

SENATE BILL NO. 11—COMMITTEE ON  
GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE

(ON BEHALF OF THE NEVADA LEAGUE OF  
CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES)

PREFILED NOVEMBER 16, 2022

Referred to Committee on Growth and Infrastructure

SUMMARY—Requires the Department of Public Safety to adopt regulations authorizing a public agency to use unmanned aerial vehicles for certain purposes. (BDR 44-370)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to unmanned aerial vehicles; requiring the Department of Public Safety to adopt regulations authorizing the use of unmanned aerial vehicles for certain purposes; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 Existing law governs the usage of unmanned aerial vehicles by the State and its  
2 political subdivisions and private citizens. (NRS 493.103-493.118) A public agency  
3 other than a law enforcement agency may, for specified public purposes prescribed  
4 in regulations adopted by the Department of Public Safety, employ an unmanned  
5 aerial vehicle that has been registered with the Department. (NRS 493.118; NAC  
6 493.100) This bill requires the Department to adopt regulations to authorize as  
7 public purposes for which a public agency may operate a registered unmanned  
8 aerial vehicle: (1) inspections conducted to ensure compliance with building and  
9 fire codes and laws, ordinances, regulations and rules adopting or establishing  
10 building and fire codes; and (2) inspections of public works and other real property  
11 in which the public agency has a property interest.



THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1       **Section 1.** NRS 493.118 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2       493.118 1. The Department shall, to the extent that money is  
3 available for this purpose, establish and maintain a registry of  
4 unmanned aerial vehicles that are operated by public agencies in this  
5 State. The Department shall include on its Internet website the  
6 information that is maintained in the registry.

7       2. A public agency shall, for each unmanned aerial vehicle the  
8 public agency intends to operate, submit to the Department, on a  
9 form provided by the Department, for inclusion in the registry:

10       (a) The name of the public agency;

11       (b) The name and contact information of each operator of the  
12 unmanned aerial vehicle;

13       (c) Sufficient information to identify the unmanned aerial  
14 vehicle; and

15       (d) A statement describing the use of the unmanned aerial  
16 vehicle by the public agency.

17       3. The Department shall, on or before February 1 of each year,  
18 prepare and submit to the Director of the Legislative Counsel  
19 Bureau for submission to the Legislature, or to the Legislative  
20 Commission when the Legislature is not in regular session, a report  
21 outlining the activities of public agencies with respect to the  
22 operation of unmanned aerial vehicles in this State.

23       4. The Department shall adopt regulations prescribing the  
24 public purposes for which a public agency may operate an  
25 unmanned aerial vehicle that is registered with the Department  
26 pursuant to this section, including, without limitation:

27       (a) The provision of fire services.

28       (b) The provision of emergency medical services.

29       (c) The protection of a critical facility that is public property.

30       (d) Search and rescue operations conducted for persons and  
31 property in distress.

32       ***5. The regulations adopted by the Department pursuant to***  
33 ***subsection 4 must authorize the following public purposes for***  
34 ***which a public agency may operate an unmanned aerial vehicle***  
35 ***that is registered with the Department:***

36       ***(a) An inspection conducted to ensure compliance with***  
37 ***building or fire codes or laws, ordinances, regulations or rules***  
38 ***adopting or establishing building or fire codes that are enforced by***  
39 ***the public agency.***

40       ***(b) An inspection of a public work or other real property in***  
41 ***which the public agency has a property interest.***



1     **Sec. 2.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and  
2 approval.

3     2. Section 1 of this act becomes effective:

4     (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any  
5 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative  
6 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

7     (b) On October 1, 2023, for all other purposes.

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