

One Hundred Fifth Legislature - Second Session - 2018

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB693

Chairperson: Senator Laura Ebke

Committee: Judiciary

Date of Hearing: February 23, 2018

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB693 amends 28-109, 28-311.08, 28-522, 28-1413, 37-201, 37-202, 37-514, 37-535, 3 and 37-564, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 54-901, 4 54-905, and 54-906, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, 5 and sections 28-101, 28-1201, and 37-614, in order to regulate where and when Unmanned Aircraft (Drones) can and cannot fly.

LB693 also provides immunity from civil liability for damage to unmanned aircraft by emergency responders when those first responders are having to damage Drones in the course of their duties.

LB693 defines and redefines terms in order to prohibit unlawful intrusion by electronic, peeping by electronic device and trespassing on real property, school grounds, over and around critical infrastructure facilities, state property and prisons using a drone.

LB693 also lays out the minimum heights drones can be flown, over the specific facilities and pieces of property laid out in the bill. The bill also lays out that anyone who is licensed or privileged to do so may fly over real property, school grounds, over and around critical infrastructure facilities, state property and prisons.

LB693 also prohibits attaching certain weapons on drones and/or using them to harass livestock or interfere with lawful hunting and trapping.

Finally, LB693 makes sure that pilots are not using drones to interfere with police cordons in order to get around laws that prohibit those people from physically entering said cordon. The bill also makes it clear that law enforcement can use drones in carrying out an investigation but must first secure the prescribed warrants and releases for the situation.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Carol Blood