

House Bill 481

By: Representatives Tanner of the 9th, Golick of the 40th, Rynders of the 152nd, and Epps of the 144th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 6 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general
2 provisions regarding aviation, so as to provide for preemption for unmanned aircraft systems;
3 to define a term; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
4 purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 1 of Title 6 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions
8 regarding aviation, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

9 "6-1-4.

10 (a)(1) As used in this Code section, the term 'unmanned aircraft system' means a
11 powered, aerial vehicle that:

12 (A) Does not carry a human operator and is operated without the possibility of direct
13 human intervention from within or on the aircraft;

14 (B) Uses aerodynamic forces to provide vehicle lift;

15 (C) Can fly autonomously or be piloted remotely; and

16 (D) Can be expendable or recoverable.

17 (2) Such term shall not include a satellite.

18 (b) Any ordinance, resolution, regulation, or policy of any county, municipality, or other
19 political subdivision of this state regulating the use of unmanned aircraft systems shall be
20 deemed preempted and shall be null, void, and of no force and effect; provided, however,
21 that a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of this state may:

22 (1) Enforce any ordinance that was adopted on or before April 1, 2017;

23 (2) Adopt an ordinance that enforces Federal Aviation Administration restrictions; or

24 (3) Adopt an ordinance that provides for or prohibits the launch, recovery, or intentional
25 landing of an unmanned aircraft system from or on its public property.

26 (c) The state, through agency or departmental rules and regulations, may provide for or
27 prohibit the takeoff, recovery, or use of an unmanned aircraft system from or on its public
28 property."

29 **SECTION 2.**

30 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.