable
22 notices to airmen. An unmanned aerial vehicle operator who
23 enters a controlled airspace or runway flight path, or who fails
24 to adhere to applicable notices to airmen, assumes liability for
25 any damages that occur as a result of the noncompliance.

26 Sec. 2. Section 808.15, Code 2026, is amended to read as
27 follows:

28 **808.15 Unmanned aerial vehicle — information —**
29 **admissibility.**

30 1. Information Except as provided in subsection 2,
31 information obtained as a result of the use of an unmanned aerial
32 vehicle is not admissible as evidence in a criminal or civil
33 proceeding, unless the information is obtained pursuant to the
34 authority of a search warrant, or unless the information is
35 otherwise obtained in a manner that is consistent with state and

1 federal law.

2 2. Information obtained by a certified law enforcement
3 officer operating an unmanned aerial vehicle in compliance with
4 section 321.492B while assisting in the apprehension of a person
5 who is eluding or attempting to elude a pursuing law enforcement
6 vehicle, in violation of section 321.279, is admissible in a
7 criminal prosecution of the person eluding or attempting to elude
8 law enforcement.

9 EXPLANATION

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

12 This bill relates to the use of unmanned aerial vehicles by
13 law enforcement officers.

14 The bill provides that a certified law enforcement officer
15 may operate an unmanned aerial vehicle in order to assist other
16 law enforcement officers in apprehending a driver eluding or
17 attempting to elude a pursuing law enforcement vehicle, and may
18 cite the driver for any traffic violations committed during the
19 pursuit.

20 The bill provides that an operator of an unmanned aerial
21 vehicle must be certified under 14 C.F.R. pt. 107 or have a
22 federal aviation administration certificate of authorization or
23 other applicable federal certification or license. The unmanned
24 aerial vehicle must be registered with the federal aviation
25 administration, and must not enter controlled airspace or runway
26 flight paths. Unmanned aerial vehicle operators are required
27 to adhere to applicable notices to airmen. An unmanned aerial
28 vehicle operator who enters a controlled airspace or runway
29 flight path, or who fails to adhere to applicable notices to
30 airmen, assumes liability for any damages that occur as a result
31 of the noncompliance.

32 The bill provides that information obtained by a certified
33 law enforcement officer operating an unmanned aerial vehicle in
34 compliance with the bill while assisting in the apprehension of
35 a person who is eluding or attempting to elude a pursuing law

1 enforcement vehicle is admissible in a criminal prosecution of
2 the person eluding or attempting to elude law enforcement.

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