

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 April 11, 2024

3 **AS AMENDED**

4 ENGROSSED HOUSE

5 BILL NO. 2159

6 By: Ford of the House

7 and

8 Pederson of the Senate

9 **An Act relating to crimes and punishments; amending**  
10 **21 O.S. Section 1992, which relates to the Laser**  
11 **Safety Act; increasing penalties; updating language;**  
12 **and providing an effective date.**

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2021, Section 1992, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 Section 1992. A. This section shall be known and may be cited  
17 as the "Laser Safety Act".

18 B. Any person who knowingly and maliciously projects a laser,  
19 as defined in this section, on or at a law enforcement officer  
20 without the consent of the officer while the officer is acting  
21 within the scope of the official duties of the officer shall, upon  
22 conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor ~~and upon conviction shall be~~  
23 ~~punished~~ punishable by a fine of not more than ~~One Hundred Dollars~~  
24 ~~(\$100.00)~~ Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or by imprisonment in the  
county jail for a period of not more than one (1) year, or by both

1 such fine and imprisonment. Any person who commits a second or  
2 subsequent violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be  
3 guilty of a ~~misdemeanor~~ felony punishable by a fine of not more than  
4 ~~Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)~~ One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), a  
5 ~~term of or by~~ imprisonment in the ~~county jail~~ custody of the  
6 Department of Corrections for a period of not more than ~~six (6)~~  
7 ~~months~~ two (2) years, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

8 C. Anyone who knowingly aims the beam of a laser pointer at an  
9 aircraft in flight or at the flight path of an aircraft shall, upon  
10 conviction, be guilty of a ~~misdemeanor~~ and ~~upon conviction shall be~~  
11 ~~punished~~ felony punishable by a fine of not more than ~~One Hundred~~  
12 ~~Dollars (\$100.00)~~ One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or by  
13 imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections for a  
14 period of not less than three (3) months nor more than two (2)  
15 years, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Any person who  
16 commits a second or subsequent violation of this section shall, upon  
17 conviction, be guilty of a ~~misdemeanor~~ felony punishable by a fine  
18 of not more than ~~Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)~~ Five Thousand  
19 Dollars (\$5,000.00), a ~~term of or by~~ imprisonment in the ~~county jail~~  
20 custody of the Department of Corrections for a period of not less  
21 than one (1) year nor more than ~~six (6) months~~ five (5) years, or by  
22 both such fine and imprisonment.

23 D. This section does not prohibit aiming a beam of a laser  
24 pointer at an aircraft, or the flight path of such an aircraft by:

1 1. An authorized individual in the conduct of research and  
2 development or flight test operations conducted by an aircraft  
3 manufacturer, the Federal Aviation Administration, or any other  
4 person authorized by the Federal Aviation Administration to conduct  
5 research and development or flight test operations;

6 2. Members or elements of the Department of Defense or  
7 Department of Homeland Security acting in an official capacity for  
8 the purpose of research, development, operations, testing or  
9 training; or

10 3. By an individual using a laser emergency signaling device to  
11 send an emergency distress signal.

12 E. As used in this section:

13 1. "Laser" or "laser pointer" means any device designed or used  
14 to amplify electromagnetic radiation by stimulated emission that  
15 emits a beam designed to be used by the operator as a pointer or  
16 highlighter to indicate, mark or identify a specific position,  
17 place, item or object; and

18 2. "Law enforcement officer" means any police officer, peace  
19 officer, sheriff, deputy sheriff, correctional officer, probation or  
20 parole officer, emergency management employee, judge, magistrate, or  
21 any employee of a governmental agency who is authorized by law to  
22 engage in the investigation, arrest, prosecution, or supervision of  
23 the incarceration of any person for any violation of law and has  
24 statutory powers of arrest.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY  
April 11, 2024 - DO PASS AS AMENDED

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24