

CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/27/14

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES HUGHES, Kawasaki, Thompson

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to the Task Force on Unmanned Aircraft Systems.**

2 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 **WHEREAS** the University of Alaska has been selected by the Federal Aviation
4 Administration to become a test site for unmanned aircraft systems; and

5 **WHEREAS** the legislature has provided significant financial support to the Alaska
6 Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration at the University of Alaska Fairbanks to
7 further the center's research initiatives and to increase its capabilities for use as a Federal
8 Aviation Administration test site; and

9 **WHEREAS** the State of Alaska, the University of Alaska, the Alaska Aerospace
10 Corporation, the Alaska Aviation Safety Project, and other public and private institutions have
11 developed cooperation with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Federal
12 Aviation Administration, the United States Department of the Interior, the United States
13 Department of Defense, and others to further advance the research, development, and use of
14 technology to benefit and support Alaskans and Americans with the safe use of unmanned
15 aircraft systems; and

16 **WHEREAS** Alaska state government and the state's business and research community

1 continue to work with the Federal Aviation Administration to promote the establishment of
2 safe unmanned aircraft system ranges onshore and offshore Alaska, which will help establish
3 procedures for the safe operation of unmanned aircraft systems in the National Airspace
4 System; and

5 **WHEREAS** the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration, by virtue
6 of being located in Alaska, has access to an area of geographic and climatic diversity where
7 the air and surface population density is desirable for conducting research and development of
8 unmanned aircraft systems; and

9 **WHEREAS** the state has the highest per capita use of general aviation activity in the
10 nation, and Alaska aviation organizations have helped the Federal Aviation Administration
11 develop the next generation of air traffic control for the nation and the world, while making
12 major gains for the state's aviation safety in the process; and

13 **WHEREAS** the Task Force on Unmanned Aircraft Systems created by Legislative
14 Resolve 17, Twenty-Eighth Alaska State Legislature, has performed the tasks required of it
15 but finds that further hearings and research are required to carry out its mission;

16 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Legislature that the Task Force on
17 Unmanned Aircraft Systems created in the legislative branch in 2013 by Legislative Resolve
18 17, Twenty-Eighth Alaska State Legislature, shall be continued; and be it

19 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force shall consist of the original seven
20 members and

21 (1) the commissioner of transportation and public facilities or the
22 commissioner's designee;

23 (2) the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development
24 or the commissioner's designee;

25 (3) one public member who shall be appointed jointly by the president of the
26 senate and the speaker of the house of representatives;

27 (4) two industry representatives who are participants in the unmanned aircraft
28 system industry with experience operating unmanned aircraft systems who shall be appointed
29 jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives; and be it

30 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that a vacancy on the task force shall be filled in the
31 manner of the original appointment; and be it

1 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the duties of the task force shall include

2 (1) reviewing regulations and guidance from the Federal Aviation
3 Administration regarding unmanned aircraft systems;

4 (2) providing written recommendations, together with suggested legislation,
5 for a comprehensive state policy for unmanned aircraft that protects privacy and allows the
6 use of unmanned aircraft systems for public and private applications;

7 (3) evaluating complaints and concerns expressed to the task force;

8 (4) identifying potential privacy and public safety concerns associated with
9 unmanned aircraft systems and determining whether legislation is necessary to address them;

10 (5) considering recommendations for public education related to unmanned
11 aircraft systems;

12 (6) studying the Federal Aviation Administration's "Integration of Civil
13 Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) in the National Airspace System Roadmap," issued
14 November 7, 2013 (1st ed. 2013) and its application to the development of unmanned aircraft
15 systems in the state;

16 (7) conducting a public hearing concerning privacy and the capture of data by
17 unmanned aircraft systems at the University of Alaska's test site;

18 (8) further studying the nonpublic use of unmanned aircraft systems to
19 encourage development of the private sector unmanned aircraft system industry; and

20 (9) further studying and making recommendations with respect to ensuring
21 unmanned aircraft users comply with applicable laws; and be it

22 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force may meet as frequently as necessary to
23 carry out its responsibilities; and be it

24 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force may meet during and between legislative
25 sessions and may request administrative and technical support from the University of Alaska
26 Fairbanks; and be it

27 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the public and industry members of the task force
28 serve without compensation but are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized for
29 boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180; and be it

30 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force terminates on June 30, 2017.