

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2173

To amend title 14, United States Code, to enhance the land-based unmanned aircraft system program of the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 18, 2019

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, and Mr. YOUNG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend title 14, United States Code, to enhance the land-based unmanned aircraft system program of the Coast Guard, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Coast Guard Drug De-
5 tection and Interdiction Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. LAND-BASED UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM PRO-**
7 **GRAM OF THE COAST GUARD.**

8 (a) FUNDING FOR CERTAIN ENHANCED CAPABILI-
9 TIES.—Section 319 of title 14, United States Code, is

1 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
2 section:

3 “(c) FUNDING FOR CERTAIN ENHANCED CAPABILI-
4 TIES.—In each of fiscal years 2020 and 2021, the Com-
5 mandant may provide additional funding for the land-
6 based unmanned aircraft system program in amounts, and
7 for purposes, as follows:

8 “(1) \$2,000,000 in each fiscal year for assess-
9 ment of the expanded use of medium range un-
10 manned aircraft systems within the program.

11 “(2) \$5,000,000 in each fiscal year for addi-
12 tional long-range maritime patrol aircraft (MPA)
13 within the program.”.

14 (b) REPORT ON USE OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYS-
15 TEMS FOR CERTAIN SURVEILLANCE.—

16 (1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than March
17 31, 2021, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall
18 submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a
19 report setting forth an assessment of the feasibility
20 and advisability of using unmanned aircraft systems
21 (UAS) for surveillance of marine protected areas,
22 the transit zone, and the Arctic in order to—

23 (A) establish and maintain regular mari-
24 time domain awareness of such areas;

1 (B) ensure appropriate response to illegal
2 activities in such areas; and

3 (C) collaborate with State, local, and tribal
4 authorities, and international partners, in sur-
5 veillance missions over their waters in such
6 areas.

7 (2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS
8 DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “appro-
9 priate committees of Congress” means—

10 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
11 and Transportation and the Committee on
12 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
13 of the Senate; and

14 (B) the Committee on Transportation and
15 Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland
16 Security of the House of Representatives.

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