

The Senate Committee on Transportation offered the following substitute to HB 58:

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 relative to aviation, so as to prohibit certain actions by operators of unmanned
3 aircraft systems; to provide for a penalty; to provide for applicability; to provide for
4 definitions; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 1 of Title 6 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions
9 relative to aviation, is amended by revising Code Section 6-1-4, relating to unmanned aircraft
10 system defined, preemption for unmanned aircraft systems, and operations, as follows:

11 "6-1-4.

12 (a)(~~1~~) As used in this Code section, the term 'unmanned:

13 (1) 'Ticketed entertainment event' means any music, sporting, or performing arts event
14 held in a location with gated entries or barriers that prevent access to the general public
15 and in which a revocable license that has been issued by an owner, operator, or lessee of
16 such property is required for attendance at such event.

- 17 (2) 'Unmanned aircraft system' means a:
- 18 (A) A powered, aerial vehicle that:
- 19 (A)(i) Does not carry a human operator and is operated without the possibility of
- 20 direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft;
- 21 (B)(ii) Uses aerodynamic forces to provide vehicle lift;
- 22 (C)(iii) Can fly autonomously or be piloted remotely; and
- 23 (D)(iv) Can be expendable or recoverable; and
- 24 (Z)(B) Such term shall not include a satellite.
- 25 (b) Any ordinance, resolution, regulation, or policy of any county, municipality, or other
- 26 political subdivision of this state regulating the testing or operation of unmanned aircraft
- 27 systems shall be deemed preempted and shall be null, void, and of no force and effect;
- 28 provided, however, that a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of this state
- 29 may:
- 30 (1) Enforce any ordinance that was adopted on or before April 1, 2017;
- 31 (2) Adopt an ordinance that enforces Federal Aviation Administration restrictions; or
- 32 (3) Adopt an ordinance that provides for or prohibits the launch or intentional landing
- 33 of an unmanned aircraft system from or on its public property except with respect to the
- 34 operation of an unmanned aircraft system for commercial purposes.
- 35 (c) The state, through agency or departmental rules and regulations, may provide for or
- 36 prohibit the launch or intentional landing of an unmanned aircraft system from or on its
- 37 public property.
- 38 (d)(1) It shall be unlawful to operate an unmanned aircraft system within 400 feet of or
- 39 above a ticketed entertainment event.
- 40 (2) A person who violates this subsection shall be guilty of the unauthorized operation
- 41 of an unmanned aircraft system and shall be punished as for a misdemeanor.
- 42 (3) This subsection shall not apply when a person who operates an unmanned aircraft
- 43 system:

44 (A) Has obtained consent by any person with legal authority over a ticketed
45 entertainment event;

46 (B) Is authorized by federal regulations to operate an unmanned aircraft system and is
47 operating such system in a lawful manner and consistent with federal regulations;

48 (C) Is an employee of the property where the ticketed entertainment event is held and
49 is conducting official business; or

50 (D) Is an employee of a water, sewer, electrical, telephone, cable, or other regulated
51 utility service provider and is conducting official business."

52 **SECTION 2.**

53 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
54 without such approval.

55 **SECTION 3.**

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