



February 27, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL: Prohibits the state and local law enforcement agencies from purchasing or using drones prohibited under the *National Defense Authorization Act of 2019*.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$18,000/FY23-24

Increase Local Expenditures - \$875,000/FY23-24/Permissive

Other Fiscal Impact – The Governor’s FY23-24 proposed budget includes funding of \$112,200 for the purchase of drones for the Department of Safety and Homeland Security. Those drones can be purchased in a manner to meet the requirements of the proposed legislation; therefore, no fiscal impact to the department.

Assumptions:

- The *National Defense Authorization Act of 2019* (Pub. L. No. 115-232) prohibits the Department of Defense from purchasing certain drones. Specifically, it prohibits the department from purchasing drones made in China, Russia, or other “adversarial countries”.
- The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency report that the proposed legislation will not impact their operations.
- The Department of Safety and Homeland Security (DOS) reports that its current inventory (20 drones) would be prohibited under the proposed legislation. DOS also reported it is in the process of replacing its drones and there is \$112,240 included in the Governor’s FY23-24 budget to complete this replacement.
- The Photographic Services Division of the Department of General Services (DGS) uses a drone that would be prohibited under the proposed legislation. According to the DGS, the cost to replace the drone would be \$18,000.
- Any impact to the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency is assumed to be not significant.
- The Tennessee Sheriffs’ Association reports that three counties would no longer be able to use their drones. The cost to replace those drones is approximately \$875,000.

- The proposed legislation does not require the replacement of current drones, but to the extent local law enforcement agencies wish to continue using drones, the cost to comply with the proposed legislation would be approximately \$875,000.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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