

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:

1 Section 1. Section 321.492B, Code 2026, is amended to read
2 as 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
13 may cite the driver for any traffic violations committed during
14 the 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
21 paths. Unmanned aerial vehicle operators shall adhere to
22 applicable notices to airmen. An unmanned aerial vehicle
23 operator who enters a controlled airspace or runway flight
24 path, or who fails to adhere to applicable notices to airmen,
25 assumes liability for any damages that occur as a result of the
26 noncompliance.

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

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

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

1 is otherwise obtained in a manner that is consistent with state
2 and federal law.

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

10 EXPLANATION

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

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

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

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

33 The bill provides that information obtained by a certified
34 law enforcement officer operating an unmanned aerial vehicle in
35 compliance with the bill while assisting in the apprehension of

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