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HOUSE BILL 2774

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Riccelli, Zeiger, and Ormsby

Read first time 01/20/16. Referred to Committee on Technology & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to the operation of unmanned aerial vehicles near  
2 certain airports; adding a new chapter to Title 14 RCW; and  
3 prescribing penalties.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) A person may not operate an unmanned  
6 aerial vehicle within five miles of an airport with over two million  
7 total passengers annually, unless:

8 (a) The person obtains the consent of the federal aviation  
9 administration office having local jurisdiction;

10 (b) The person has registered himself or herself as a drone  
11 operator in accordance with federal aviation administration rules for  
12 recreational or hobbyist drone operators, currently codified at 14  
13 C.F.R. Part 48;

14 (c) The person has otherwise obtained a waiver, exemption, or  
15 other authorization for commercial drone operation pursuant to any  
16 rule or regulation of the federal aviation administration;

17 (d) The person is acting under the direction of the Washington  
18 national guard and engaged in state active duty under Title 32  
19 U.S.C.;

1 (e) An emergency situation exists that involves criminal activity  
2 and presents an immediate danger of death or serious physical injury  
3 to any person; or

4 (f) The person is part of the response to an emergency or  
5 disaster for which the governor has proclaimed a state of emergency  
6 under RCW 43.06.010(12).

7 (2) A person who is authorized to operate an unmanned aerial  
8 vehicle under subsection (1)(a), (b), or (c) of this section must, at  
9 all times during such operation, maintain on his or her person  
10 documentation of any waiver, exemption, authorization, or consent  
11 permitting such operation.

12 (3) A person who violates this section is guilty of a  
13 misdemeanor.

14 (4) As used in this chapter, "airport" means any area of land or  
15 water owned, operated, or maintained by or on behalf of a county,  
16 city, town, port district, airport district, or other municipal or  
17 quasi-municipal corporation that is designed and set aside for the  
18 landing and taking off of aircraft and that is utilized in the  
19 interest of the public for such purposes.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Section 1 of this act constitutes a new  
21 chapter in Title 14 RCW.

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