

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill restricts the use of unmanned aerial vehicle (UAVs or drones) by governmental entities and private parties.

Section

- 1** **Legislative purpose.** Declares that privacy is a fundamental right and that drones should only be used in limited circumstances.
- 2** **Private use of drones.**
 - Subd. 1. Definitions.** Defines the following terms: “dangerous weapon,” “drone,” and “person.”
 - Subd. 2. Prohibition on use of drones.** Establishes a felony for a person to use a drone to capture images of a person without the person’s permission.
- 3** **Search and seizure; agency use of drones.**
 - Subd. 1. Definitions.** Defines the following terms: “drone,” “federal agency,” “first responder,” and “law enforcement agency.”
 - Subd. 2. Prohibition on use of drone by state agency.** Prohibits a law enforcement agency from using a drone to gather information in an investigation.
 - Subd. 3. Prohibition on use of drone by federal agency.** Prohibits a federal agency from using a drone in Minnesota.
 - Subd. 4. Exceptions.** Authorizes the use of drones (1) to counter-terrorism; (2) in cases

Section

where law enforcement obtains a search warrant; and (3) in emergency situations.

Subd. 5. Remedies for violation. Authorizes a civil cause of action for aggrieved parties.

Subd. 6. Prohibition on use of evidence. Prohibits evidence collected in violation of this section from being admitted in a court of law.