



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

**Raised Bill No. 148**

LCO No. 1113



Referred to Committee on PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS

Introduced by:  
(PRI)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE WEAPONIZATION OF DRONES BASED ON A PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE STUDY.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 15-34 of the general statutes is amended by adding  
2 subdivision (29) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

3 (NEW) (29) "Unmanned aerial vehicle" means any contrivance used  
4 or designed for navigation of or flight in air that is power-driven and  
5 operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from  
6 within or on the contrivance.

7 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2016*) (a) Except as otherwise  
8 provided by law, no person shall operate or use any computer  
9 software or other technology, including, but not limited to, an  
10 unmanned aerial vehicle, as defined in subdivision (29) of section 15-34  
11 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, that allows a person,  
12 when not physically present, to release tear gas or any like or similar  
13 deleterious agent or to remotely control a deadly weapon, as defined

14 in section 53a-3 of the general statutes, or an explosive or incendiary  
15 device, as defined in section 53-206b of the general statutes.

16 (b) Any person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall be  
17 guilty of a class C felony.

18 Sec. 3. Subdivision (5) of section 15-34 of the 2016 supplement to the  
19 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
20 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

21 (5) "Aircraft" means any contrivance used or designed for  
22 navigation of or flight in air, including (A) airplanes, meaning power-  
23 driven fixed-wing aircraft, heavier than air, supported by the dynamic  
24 reaction of the air against their wings, (B) gliders, meaning heavier  
25 than air aircraft, the free flight of which does not depend principally  
26 upon a power-generating unit, and (C) rotorcraft, meaning power-  
27 driven aircraft, heavier than air, supported during flight by one or  
28 more rotors. "Aircraft" does not include unmanned aerial vehicles.

29 Sec. 4. Subdivision (8) of section 54-280 of the general statutes is  
30 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
31 *October 1, 2016*):

32 (8) "Offense committed with a deadly weapon" or "offense" means:  
33 (A) A violation of subsection (c) of section 2-1e, subsection (e) of  
34 section 29-28, subsections (a) to (e), inclusive, or (i) of section 29-33,  
35 section 29-34, subsection (a) of section 29-35, section 29-36, 29-36k, 29-  
36 37a or 29-37e, subsection (c) of section 29-37g, section 29-37j, subsection  
37 (b), (c) or (g) of section 53-202, section 53-202b, 53-202c, 53-202j, 53-  
38 202k, 53-202l, 53-202aa or 53-206b, subsection (b) of section 53a-8,  
39 section 53a-55a, 53a-56a, 53a-60a, 53a-60c, 53a-72b, 53a-92a, 53a-94a,  
40 53a-102a, 53a-103a, 53a-211, 53a-212, 53a-216, 53a-217, 53a-217a, 53a-  
41 217b, [or] 53a-217c or section 2 of this act, or a second or subsequent  
42 violation of section 53-202g; or (B) a violation of any section of the  
43 general statutes which constitutes a felony, as defined in section 53a-  
44 25, provided the court makes a finding that, at the time of the offense,

45 the offender used a deadly weapon, or was armed with and threatened  
46 the use of or displayed or represented by words or conduct that the  
47 offender possessed a deadly weapon;

48 Sec. 5. Subsection (c) of section 12-455a of the general statutes is  
49 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
50 *October 1, 2016*):

51 (c) "Motor vehicle" means any vehicle propelled or drawn by any  
52 power other than muscular, except aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles,  
53 as defined in subdivision (29) of section 15-34, as amended by this act,  
54 motorboats, road rollers, baggage trucks used about railroad stations,  
55 electric battery-operated [wheel chairs] wheelchairs when operated by  
56 physically handicapped persons at speeds not exceeding fifteen miles  
57 per hour, agricultural tractors, farm implements and such vehicles as  
58 run only upon rails or tracks;

59 Sec. 6. Subdivision (54) of section 14-1 of the 2016 supplement to the  
60 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
61 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

62 (54) "Motor vehicle" means any vehicle propelled or drawn by any  
63 nonmuscular power, except aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles, as  
64 defined in subdivision (29) of section 15-34, as amended by this act,  
65 motor boats, road rollers, baggage trucks used about railroad stations  
66 or other mass transit facilities, electric battery-operated [wheel chairs]  
67 wheelchairs when operated by physically handicapped persons at  
68 speeds not exceeding fifteen miles per hour, golf carts operated on  
69 highways solely for the purpose of crossing from one part of the golf  
70 course to another, golf-cart-type vehicles operated on roads or  
71 highways on the grounds of state institutions by state employees,  
72 agricultural tractors, farm implements, such vehicles as run only on  
73 rails or tracks, self-propelled snow plows, snow blowers and lawn  
74 mowers, when used for the purposes for which they were designed  
75 and operated at speeds not exceeding four miles per hour, whether or

76 not the operator rides on or walks behind such equipment, motor-  
77 driven cycles as defined in section 14-286, special mobile equipment as  
78 defined in section 14-165, mini-motorcycles, as defined in section 14-  
79 289j, and any other vehicle not suitable for operation on a highway;

80 Sec. 7. Subdivision (20) of section 22a-134 of the general statutes is  
81 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
82 *October 1, 2016*):

83 (20) "Vehicle" means any motorized device for conveying persons or  
84 objects except for an aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicle, as defined in  
85 subdivision (29) of section 15-34, as amended by this act, boat, railroad  
86 car or engine, or farm tractor;

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	15-34
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	15-34(5)
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	54-280(8)
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	12-455a(c)
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	14-1(54)
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	22a-134(20)

**Statement of Purpose:**

To implement the program review and investigations committee recommendations concerning the weaponization of drones.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*