

SENATE BILL NO. 196

INTRODUCED BY ROSENDALE, AUGARE, DICK BARRETT, BLEWETT, BOULANGER, BRENDEN,
D. BROWN, FACEY, L. JONES, F. MOORE, OSMUNDSON, REICHNER, SALES, TAYLOR, THOMAS,
VAN DYK, WALKER, WANZENRIED, WARBURTON, WINDY BOY, WITTICH

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT LIMITING THE USE OF UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES BY LAW
ENFORCEMENT AND PRIVATE USERS; PROHIBITING THE USE OF UNLAWFULLY OBTAINED
INFORMATION AS EVIDENCE IN COURT; AND AMENDING SECTION 46-1-202, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Prohibition on use of unmanned aerial vehicles -- penalty. (1) (a) A

person commits the offense of unmanned aerial vehicle data collection if a person purposely or knowingly
operates an unmanned aerial vehicle in or upon the premises of another for the purpose of acquiring information
through the use of a sensing device that is capable of acquiring data from its surroundings, including but not
limited to a camera, microphone, thermal detector, chemical detector, radiation gauge, and wireless receiver.

(b) Information obtained from the unlawful operation of an unmanned aerial vehicle is not admissible as
evidence in any proceeding and may not be used for any purpose.

(c) A person convicted of the offense of unmanned aerial vehicle data collection shall be fined an amount
not to exceed \$500 or be incarcerated in the county jail for a term not to exceed 6 months, or both.

(2) For the purposes of this section, "unmanned aerial vehicle" means an aircraft that is operated without
direct human intervention from on or within the aircraft.

**NEW SECTION. Section 2. Prohibition on use of unmanned aerial vehicles and use of evidence
acquired -- exceptions.** (1) Except as provided in ~~subsections~~ SUBSECTION (2) and (4), it is unlawful for a ~~peace
officer or law enforcement~~ GOVERNMENT agency to operate an unmanned aerial vehicle for the purpose of data
collection.

(2) An unmanned aerial vehicle may be used: ~~only~~

(A) to conduct a search that is made:

~~(a)~~(i) pursuant to the authority of a search warrant; or



1 ~~(b)(ii)~~ in accordance with judicially recognized exceptions to the warrant requirement;

2 ~~(B) TO MONITOR PUBLIC LANDS OR INTERNATIONAL BORDERS; OR~~

3 ~~(C) TO MONITOR PRIVATE LANDS WITH THE CONSENT OF THE LANDOWNER.~~

4 (3) Information obtained from the ~~unlawful~~ operation of an unmanned aerial vehicle is not admissible as

5 evidence in any prosecution or proceeding and may not be used in an affidavit of probable cause in an effort to

6 obtain a search warrant UNLESS THE INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED IN

7 SUBSECTION (2)(A) OR (2)(C).

8 ~~—— (4) It is lawful under this section for a state or federal agency to operate an unmanned aerial vehicle for~~

9 ~~the sole purpose of monitoring public lands and international borders, provided that no part of any personal~~

10 ~~information and no evidence derived from the operation may be received in evidence in any prosecution or~~

11 ~~proceeding unless the state or federal agency complies with the provisions of subsection (2).~~

12

13 **Section 3.** Section 46-1-202, MCA, is amended to read:

14 **"46-1-202. Definitions.** As used in this title, unless the context requires otherwise, the following

15 definitions apply:

16 (1) "Advanced practice registered nurse" means an individual certified as an advanced practice

17 registered nurse provided for in 37-8-202, with a clinical specialty in psychiatric mental health nursing.

18 (2) "Arraignment" means the formal act of calling the defendant into open court to enter a plea answering

19 a charge.

20 (3) "Arrest" means taking a person into custody in the manner authorized by law.

21 (4) "Arrest warrant" means a written order from a court directed to a peace officer or to some other

22 person specifically named commanding that officer or person to arrest another. The term includes the original

23 warrant of arrest and a copy certified by the issuing court.

24 (5) "Bail" means the security given for the primary purpose of ensuring the presence of the defendant

25 in a pending criminal proceeding.

26 (6) "Charge" means a written statement that accuses a person of the commission of an offense, that is

27 presented to a court, and that is contained in a complaint, information, or indictment.

28 (7) "Conviction" means a judgment or sentence entered upon a guilty or nolo contendere plea or upon

29 a verdict or finding of guilty rendered by a legally constituted jury or by a court of competent jurisdiction authorized

30 to try the case without a jury.

1 (8) "Court" means a place where justice is judicially administered and includes the judge of the court.

2 (9) "Data collection" means acquiring information through the use of a sensing device that is capable
3 of acquiring data from its surroundings, including but not limited to a camera, microphone, thermal detector,
4 chemical detector, radiation gauge, and wireless receiver.

5 ~~(9)~~(10) "Included offense" means an offense that:

6 (a) is established by proof of the same or less than all the facts required to establish the commission of
7 the offense charged;

8 (b) consists of an attempt to commit the offense charged or to commit an offense otherwise included in
9 the offense charged; or

10 (c) differs from the offense charged only in the respect that a less serious injury or risk to the same
11 person, property, or public interest or a lesser kind of culpability suffices to establish its commission.

12 ~~(10)~~(11) "Judge" means a person who is vested by law with the power to perform judicial functions.

13 ~~(11)~~(12) "Judgment" means an adjudication by a court that the defendant is guilty or not guilty, and if the
14 adjudication is that the defendant is guilty, it includes the sentence pronounced by the court.

15 ~~(12)~~(13) "Make available for examination and reproduction" means to make material and information that
16 is subject to disclosure available upon request at a designated place during specified reasonable times and to
17 provide suitable facilities or arrangements for reproducing it. The term does not mean that the disclosing party
18 is required to make copies at its expense, to deliver the materials or information to the other party, or to supply
19 the facilities or materials required to carry out tests on disclosed items. The parties may by mutual consent make
20 other or additional arrangements.

21 ~~(13)~~(14) "New trial" means a reexamination of the issue in the same court before another jury after a
22 verdict or finding has been rendered.

23 ~~(14)~~(15) "Notice to appear" means a written direction that is issued by a peace officer and that requests
24 a person to appear before a court at a stated time and place to answer a charge for the alleged commission of
25 an offense.

26 ~~(15)~~(16) "Offense" means a violation of any penal statute of this state or any ordinance of its political
27 subdivisions.

28 ~~(16)~~(17) "Parole" means the release to the community of a prisoner by a decision of the board of pardons
29 and parole prior to the expiration of the prisoner's term subject to conditions imposed by the board of pardons
30 and parole and the supervision of the department of corrections.

1 ~~(17)~~(18) "Peace officer" means any person who by virtue of the person's office or public employment is
2 vested by law with a duty to maintain public order and make arrests for offenses while acting within the scope
3 of the person's authority.

4 ~~(18)~~(19) "Persistent felony offender" means an offender who has previously been convicted of a felony
5 and who is presently being sentenced for a second felony committed on a different occasion than the first. An
6 offender is considered to have been previously convicted of a felony if:

7 (a) the previous felony conviction was for an offense committed in this state or any other jurisdiction for
8 which a sentence of imprisonment in excess of 1 year could have been imposed;

9 (b) less than 5 years have elapsed between the commission of the present offense and either:

10 (i) the previous felony conviction; or

11 (ii) the offender's release on parole or otherwise from prison or other commitment imposed as a result
12 of a previous felony conviction; and

13 (c) the offender has not been pardoned on the ground of innocence and the conviction has not been set
14 aside at the postconviction hearing.

15 ~~(19)~~(20) "Place of trial" means the geographical location and political subdivision in which the court that
16 will hear the cause is situated.

17 ~~(20)~~(21) "Preliminary examination" means a hearing before a judge for the purpose of determining if there
18 is probable cause to believe a felony has been committed by the defendant.

19 ~~(21)~~(22) "Probation" means release by the court without imprisonment of a defendant found guilty of a
20 crime. The release is subject to the supervision of the department of corrections upon direction of the court.

21 ~~(22)~~(23) "Prosecutor" means an elected or appointed attorney who is vested by law with the power to
22 initiate and carry out criminal proceedings on behalf of the state or a political subdivision.

23 ~~(23)~~(24) "Same transaction" means conduct consisting of a series of acts or omissions that are motivated
24 by:

25 (a) a purpose to accomplish a criminal objective and that are necessary or incidental to the
26 accomplishment of that objective; or

27 (b) a common purpose or plan that results in the repeated commission of the same offense or effect upon
28 the same person or the property of the same person.

29 ~~(24)~~(25) "Search warrant" means an order that is:

30 (a) in writing;

- 1 (b) in the name of the state;
- 2 (c) signed by a judge;
- 3 (d) a particular description of the place, object, or person to be searched and the evidence, contraband,
4 or person to be seized; and
- 5 (e) directed to a peace officer and commands the peace officer to search for evidence, contraband, or
6 persons.

7 ~~(25)~~(26) "Sentence" means the judicial disposition of a criminal proceeding upon a plea of guilty or nolo
8 contendere or upon a verdict or finding of guilty.

9 ~~(26)~~(27) "Statement" means:

- 10 (a) a writing signed or otherwise adopted or approved by a person;
- 11 (b) a video or audio recording of a person's communications or a transcript of the communications; and
- 12 (c) a writing containing a summary of a person's oral communications or admissions.

13 ~~(27)~~(28) "Summons" means a written order issued by the court that commands a person to appear before
14 a court at a stated time and place to answer a charge for the offense set forth in the order.

15 ~~(28)~~(29) "Superseded notes" means handwritten notes, including field notes, that have been substantially
16 incorporated into a statement. The notes may not be considered a statement and are not subject to disclosure
17 except as provided in 46-15-324.

18 ~~(29)~~(30) "Temporary road block" means any structure, device, or means used by a peace officer for the
19 purpose of controlling all traffic through a point on the highway where all vehicles may be slowed or stopped.

20 (31) "Unmanned aerial vehicle" means an aircraft that is operated without direct human intervention from
21 on or within the aircraft.

22 ~~(30)~~(32) "Witness" means a person whose testimony is desired in a proceeding or investigation by a
23 grand jury or in a criminal action, prosecution, or proceeding.

24 ~~(31)~~(33) "Work product" means legal research, records, correspondence, reports, and memoranda, both
25 written and oral, to the extent that they contain the opinions, theories, and conclusions of the prosecutor, defense
26 counsel, or their staff or investigators."

27

28 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Codification instruction.** (1) [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
29 integral part of Title 45, chapter 5, part 2, and the provisions of Title 45, chapter 5, part 2, apply to [section 1].

30 (2) [Section 2] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 46, chapter 5, and the provisions of

1 Title 46, chapter 5, apply to [section 2].

2

- END -