

1.1 A bill for an act
 1.2 relating to public safety; regulating the use of unmanned aerial vehicles by law
 1.3 enforcement agencies; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter
 1.4 626.

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

1.6 Section 1. **[626.19] USE OF UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES.**

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Application; definitions.** (a) This section applies to law enforcement
 1.8 agencies that maintain, use, or plan to use an unmanned aerial vehicle in investigations,
 1.9 training, or in response to emergencies, incidents, and requests for service.

1.10 (b) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given:

1.11 (1) "law enforcement agency" has the meaning given in section 626.84, subdivision 1;
 1.12 and

1.13 (2) "unmanned aerial vehicle" or "UAV" means an aircraft that is operated without the
 1.14 possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft.

1.15 Subd. 2. **Use of unmanned aerial vehicles limited.** Except as provided in subdivision
 1.16 3, a law enforcement agency may not operate a UAV without a search warrant issued under
 1.17 this chapter.

1.18 Subd. 3. **Authorized use.** (a) A law enforcement agency may use a UAV during or
 1.19 immediately after an emergency situation that involves the risk of death or serious physical
 1.20 harm to a person.

1.21 (b) A law enforcement agency may use a UAV over a public event where there is a
 1.22 substantial risk to the safety of participants or bystanders. If a law enforcement agency

2.1 collects information under this paragraph it must document each use, connect each
2.2 deployment to a unique case number, and provide a description of the facts giving rise to a
2.3 substantial risk.

2.4 (c) A law enforcement agency may operate a UAV to counter a high risk of a terrorist
2.5 attack by a specific individual or organization if the agency determines that credible
2.6 intelligence indicates this risk.

2.7 (d) A law enforcement agency may use a UAV to prevent the loss of life and property
2.8 in natural or man-made disasters and to facilitate the operational planning, rescue, and
2.9 recovery operations in the aftermath of these disasters.

2.10 (e) A law enforcement agency may use a UAV for officer training purposes.

2.11 (f) A law enforcement agency may operate a UAV for a non-law-enforcement purpose
2.12 at the request of a government entity, as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 7a, provided
2.13 that the government entity makes the request in writing and specifies the reason for the
2.14 request and proposed period of use.

2.15 Subd. 4. **Limitations on use.** (a) A law enforcement agency operating a UAV must fully
2.16 comply with all Federal Aviation Administration requirements and guidelines.

2.17 (b) The governing body overseeing the law enforcement agency must approve the
2.18 agency's acquisition of a UAV.

2.19 (c) Unless specifically authorized in a warrant, a law enforcement agency must use a
2.20 UAV to collect data only on a clearly and narrowly defined target and avoid data collection
2.21 on individuals, homes, or areas other than the defined target.

2.22 (d) A law enforcement agency may not deploy a UAV with facial recognition or other
2.23 biometric-matching technology unless expressly authorized by a warrant.

2.24 (e) A law enforcement agency may not equip a UAV with weapons.

2.25 (f) A law enforcement agency may not use a UAV to collect data on public protests or
2.26 demonstrations unless expressly authorized by a warrant or an exception applies under
2.27 subdivision 3. A law enforcement agency must document which exception applies or whether
2.28 a warrant was obtained.

2.29 Subd. 5. **Data classification; retention.** (a) Data collected by a UAV are private data
2.30 on individuals or nonpublic data, subject to the following:

2.31 (1) if the individual requests a copy of the recording, data on other individuals who do
2.32 not consent to its release must be redacted from the copy;

3.1 (2) UAV data may be disclosed as necessary in an emergency situation under subdivision
3.2 3, paragraph (a);

3.3 (3) UAV data may be disclosed to the government entity making a request for UAV use
3.4 under subdivision 3, paragraph (f);

3.5 (4) UAV data that are criminal investigative data are governed by section 13.82,
3.6 subdivision 7; and

3.7 (5) UAV data that are not public data under other provisions of chapter 13 retain that
3.8 classification.

3.9 (b) Section 13.04, subdivision 2, does not apply to data collected by a UAV.

3.10 (c) Notwithstanding section 138.17, a law enforcement agency must delete data collected
3.11 by a UAV as soon as possible, and in no event later than seven days after collection unless
3.12 the data is part of an active criminal investigation.

3.13 Subd. 6. **Evidence.** Information obtained or collected by a law enforcement agency in
3.14 violation of this section is not admissible as evidence in a criminal, administrative, or civil
3.15 proceeding against the data subject.

3.16 Subd. 7. **Remedies.** An aggrieved party may initiate a civil action against a law
3.17 enforcement agency to obtain all appropriate relief to prevent or remedy a violation of this
3.18 section, including remedies available under chapter 13.

3.19 Subd. 8. **Written policies required.** The chief officer of every state and local law
3.20 enforcement agency that uses or plans to use a UAV must establish and enforce a written
3.21 policy governing UAV use. The agency must post the written policy on its website, if the
3.22 agency has a website.

3.23 Subd. 9. **Notice; disclosure of warrant.** (a) Within a reasonable time but not later than
3.24 90 days after the court unseals a warrant under this subdivision, the issuing or denying judge
3.25 shall cause to be served on the persons named in the warrant and the application an inventory
3.26 that shall include notice of:

3.27 (1) the fact of the issuance of the warrant or the application;

3.28 (2) the date of the issuance and the period of authorized, approved, or disapproved
3.29 collection of information, or the denial of the application; and

3.30 (3) the fact that during the period information was or was not collected.

3.31 (b) A warrant authorizing collection of information with a UAV must direct that:

4.1 (1) the warrant be sealed for a period of 90 days or until the objective of the warrant has
4.2 been accomplished, whichever is shorter; and

4.3 (2) the warrant be filed with the court administrator within ten days of the expiration of
4.4 the warrant.

4.5 (c) The prosecutor may request that the warrant, supporting affidavits, and any order
4.6 granting the request not be filed. An order must be issued granting the request in whole or
4.7 in part if, from affidavits, sworn testimony, or other evidence, the court finds reasonable
4.8 grounds exist to believe that filing the warrant may cause the search or a related search to
4.9 be unsuccessful, create a substantial risk of injury to an innocent person, or severely hamper
4.10 an ongoing investigation.

4.11 (d) The warrant must direct that following the commencement of any criminal proceeding
4.12 using evidence obtained in or as a result of the search, the supporting application or affidavit
4.13 must be filed either immediately or at any other time as the court directs. Until such filing,
4.14 the documents and materials ordered withheld from filing must be retained by the judge or
4.15 the judge's designee.

4.16 Subd. 10. **Reporting.** (a) By January 15 of each year, each law enforcement agency that
4.17 deploys a UAV shall report to the commissioner of public safety the following information
4.18 for the preceding calendar year:

4.19 (1) the number of times a UAV was deployed, organized by the types of incidents and
4.20 the types of justification for deployment;

4.21 (2) the number of criminal investigations aided by the deployment of UAVs;

4.22 (3) the number of deployments of UAVs for reasons other than criminal investigations;
4.23 and

4.24 (4) the total cost of the agency's UAV program.

4.25 (b) By June 15 of each year, the commissioner of public safety shall compile a full and
4.26 complete report summarizing the information submitted to the commissioner under paragraph
4.27 (a), and submit the report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and
4.28 house of representatives committees having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public
4.29 safety issues and make the report public on the department's website.

4.30 (c) By January 15 of each year, any judge who has issued a warrant under this section
4.31 that expired during the preceding year, or who has denied approval during that year, shall
4.32 report to the state court administrator:

5.1 (1) the fact that a warrant or extension was applied for;
5.2 (2) the kind of warrant or extension applied for;
5.3 (3) the fact that the warrant or extension was granted as applied for, was modified, or
5.4 was denied;

5.5 (4) the period of UAV use authorized by the warrant and the number and duration of
5.6 any extensions of the warrant;

5.7 (5) the offense specified in the warrant or application or extension of a warrant; and

5.8 (6) the identity of the law enforcement agency making the application and the person
5.9 authorizing the application.

5.10 (d) By June 15 of each year, the state court administrator shall transmit to the chairs and
5.11 ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives committees having
5.12 jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety issues and post on the supreme court's
5.13 website a full and complete report concerning the number of applications for warrants
5.14 authorizing or approving operation of UAVs or disclosure of information from the operation
5.15 of UAVs under this section and the number of warrants and extensions granted or denied
5.16 under this section during the preceding calendar year. The report must include a summary
5.17 and analysis of the data required to be filed with the state court administrator by paragraph
5.18 (c).