



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 148**

February Session, 2016

\* SB00148JUD\_\_033016\_\_ \*

**AN ACT PROHIBITING 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. (NEW) (*Effective August 1, 2016*) (a) For the purposes of  
2 this section:

3 (1) "Law enforcement officer" means a special policeman appointed  
4 under section 29-18 of the general statutes or any officer, employee or  
5 agent of the Division of State Police within the Department of  
6 Emergency Services and Public Protection, a special police force,  
7 established pursuant to section 10a-156b of the general statutes, or a  
8 municipal police department; and

9 (2) "Unmanned aerial vehicle" means any contrivance used or  
10 designed for navigation of or flight in air that is power-driven and  
11 operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from  
12 within or on the contrivance.

13 (b) Except as otherwise provided by law, no person shall operate an  
14 unmanned aerial vehicle that is equipped with tear gas or any like or  
15 similar deleterious agent, a deadly weapon, as defined in section 53a-3  
16 of the general statutes, or an explosive or incendiary device, as defined  
17 in section 53-206b of the general statutes.

18 (c) The provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to  
19 a law enforcement officer who operates an unmanned aerial vehicle  
20 that is equipped with explosive detection, detonation or disposal  
21 equipment provided such officer is authorized by the federal or state  
22 government to detect, detonate and dispose of explosives and is  
23 engaged in such detection, detonation or disposal.

24 (d) Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a class C  
25 felony.

26 Sec. 2. Subdivision (8) of section 54-280 of the general statutes is  
27 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
28 *August 1, 2016*):

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

45 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this  
46 section, (1) "unmanned aerial vehicle" means any contrivance used or  
47 designed for navigation of or flight in air that is power-driven and  
48 operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from  
49 within or on the contrivance, and (2) "municipality" has the same

