

May 31, 2017

Senator Floyd Prozanski  
Chairman, Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court St. NE, S-413  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: **House Bill No. 3047 – Proposed Drone Legislation**

Dear Chairman Prozanski & Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

The Consumer Technology Association (“CTA”) urges the Oregon legislature to reject the newly proposed amendments to House Bill No. 3047 (“HB 3047”). Although well-intentioned, CTA cautions against adoption of laws specifically targeted at unmanned aircraft systems (“UAS” or drones). CTA represents more than 2,200 companies, 80 percent of which are small businesses and startups. As a champion of innovation, CTA is a long-time advocate of clear rules authorizing UAS in a safe manner within the national airspace. CTA has been continually involved in the Federal Aviation Administration (“FAA”) rulemaking activities concerning the operation and certification of small UAS. We also are a partner with several other organizations and the FAA in the *Know Before You Fly* campaign, which educates prospective drone users about the safe and responsible operation of UAS.

The explosive growth of the UAS industry has prompted legislators in many states and localities to propose legislation regulating the industry or otherwise trying to address potential concerns related to UAS. Before considering new legislation, however, lawmakers should evaluate whether (i) proposed regulations are preempted, (ii) the conduct at issue may already be addressed by existing state laws, and (iii) UAS-specific legislation is warranted. Pursuant to this analysis, the proposed amendments to HB 3047 should not be adopted because it would duplicate existing laws.

Although HB 3047 as initially proposed was limited to prohibiting UAS from being weaponized and therefore did not raise any concerns, the proposed amendments would include a new, drone-specific harassment provision. Oregon however already has laws in place to criminalize harassment and mischief, and the state should rely on these tested and proven laws. Most notably, Sections 164.345, .354, and .365 outlaw “criminal mischief” in a manner that covers UAS conduct. Section 166.065 also criminalizes physical harassment regardless of the instrumentality used. Accordingly, new legislation is not needed to address harassment from UAS operations.

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For the above reasons, CTA respectfully opposes the newly proposed amendments to HB 3047.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Douglas K. Johnson  
Vice President, Technology Policy  
djohnson@cta.tech