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H. R. 6042

To create mechanisms by which State law enforcement can coordinate with the Federal Government to detect and stop drones involved in unlawful activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 12, 2025

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Homeland Security, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To create mechanisms by which State law enforcement can coordinate with the Federal Government to detect and stop drones involved in unlawful activities, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Law Against Nefarious Drones, Enforcement,
6 Deconfliction Act” or the “LANDED Act”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
 2 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definitions.
- Sec. 3. Counter-UAS mitigation law enforcement cooperation.
- Sec. 4. Mandatory drone deconfliction reporting.
- Sec. 5. Counter-UAS security grant program.
- Sec. 6. Review and report on UAS activity.

3 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

4 (a) APPLICATION OF TERMS.—The terms in section
 5 44801 of title 49, United States Code, shall apply to this
 6 Act.

7 (b) IN GENERAL.—In this Act:

8 (1) APPROVED COUNTER-UAS DETECTION SYS-
 9 TEM.—The term “approved counter-UAS detection
 10 system” means a system or device capable of law-
 11 fully and safely disabling, disrupting, or seizing con-
 12 trol of an unmanned aircraft or unmanned aircraft
 13 system.

14 (2) THREATS POSED BY AN UNMANNED AIR-
 15 CRAFT OR UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM.—The
 16 term “threats posed by an unmanned aircraft sys-
 17 tem or unmanned aircraft system” means an unau-
 18 thorized activity of an unmanned aircraft or un-
 19 manned aircraft system that is reasonably believed
 20 to—

21 (A) create the potential for bodily harm to,
 22 or loss of, human life;

1 (B) pose a threat to law enforcement, pub-
2 lic safety, national security installations, or crit-
3 ical infrastructure; or

4 (C) have the potential to cause severe eco-
5 nomic damage.

6 (3) UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM.—The term
7 “unmanned aircraft system” means an unmanned
8 aircraft and associated elements (including commu-
9 nication links and the components that control the
10 unmanned aircraft) that are required for the oper-
11 ator to operate safely and efficiently in the national
12 airspace system.

13 **SEC. 3. COUNTER-UAS MITIGATION LAW ENFORCEMENT**
14 **COOPERATION.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-
16 propriations for such purpose, the Secretary of Homeland
17 Security, in coordination with the Attorney General and
18 the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration,
19 shall establish appropriate policies, procedures, and proto-
20 cols necessary to allow the State law enforcement agency
21 in each State (in coordination with the Secretary, Attorney
22 General, and Administrator) to acquire, deploy, operate,
23 and train with approved counter-UAS mitigation systems
24 and mitigate unauthorized UAS operations. Each author-

1 ity may be delegated to local law enforcement as deemed
2 appropriate.

3 (b) REQUIRED APPLICATION.—In carrying out this
4 section, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordina-
5 tion with the Attorney General, the Administrator and the
6 Commissioner, shall establish an application process to au-
7 thorize the acquisition, deployment, and operation of an
8 approved counter-UAS mitigation system, equipment, or
9 technology by State law enforcement agencies.

10 (c) AGREEMENTS.—Upon approval of an application
11 required under subsection (b) by the Secretary of Home-
12 land Security, the Secretary shall enter into an agreement
13 with the applicable State law enforcement agency to au-
14 thorize the acquisition, deployment, and operation of an
15 approved counter-UAS mitigation system, equipment, or
16 technology, that shall specify, at a minimum—

17 (1) the approved counter-UAS mitigation sys-
18 tem, equipment, or technology to be operated;

19 (2) the authority to respond to threats posed by
20 an unmanned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft
21 system;

22 (3) the time periods, dates, and circumstances
23 during which the counter-UAS mitigation system,
24 equipment, or technology may be operated;

1 (4) any terms and conditions on the deployment
2 and operation of an approved counter-UAS mitiga-
3 tion system, equipment, or technology the Secretary
4 determines necessary to ensure public safety;

5 (5) the frequency with which the appropriate
6 Federal agency representatives shall conduct peri-
7 odic site visits to ensure compliance with the ap-
8 proved terms and conditions of deployment and op-
9 erations of the approved counter-UAS mitigation
10 system, equipment, or technology; and

11 (6) the post-event reporting requirements speci-
12 fied in subsection (h)(3).

13 (d) AUTHORIZATION.—Notwithstanding section
14 46502 of title 49, United States Code, or sections 32,
15 1030, and 1367 and chapters 119 and 206 of title 18,
16 United States Code, any State law enforcement agency
17 which has been approved through the application process
18 described in subsection (b) may authorize personnel with
19 assigned duties that include the safety, security, or protec-
20 tion of people, facilities, or assets to take such actions as
21 are described in subsection (g)(1) that are necessary to
22 detect, identify, monitor, track, or mitigate a credible
23 threat posed by an unmanned aircraft system or un-
24 manned aircraft system as defined in section 331(8) of
25 Public Law 112–95.

1 (e) FCC.—

2 (1) OTHER INTERFERENCE.—In establishing
3 minimum performance requirements under sub-
4 section (c), the Administrator shall consider criteria,
5 as determined by the Chair of the Federal Commu-
6 nications Commission, to determine the extent to
7 which counter-UAS detection and mitigation sys-
8 tems, equipment, or technology can be safely oper-
9 ated without disrupting or interfering with the oper-
10 ation of civilian communications and information
11 technology networks and systems, including such
12 networks and systems that rely on radio frequency
13 or cellular network communications links.

14 (2) SPECTRUM IMPACT CONSULTATION.—The
15 Secretary, the Attorney General, and the Adminis-
16 trator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall
17 consult with the Chair of the Federal Communica-
18 tions Commission or the Administrator of the Na-
19 tional Telecommunications and Information Admin-
20 istration, as appropriate, to determine whether the
21 use of a counter-UAS detection or mitigation sys-
22 tem, equipment, or technology approved for use by
23 the Secretary of Homeland Security does not present
24 an adverse impact on civilian telecommunications,

1 communications spectrum, internet technology, or
2 radio communications networks or systems.

3 (f) EQUIPMENT AUTHORIZATION.—Any equipment
4 authorized to be acquired under this Act may be author-
5 ized by either the Secretary of Homeland Security or the
6 Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.

7 (g) ACTIONS DESCRIBED.—The actions authorized in
8 subsection (d) are the following:

9 (1) During the operation of the unmanned air-
10 craft system or unmanned aircraft, detecting, identi-
11 fying, monitoring, and tracking the unmanned air-
12 craft system or unmanned aircraft, without prior
13 consent, including by means of intercept or other ac-
14 cess of a wire communication, an oral communica-
15 tion, or an electronic communication used to control
16 the unmanned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft.

17 (2) Warn the operator of the unmanned aircraft
18 system or unmanned aircraft, including by passive
19 or active, and direct or indirect, physical, electronic,
20 radio, and electromagnetic means.

21 (3) Disrupt control of the unmanned aircraft
22 system or unmanned aircraft, without prior consent
23 of the operator of the unmanned aircraft system or
24 unmanned aircraft, including by disabling the un-
25 manned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft by

1 intercepting, interfering, or causing interference with
2 wire, oral, electronic, or radio communications used
3 to control the unmanned aircraft system or un-
4 manned aircraft.

5 (4) Seize or exercise control of the unmanned
6 aircraft system or unmanned aircraft.

7 (5) Seize or otherwise confiscate the unmanned
8 aircraft system or unmanned aircraft.

9 (6) Use reasonable force, if necessary, to dis-
10 able, damage, or destroy the unmanned aircraft sys-
11 tem or unmanned aircraft.

12 (h) REQUIRED COORDINATION AND NOTIFICA-
13 TION.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Until the date that is 180
15 days after the initial deployment of an authorized
16 counter-UAS system, equipment, or technology, the
17 Secretary of Homeland Security shall expressly ap-
18 prove, on a case-by-case basis, the mitigation of un-
19 manned aircraft system by a State law enforcement
20 agency under this section.

21 (2) VERIFICATION AND NOTIFICATION.—In car-
22 rying out paragraph (1), the Secretary of Homeland
23 Security shall—

1 (A) verify that there is a justifiable threat
2 that warrants the use of such counter-UAS sys-
3 tem, equipment, or technology;

4 (B) verify that the use of such counter-
5 UAS system, equipment, or technology will—

6 (i) be conducted in a manner con-
7 sistent with the agreement between the
8 Secretary and the State law enforcement
9 agency; and

10 (ii) abide by all safety protocols,
11 terms, and conditions established for the
12 use of such system, equipment, or tech-
13 nology; and

14 (C) immediately notify the Administrator
15 of the Federal Aviation Administration of the
16 approval provided under this paragraph.

17 (3) REPORT.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 24
19 hours after each mitigation of a UAS conducted
20 under the authorities in this section, the rel-
21 evant State law enforcement agency shall sub-
22 mit to the Secretary of Homeland Security, the
23 Administrator of the Federal Aviation Adminis-
24 tration, and the Attorney General a post-event
25 report.

1 (B) CONTENTS.—The report under sub-
2 paragraph (A) shall include all relevant infor-
3 mation pertaining to the event, including the
4 drone operation, and subsequent mitigation and
5 enforcement actions, and subsequent enforce-
6 ment actions, as specified by the Secretary.

7 (i) REVOCATION.—The Secretary shall revoke the au-
8 thorization or approval for the deployment and operation
9 of an approved counter-UAS mitigation system, equip-
10 ment, or technology pursuant to this section if the Sec-
11 retary determines that the covered entity has not—

12 (1) maintained an agreement that is acceptable
13 to the Secretary with a State law enforcement agen-
14 cy to operate such approved counter-UAS mitigation
15 system, equipment, or technology on behalf of the
16 covered entity; or

17 (2) complied with the privacy protections under
18 section 210G(e) of the Homeland Security Act of
19 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124n(e)).

20 (j) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall coordinate
21 with the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Adminis-
22 tration and the Attorney General in carrying out the appli-
23 cation, agreement, and revocation processes under this
24 section.

25 (k) SELECTION CRITERIA.—

1 (1) AIRSPACE CONSIDERATIONS.—The Adminis-
2 trator of the Federal Aviation Administration, in co-
3 ordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security
4 and the Attorney General, shall make a location-spe-
5 cific determination for each applicable State law en-
6 forcement agency selected under the approval proc-
7 ess established under this section to ensure that any
8 potential use of counter-UAS mitigation systems,
9 equipment, or technology will not interfere with or
10 adversely impact the safe operation of the national
11 airspace system, including any airport that is located
12 within the State.

13 (2) INELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION.—If an
14 adverse impact is identified under paragraph (1) and
15 cannot be safely mitigated to the satisfaction of the
16 Administrator, the applicable State law enforcement
17 is not eligible to use counter-UAS systems within a
18 range determined by the Federal Aviation Adminis-
19 trator of the site of interference.

20 **SEC. 4. MANDATORY DRONE DECONFLICTION REPORTING.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-
22 propriations for such purpose, not later than 180 days
23 after the first determination that a counter-UAS system
24 with mitigation capabilities meets the requirements of sec-
25 tion 44810(e) of title 49, United States Code, the Sec-

1 retary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Ad-
2 ministrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, shall
3 establish appropriate policies to ensure deconfliction be-
4 tween Federal, State, or local agencies regarding drones
5 flown by other Federal, State, or local agencies.

6 (b) MANDATORY REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this section,
8 the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination
9 with the Administrator, shall establish a mandatory
10 nonemergency reporting requirement mechanism for
11 Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies.

12 (2) MANDATORY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

13 The reporting requirement described in paragraph

14 (1) shall contain—

15 (A) a database containing a drone which is
16 currently being used in a nonemergency oper-
17 ation’s transponder ID and the date and time
18 of its usage; and

19 (B) a method for Federal, State, and local
20 law enforcement to check if a drone’s trans-
21 ponder is within the database and is currently
22 in use.

23 **SEC. 5. RAPID RESPONSE.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
25 sion of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security may

1 act rapidly to respond to a State request for assistance
2 on a UAS mitigation situation in an emergency.

3 (b) PROCESS FOR RESPONDING.—The Secretary of
4 Homeland Security shall establish a process for the rapid
5 response described in subsection (a).

6 **SEC. 6. COUNTER-UAS SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
8 Department a program to be known as the “Counter-UAS
9 Security Grant Program” (in this section referred to as
10 the “Program”). Under the Program, the Secretary, act-
11 ing through the Administrator, shall make grants to eligi-
12 ble State law enforcement and emergency management
13 agencies for the acquisition of counter-UAS equipment.

14 (b) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—Eligible recipients are
15 law enforcement agencies of States.

16 (c) PERMITTED USES.—The recipient of a grant
17 under this section may use such grant for any of the fol-
18 lowing uses:

19 (1) Acquisition of approved counter-UAS sys-
20 tems.

21 (2) Fees for training approved personnel.

22 (3) Any other appropriate activity, including
23 administrative activities, as determined by the Ad-
24 ministrator.

1 (d) PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE.—The Administrator
2 shall make funds provided under this section available for
3 use by a recipient of a grant for a period of not less than
4 24 months.

5 **SEC. 7. REVIEW AND REPORT ON UAS ACTIVITY.**

6 (a) REVIEW.—The Inspector General of the Depart-
7 ment of Defense shall conduct a review of potential foreign
8 adversary connected UAS activity over critical military in-
9 stallations, vessels, aircraft, and the homeland, and other
10 matters.

11 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date
12 of enactment of this Act, the Inspector General shall sub-
13 mit to the relevant committees a report on—

14 (1) UAS activity over military installations in
15 the United States and abroad;

16 (2) UAS activity in close proximity to sensitive
17 national security installations;

18 (3) instances of UAS activity in the vicinity of
19 United States military and law enforcement vessels
20 and aircraft;

21 (4) instances of the executive branch not shar-
22 ing UAS information with Congress when requested;

23 (5) the process for deploying counter-UAS sys-
24 tems to assist State and local law enforcement;

1 (6) instances where the Department of Defense
2 deployed counter-UAS systems to assist State and
3 local law enforcement; and

4 (7) an analysis of near-peer actors who possess
5 the capabilities to conduct such activities.

6 (c) DEFINITION OF RELEVANT COMMITTEE.—In this
7 section, the term “relevant committees” means—

8 (1) the Committees on Armed Services of the
9 House of Representatives and the Senate;

10 (2) the Committee on Homeland Security of the
11 House of Representatives and the Committee on
12 Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the
13 Senate;

14 (3) the Committee on Transportation and In-
15 frastructure of the House of Representatives and the
16 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
17 tation of the Senate;

18 (4) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
19 House of Representatives and the Committee on the
20 Judiciary of the Senate;

21 (5) the Permanent Select Committee on Intel-
22 ligence of the House of Representatives and the Se-
23 lect Committee on Intelligence of the Senate;

1 (6) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
2 House of Representatives and the Committee on
3 Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

4 (7) the Committee on Oversight and Account-
5 ability of the House of Representatives.

6 (d) FORM.—The report required under subsection (b)
7 shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include
8 a classified annex.

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