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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1396

02/24/2025

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety Finance and Policy

1.1A bill for an act

1.2relating to public safety; expanding the permitted uses of unmanned aerial vehicles

1.3by law enforcement; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 626.19,

1.4subdivision 3.

1.5BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 626.19, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

1.7Subd. 3. **Authorized use.** A law enforcement agency may use a UAV:

1.8(1) during or in the aftermath of an emergency situation that involves the risk of death

1.9or bodily harm to a person, or to prevent imminent destruction of evidence;

1.10(2) over a public event where there is a heightened risk to the safety of participants or

1.11bystanders;

1.12(3) to counter the risk of a terrorist attack by a specific individual or organization if the

1.13agency determines that credible intelligence indicates a risk;

1.14(4) to prevent the loss of life and property in natural or man-made disasters and to

1.15facilitate operational planning, rescue, and recovery operations in the aftermath of these

1.16disasters;

1.17(5) to conduct a threat assessment in anticipation of a specific event;

1.18(6) to collect information from a public area if there is reasonable suspicion of criminal

1.19activity;

1.20(7) to collect information for crash reconstruction purposes after a serious or deadly

1.21collision occurring on a public road;

- 2.1 (8) over a public area or private area with the written consent of the occupant for officer
- 2.2 training or public relations purposes; ~~and~~
- 2.3 (9) for purposes unrelated to law enforcement at the request of a government entity
- 2.4 provided that the government entity makes the request in writing to the law enforcement
- 2.5 agency and specifies the reason for the request and proposed period of use; and
- 2.6 (10) to facilitate the search for a missing person.