

**NetChoice** *Promoting Convenience, Choice, and Commerce on The Net*

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Sen. Sen. Mike Schulz, President Pro Tempore  
Oklahoma Senate  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Rm. 422  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

**RE: Opposition to HB 1326 –An Act relating to unmanned aircraft**

Dear President Schulz and members of the Senate,

We ask you not to advance HB 1326.

We agree with the intent to install reasonable regulations regarding the use of drones. However, HB 1326 creates unintended consequences to legitimate personal and commercial uses of drones.

Drones hold tremendous promise for businesses, professionals, and hobbyists. In areas like real estate, security, agriculture, architecture, engineering, and delivery, drones can provide significant commercial benefits to consumers and businesses in both rural and urban areas.

However, passing HB 1326 would prevent Oklahoma residents from exploring many of these opportunities.

For example, HB 1326 would limit the ability of:

- Farmers from using a drone to take monitor their crops if it happens to fly into adjoining land belonging to someone else.
- News media and film makers to record over Oklahoma land since they could require consent from every farmland over which they fly.

HB 1326 also lacks necessary exceptions for emergency safety situations where a drone must enter private property.

Fortunately, Oklahoma has existing laws that already protect the privacy and safety of residents. For example, laws addressing trespass<sup>1</sup> are already fully applicable to the use of drones in Oklahoma.

Instead of passing HB 1326 we suggest amending it to create clear rules for drone operators. We suggest replacing the existing bill text with the “Unmanned Aircraft Systems Act” (UASA) based on existing Michigan Law ([SB 992](#) 2016).

The UASA, available at [NetChoice.org/DroneModel](http://NetChoice.org/DroneModel), enables the safe and lawful operation of drones by promoting accountability of operators, protecting privacy and property rights, and prescribing penalties for interference with first responders.

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<sup>1</sup> 21 OK Stat § 21-1835 (2014)

The UASA:

- Creates statewide standard allowing clarity for individuals and government.
- Recognizes licensing by FAA.
- Prohibits using a UAS to knowingly and intentionally:
  - Interfere with the official duties of first responders.
  - Harass, stalk, or violate restraining orders.
  - Recording an individual in a manner that invades the individual's reasonable expectation of privacy.
- Creates a process to register locations as critical infrastructure.

While we ask that you not adopt HB 1326, we welcome the opportunity to work with you on reasonable regulations that allow all to prosper.

Sincerely,



Carl Szabo

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*NetChoice is a trade association of e-Commerce and online businesses. [www.netchoice.org](http://www.netchoice.org)*