



General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Joint State Government Commission
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Released: January 27, 2017

Report Summary in Response to 2016 Senate Resolution No. 238
Unmanned Aircraft Systems in Pennsylvania

Senate Resolution 238 directed the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a study regarding the use of drones by State and local agencies, including law enforcement, within the Commonwealth. Pursuant to the resolution, this report includes information regarding:

- The use of unmanned aircraft systems by State and local agencies;
- input from key stakeholders;
- the technological capabilities of unmanned aircraft systems;
- how and where unmanned aircraft systems can be used;
- the current and planned use of unmanned aircraft systems by State and local agencies, including law enforcement, within the Commonwealth; and
- the regulation of unmanned aircraft systems by states outside of the Commonwealth.

The report details the use of UAS, including operations performed by State and local agencies, enumerates the categories of use, and outlines current federal regulations.

In partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), Bureau of Aviation, the Commission recommends the following:

- creation of the UAS Management Center, within the Bureau of Aviation, to oversee standards for all UAS operations conducted by Commonwealth agencies and to enhance safety;
- prohibit municipalities from regulating UAS activities within their boundaries;
- prohibit the use of UAS in State and municipal parks without permission;
- prohibit the use of UAS for hunting and fishing; and
- prohibit the use of UAS for photography or surveillance of an individual without permission (law enforcement agencies excluded).

The full report is available on our website <http://jsg.legis.state.pa.us/>