

Ginger Blaisdell

From: McKenzie, Connie (Murkowski) <Connie_McKenzie@murkowski.senate.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 11:42 AM
To: Ginger Blaisdell
Subject: FW: Murkowsk, Young Introduce Bicameral Bills Pushing for Safe Drone Usage
Attachments: 15.02.05.UAS.Bill.pdf

Categories: Drone

FYI

Connie

From: Felling, Matthew (Murkowski) **On Behalf Of** Press Office (Murkowski)
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 3:17 PM
Subject: Murkowsk, Young Introduce Bicameral Bills Pushing for Safe Drone Usage



FROM THE OFFICES OF...
SENATOR CONGRESSMAN
MURKOWSKI & YOUNG
ALASKA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 5, 2015

Contact: Matthew Felling 202.224.9301
or Matthew Shuckerow 202.225-0722

Murkowsk, Young Introduce Bicameral Bills Pushing for Safe Drone Usage

Lawmakers: Policies Needed to Establish "Rules of the Road,"

Bill Can Be "Game Changer" for Arctic Research Funding Opportunities

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senator Lisa Murkowski and Congressman Don Young announced companion legislation in both chambers of Congress aimed at urging the Federal Aviation Administration to create policies for safe usage of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) across America’s skies. Senator Lisa Murkowski introduced the bipartisan Safe Skies for Unmanned Aircraft Act of 2015 with co-sponsors Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) and Ron Wyden (D-OR) in the Senate, and Congressman Young introduced legislation by the same name in the House of Representatives.

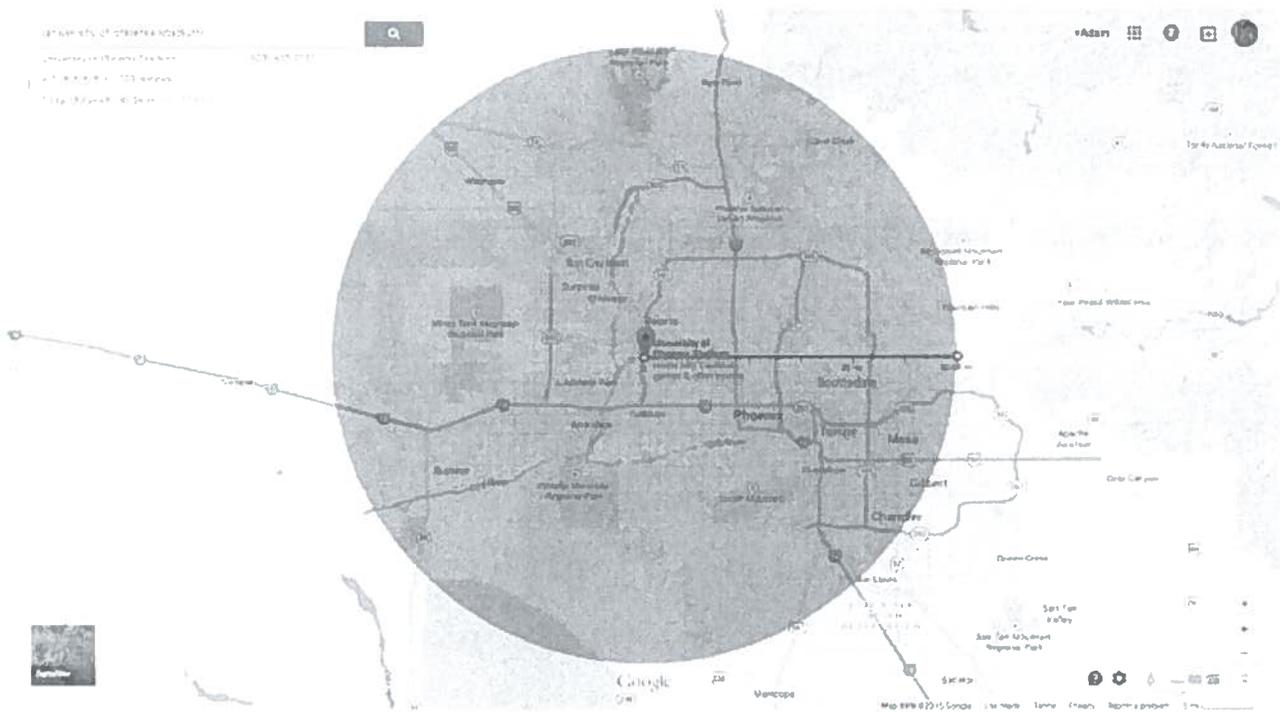
Beyond promoting safety in the air, the bill:

- Opens the door for public-private partnerships to support UAS research, allowing universities to accept research funding from the private sector, and saving American taxpayers money.
- Requires the FAA to remove bureaucratic hurdles to research operations for safe beyond ‘line of sight’ flying, an important research tool for medium- and long-distance applications.

“As we see more and more unmanned aircraft in use, it’s critical that we lay out rules of the road – and this bill starts by telling the FAA to get to work,” Murkowski said. “One of the most pressing items we discussed last week at the Arctic Encounter Symposium was how unmanned aerial systems can be game changers for Alaska, to work around our distances and lack of infrastructure. Arctic research, delivering goods in the Bush, fire-fighting and policing in rural areas are all new possibilities for us, and with the private sector investing in research today, we can all benefit tomorrow.”

“In the last FAA reauthorization, Congress directed the creation of six regional UAS tests sites; however no funds were set aside to ensure their success,” said Congressman Young. “Our legislation will clear significant roadblocks that stand in the way of successful research activities, and work to strengthen and empower UAS test sites for the benefit of the FAA and all stakeholders.”

The lack of any rules or policies governing UAS was evident in last weekend’s Super Bowl. Because the FAA had no laws to enforce, it was forced to create a “No Drone Zone” spanning 30 miles in all directions around the stadium – totaling over 2,800 square miles. (Larger than the state of Delaware.) Rules like those promoted by today’s bill would help limit such overbroad restrictions.



(The “No Drone Zone” for the Super Bowl was larger than the Municipality of Anchorage and the State of Delaware.)

The Safe Skies for Unmanned Aircraft Act of 2015 aims to redefine how the FAA considers unmanned aerial systems – giving them greater autonomy and opportunities like those seen in commercial aviation. FAA’s currently bans universities from working with private sponsors to develop and research unmanned aircraft technology applications. The delegation, working in conjunction with the University of Alaska Fairbanks, believe the private sector must be allowed and encouraged to invest and participate in research activities.

###

Note: Please do not reply to this email. This mailbox is unattended. For further information, please contact Senator Murkowski’s press office at 202-224-9301 or 202-224-8069. Visit our website at <http://murkowski.senate.gov>

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to use the definitions in section 40125 of title 49, United States Code, in determining whether an unmanned aircraft conducting aeronautical research flights qualifies for public aircraft status under that section, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. HEITKAMP) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to use the definitions in section 40125 of title 49, United States Code, in determining whether an unmanned aircraft conducting aeronautical research flights qualifies for public aircraft status under that section, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Safe Skies for Un-
5 manned Aircraft Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. PUBLIC AIRCRAFT OPERATING STATUS OF UN-**
2 **MANNED AIRCRAFT USED IN AERONAUTICAL**
3 **RESEARCH FLIGHTS; SAFETY PROCEDURES**
4 **FOR SUCH FLIGHTS.**

5 (a) PUBLIC AIRCRAFT OPERATING STATUS.—In de-
6 termining whether an unmanned aircraft used in the con-
7 duct of aeronautical research qualifies as a public aircraft
8 under section 40125 of title 49, United States Code, the
9 Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration
10 shall—

11 (1) for purposes of determining whether the air-
12 craft is used for a commercial purpose, use only the
13 definition given that term in subsection (a) of such
14 section; and

15 (2) for purposes of determining whether the air-
16 craft, including airborne platforms and systems, is
17 used for aeronautical research and platform-based
18 research, include atmospheric and natural resources
19 research, meteorological observation, and airborne
20 astronomy as aeronautical research.

21 (b) PROCEDURES FOR BEYOND-LINE-OF-SIGHT OP-
22 ERATIONS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
24 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Adminis-
25 trator shall develop and implement procedures for
26 safe, beyond-line-of-sight operations in the national

1 airspace system by unmanned aircraft conducting
2 aeronautical research.

3 (2) CONSIDERATIONS FOR APPROVAL.—In de-
4 veloping the procedures required by paragraph (1)
5 relating to beyond-line-of-sight operations by un-
6 manned aircraft described in that paragraph, the
7 Administrator shall ensure that a decision to ap-
8 prove such an operation takes into consideration the
9 safety of the entire operation, including whether any
10 provisions required to be included in the certificate
11 of authorization for the operation result in addi-
12 tional safety risk to any individual associated with
13 the operation.

14 (c) UNMANNED AIRCRAFT DEFINED.—In this sec-
15 tion, the term “unmanned aircraft” has the meaning given
16 that term in section 331 of the FAA Modernization and
17 Reform Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–95; 49 U.S.C.
18 40101 note).

Ginger Blaisdell

From: Rep. Shelley Hughes
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:10 PM
To: Ginger Blaisdell
Subject: FW: a picture that tells a story (on hobby UASs)
Attachments: IMG_0953.JPG

Categories: Drone

Plz include pic in packet next week.



Shelley Hughes

Representative
Alaska State Legislature
Serving Greater Palmer
Room 13 State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 465-3743
1-800-565-3743



If you would like to subscribe to my newsletter, please click [here](#).

From: Steve Poirot [<mailto:steve.poirot@fairweather.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:23 PM
To: Rep. Shelley Hughes
Subject: Fwd: a picture that tells a story (on hobby UASs)

Hi Shelley, I had your address wrong when I tried to send this before.. hope you're doing well!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Steve Poirot <steve.poirot@fairweather.com>
Date: Wed, Feb 4, 2015 at 4:09 PM
Subject: a picture that tells a story (on hobby UASs)
To: Shelley.Hughes@akleg.gov, jeremy.worrall@alaska.gov

Hi,

This picture was taken about 1/2 mile from Campbell Lake, which is a seaplane port, and less than 3 miles from the departure end of Anchorage Runway 7L, and it is on Anchorage's Chickaloon Departure route.

Bayshore

COMMUNITY EVENTS

LOST: REMOTE HELICOPTOR IF
FOUND PLEASE CALL 230 1141

NO
SOLICITING
PLEASE

BAYSHORE
CLUBHOUSE
→