

Representative Robert M. Spendlove proposes the following substitute bill:

UNMANNED VEHICLE AMENDMENTS

2016 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: David E. Lifferth

Senate Sponsor: David P. Hinkins

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill permits a public safety official to neutralize an unmanned vehicle that interferes with a response to certain emergencies.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms; and
- ▶ permits a public safety official to neutralize an unmanned vehicle that interferes with a response to certain emergencies.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

63G-18a-101, Utah Code Annotated 1953

63G-18a-102, Utah Code Annotated 1953

63G-18a-201, Utah Code Annotated 1953

63G-18a-202, Utah Code Annotated 1953



26 **63G-18a-203**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



28 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

29 Section 1. Section **63G-18a-101** is enacted to read:

30 **CHAPTER 18a. UNMANNED VEHICLES**

31 **Part 1. General Provisions**

32 **63G-18a-101. Title.**

33 This chapter is known as "Unmanned Vehicles."

34 Section 2. Section **63G-18a-102** is enacted to read:

35 **63G-18a-102. Definitions.**

36 As used in this chapter:

37 (1) "Acute emergency" means a fire, a flood, extreme weather, a missing person
38 situation, or a natural or man-made disaster that:

39 (a) is expected to present an imminent threat to life or property, or to public health,
40 safety, or welfare for more than 24 hours; and

41 (b) (i) for which the Federal Aviation Administration designates a temporary flight
42 restriction; or

43 (ii) which receives designation as an emergency on a system managed by a federal,
44 state, or local government entity that disseminates emergency information to the public.

45 (2) "Neutralize" means to force the termination of the operation of an unmanned
46 vehicle by:

47 (a) disabling or damaging the unmanned vehicle;

48 (b) interfering with any portion of the unmanned vehicle system associated with the
49 unmanned vehicle; or

50 (c) otherwise taking control of the unmanned vehicle or the unmanned vehicle system
51 associated with the unmanned vehicle.

52 (3) "Public safety official" means:

53 (a) a sworn and certified peace officer; or

54 (b) a firefighter who is:

55 (i) a member of a fire department or another public organization that provides fire
56 suppression service; and

57 (ii) authorized by the department or a public organization described in Subsection
58 (3)(b)(i) to neutralize an unmanned vehicle.

59 (4) "Unmanned vehicle" means a device that:

60 (a) is self propelled;

61 (b) may travel through air or on or under water; and

62 (c) is operated with no possible direct human intervention from on or within the
63 device.

64 (5) "Unmanned vehicle system" means the entire system used to operate an unmanned
65 vehicle, including:

66 (a) the unmanned vehicle, including payload;

67 (b) communications equipment;

68 (c) navigation equipment;

69 (d) controllers;

70 (e) support equipment; and

71 (f) autopilot functionality.

72 Section 3. Section **63G-18a-201** is enacted to read:

73 **Part 2. Restricted Use**

74 **63G-18a-201. Title.**

75 This part is known as "Restricted Use."

76 Section 4. Section **63G-18a-202** is enacted to read:

77 **63G-18a-202. Reserved.**

78 Reserved

79 Section 5. Section **63G-18a-203** is enacted to read:

80 **63G-18a-203. Unmanned vehicles and emergency operations.**

81 (1) Subject to the requirements of this section, a public safety official may neutralize an
82 unmanned vehicle that interferes with the response to an acute emergency if neutralizing the
83 unmanned vehicle is reasonably necessary to:

84 (a) protect an individual or property from hazards associated with the acute emergency;

85 (b) provide a safe environment for emergency response vehicles and personnel to
86 operate;

87 (c) prevent unsafe congestion of aircraft above or around the acute emergency; or

88 (d) protect a flight path of an aircraft being used to respond to the acute emergency.

89 (2) A public safety official may not neutralize an unmanned vehicle under this section

90 if neutralizing the unmanned vehicle:

91 (a) could reasonably cause or lead to the death of, or bodily injury to, a human; or

92 (b) is likely to cause or lead to:

93 (i) the death of, or bodily injury to, an animal; or

94 (ii) damage to private property, other than the unmanned vehicle, in an amount greater

95 than \$5,000.

96 (3) A public safety official who neutralizes an unmanned vehicle in accordance with

97 this section shall neutralize the unmanned vehicle:

98 (a) in the most safe and practicable manner available; and

99 (b) in a manner that causes as little damage or destruction as possible, in light of the

100 circumstances, to the unmanned vehicle and other property.