

This Document can be made available
in alternative formats upon request

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. **561**

02/13/2025 Authored by Quam

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

03/13/2025 By motion, recalled and re-referred to the Committee on Public Safety Finance and Policy

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to public safety; authorizing law enforcement use of unmanned aerial
- 1.3 vehicles to find missing persons, persons fleeing arrest, and incarcerated persons;
- 1.4 amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 626.19, subdivision 3.
- 1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 626.19, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
- 1.7 Subd. 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
- 1.9 or bodily harm to a person;
- 1.10 (2) to provide more expansive aerial coverage for the purpose of searching for a missing
- 1.11 person including but not limited to a missing child or vulnerable adult;
- 1.12 ~~(2)~~ (3) over a public event where there is a heightened risk to the safety of participants
- 1.13 or bystanders;
- 1.14 ~~(3)~~ (4) to counter the risk of a terrorist attack by a specific individual or organization if
- 1.15 the agency determines that credible intelligence indicates a risk;
- 1.16 ~~(4)~~ (5) to prevent the loss of life and property in natural or man-made disasters and to
- 1.17 facilitate operational planning, rescue, and recovery operations in the aftermath of these
- 1.18 disasters;
- 1.19 ~~(5)~~ (6) to conduct a threat assessment in anticipation of a specific event;
- 1.20 ~~(6)~~ (7) to collect information from a public area if there is reasonable suspicion of criminal
- 1.21 activity;

- 2.1 (8) to locate a person sought for arrest when the person has fled from a law enforcement
2.2 officer and a law enforcement officer remains in pursuit of the person;
- 2.3 (9) to locate an incarcerated person escaping from an adult correctional facility under
2.4 the control of the commissioner of corrections or licensed by the commissioner of corrections
2.5 under section 241.021;
- 2.6 ~~(7)~~ (10) to collect information for crash reconstruction purposes after a serious or deadly
2.7 collision occurring on a public road;
- 2.8 ~~(8)~~ (11) over a public area for officer training or public relations purposes; and
- 2.9 ~~(9)~~ (12) for purposes unrelated to law enforcement at the request of a government entity
2.10 provided that the government entity makes the request in writing to the law enforcement
2.11 agency and specifies the reason for the request and proposed period of use.