

CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6(EDT)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TRADE, AND TOURISM**Offered:****Referred:****Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES HUGHES, Kawasaki, Isaacson, Pruitt****A RESOLUTION**

1 **Recognizing the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration at the**
2 **University of Alaska Fairbanks as a national leader in unmanned aircraft research and**
3 **development; and relating to a Task Force on Unmanned Aircraft Systems.**

4 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 **WHEREAS** the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Program at the University of Alaska
6 Fairbanks has, since 2001, been designing payloads and upgrades for unmanned aircraft
7 systems, testing and evaluating their safety and effectiveness, developing and demonstrating
8 new uses for various potential users, working with the Federal Aviation Administration to
9 make the use of unmanned aircraft systems safe, and developing technology to improve safety
10 and is known across the nation for its leadership in advancing the state of the art and the safe
11 use of unmanned aircraft systems; and

12 **WHEREAS** the importance of the program's work to the state was recently
13 recognized by the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska when the regents established
14 the Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration at the University of Alaska Fairbanks
15 to continue research and development of unmanned aircraft systems for the benefit of the

1 state; and

2 **WHEREAS** the legislature recognizes the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft
3 Systems Integration at University of Alaska Fairbanks as the state's leader in unmanned
4 aircraft systems research, meeting the goals of industry, the Federal Aviation Administration,
5 and government operations; and

6 **WHEREAS** the legislature has provided significant financial support to the Alaska
7 Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration at University of Alaska Fairbanks to
8 further the center's research initiatives, and to increase its capabilities for use as a possible
9 Federal Aviation Administration test site; and

10 **WHEREAS** the State of Alaska, the University of Alaska, the Alaska Aerospace
11 Corporation, the Alaska Aviation Safety Project, and other public and private institutions have
12 developed cooperation with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Federal
13 Aviation Administration, the United States Department of the Interior, the United States
14 Department of Defense, and others to further advance the research, development, and use of
15 technology to benefit and support Alaskans and Americans with the safe use of unmanned
16 aircraft systems; and

17 **WHEREAS** Alaska state government and the state's business and research community
18 continue to work with the Federal Aviation Administration to promote the establishment of
19 safe unmanned aircraft system ranges onshore and offshore Alaska, which will help establish
20 procedures for the safe operation of unmanned aircraft systems in the National Airspace
21 System; and

22 **WHEREAS** the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration, by virtue
23 of being located in Alaska, has access to an area of geographic and climatic diversity where
24 the air and surface population density is desirable for conducting research and development of
25 unmanned aircraft systems; and

26 **WHEREAS** the state has the highest per capita use of general aviation activity in the
27 nation, and Alaska aviation organizations have helped the Federal Aviation Administration
28 develop the next generation of air traffic control for the nation and the world, while making
29 major gains for the state's aviation safety in the process; and

30 **WHEREAS** unmanned aircraft systems may present a risk to privacy, but neither the
31 Federal Aviation Administration nor any other state or federal agency currently has specific

1 statutory authority to regulate privacy matters relating to unmanned aircraft systems;

2 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the Alaska Center
3 for Unmanned Aircraft at the University of Alaska Fairbanks as a leader in aviation
4 pioneering and further recognizes the significant benefit to the state and nation the center
5 provides in research and development of unmanned aircraft systems; and be it

6 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature fully supports the efforts
7 of the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration at the University of Alaska
8 Fairbanks to become one of the nation's six test sites for unmanned aircraft systems testing
9 and research; and be it

10 **FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Legislature that the Task Force on
11 Unmanned Aircraft Systems is created in the legislative branch and shall consist of 15
12 members, who, except for the member from the senate and the member from the house of
13 representatives, shall be appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the
14 house of representatives, as follows:

15 (1) one senator selected by the president of the senate, who shall serve as co-
16 chair;

17 (2) one representative selected by the speaker of the house of representatives,
18 who shall serve as co-chair;

19 (3) the commissioner of transportation and public facilities or the
20 commissioner's designee;

21 (4) the commissioner of public safety or the commissioner's designee;

22 (5) the commissioner of natural resources or the commissioner's designee;

23 (6) one member representing municipal law enforcement;

24 (7) the attorney general or the attorney general's designee;

25 (8) the commissioner of fish and game or the commissioner's designee;

26 (9) the adjutant general of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs or
27 the adjunct general's designee;

28 (10) a member representing the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems
29 Integration at University of Alaska Fairbanks;

30 (11) a member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics;

31 (12) a member from the Aviation Advisory Board;

1 (13) a member from the Medallion Foundation;

2 (14) one member of the Aerospace States Association;

3 (15) one member of the Alaska UAS Interest Group; and be it

4 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that a vacancy on the task force shall be filled in the
5 manner of the original appointment; and be it

6 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the duties of the task force shall include

7 (1) reviewing regulations and guidance from the Federal Aviation
8 Administration regarding unmanned aircraft systems;

9 (2) providing written recommendations, together with suggested legislation,
10 for a comprehensive state policy for unmanned aircraft that protects privacy and allows the
11 use of unmanned aircraft systems for public and private applications; and

12 (3) submitting, not later than January 15, 2014, an initial report to the
13 legislature and, not later than January 15, 2015, submitting a final report to the legislature;
14 and be it

15 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force may meet as frequently as necessary to
16 carry out its responsibilities; and be it

17 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force may meet during and between legislative
18 sessions and may request administrative and technical support from the University of Alaska
19 Fairbanks; and be it

20 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the public members of the task force serve without
21 compensation but are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized for boards and
22 commissions under AS 39.20.180; and be it

23 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force terminates on January 15, 2015.