

STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

2017

Source

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**Legislative
Resolve No.**

4



Relating to the Task Force on Unmanned Aircraft Systems.

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

WHEREAS the University of Alaska has been selected by the Federal Aviation Administration to become a test site for unmanned aircraft systems; and

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

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

WHEREAS Alaska state government and the state's business and research community

continue to work with the Federal Aviation Administration to promote the establishment of safe unmanned aircraft system ranges onshore and offshore Alaska, which will help establish procedures for the safe operation of unmanned aircraft systems in the National Airspace System; and

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

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

WHEREAS the Task Force on Unmanned Aircraft Systems created by Legislative Resolve 17, Twenty-Eighth Alaska State Legislature, and continued by Legislative Resolve 60, Twenty-Eighth Alaska State Legislature, has performed the tasks required of it but finds that further hearings and research are required to carry out its mission;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Task Force on Unmanned Aircraft Systems created in the legislative branch in 2013 by Legislative Resolve 17, Twenty-Eighth Alaska State Legislature, and continued in 2014 by Legislative Resolve 60, Twenty-Eighth Alaska State Legislature, shall be continued; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consist of the original seven members and

(1) the commissioner of transportation and public facilities or the commissioner's designee;

(2) the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development or the commissioner's designee;

(3) one public member who shall be appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives;

(4) two industry representatives who are participants in the unmanned aircraft system industry with experience operating unmanned aircraft systems who shall be appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives; and be it

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

FURTHER RESOLVED that the duties of the task force shall include

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

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

(3) evaluating complaints and concerns expressed to the task force;

(4) identifying potential privacy and public safety concerns associated with unmanned aircraft systems and determining whether legislation is necessary to address them;

(5) considering recommendations for public education related to unmanned aircraft systems;

(6) studying the Federal Aviation Administration's "Integration of Civil Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) in the National Airspace System Roadmap," issued November 7, 2013 (1st ed. 2013) and its application to the development of unmanned aircraft systems in the state;

(7) conducting a public hearing concerning privacy and the capture of data by unmanned aircraft systems at the University of Alaska's test site;

(8) further studying the nonpublic use of unmanned aircraft systems to encourage development of the private sector unmanned aircraft system industry; and

(9) further studying and making recommendations with respect to ensuring unmanned aircraft users comply with applicable laws; and be it

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

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

FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force serve without compensation and are not entitled to per diem or reimbursement of travel expenses; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force terminates on June 30, 2018.