

1 SENATE BILL NO. 333
2 INTRODUCED BY G. HERTZ

3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CREATING THE OFFENSE OF CRIMINAL TRESPASS BY
5 UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE; DEFINING "UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE"; PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS:
6 AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

7
8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

9
10 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Criminal trespass by unmanned aerial vehicle -- exceptions. (1) A
11 Except as provided in subsection (3), a person commits the offense of criminal trespass by unmanned aerial
12 vehicle if the person knowingly causes an unmanned aerial vehicle to fly 200 feet or lower over the property or
13 residence of another person without the authorization of the property owner or resident.

14 (2) A person convicted of the offense of criminal trespass by unmanned aerial vehicle shall be
15 fined \$500.

16 (3) Subsection (1) does not apply to the operation of an unmanned aerial vehicle system:

17 (a) conducted by a unit or agency of the federal government, the state, or a tribal or local
18 government, including any individual conducting an operation pursuant to a contract or other agreement
19 entered into with the unit or agency, for the purpose of protecting the public safety, environment, and welfare,
20 including firefighting, law enforcement, or emergency response;

21 (b) by a peace officer acting in accordance with 46-5-109;

22 (c) within the boundaries of an easement with the permission of the owner of the dominant
23 tenement; or

24 (d) being used by an employee or contractor of a utility as defined in 69-5-102 to help assess
25 property damage or catastrophe damage.

26 (3)(4) "Unmanned aerial vehicle" has the meaning provided in 76-13-214.

27
28 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an

Amendment - 1st Reading-white - Requested by: Greg Hertz - (S) Judiciary

- 2023

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Drafter: Joe Carroll, 406-444-3804

SB0333.001.001

1 integral part of Title 45, chapter 6, part 2, and the provisions of Title 45, chapter 6, part 2, apply to [section 1].

2

3 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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- END -

AMEND