

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Digest: The Act says that it is a crime to cause death or serious injury by using a drone to meddle in an emergency. (Flesch Readability Score: 65.7).

Modifies the felony of causing death or serious physical injury using an unmanned aircraft system to include causing death or serious physical injury by causing an unmanned aircraft system to interfere with a wildfire suppression, law enforcement or emergency response effort.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to unmanned aircraft systems; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 837.374.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 837.374 is amended to read:

837.374. (1) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, a person commits a Class A violation if the person possesses or controls an unmanned aircraft system and recklessly causes the unmanned aircraft system to:

- (a) Direct a laser at an aircraft while the aircraft is in the air;
- (b) Crash into an aircraft while the aircraft is in the air;
- (c) Prevent the takeoff or landing of an aircraft; or
- (d) Interfere with a wildfire suppression, law enforcement or emergency response effort.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, a person commits a Class A misdemeanor if the person possesses or controls an unmanned aircraft system and knowingly or intentionally causes the unmanned aircraft system to:

- (a) Direct a laser at an aircraft while the aircraft is in the air;

- 1 (b) Crash into an aircraft while the aircraft is in the air;
- 2 (c) Prevent the takeoff or landing of an aircraft; or
- 3 (d) Interfere with a wildfire suppression, law enforcement or emergency
- 4 response effort.

5 (3) A person commits a Class A felony if the person possesses or controls
6 an unmanned aircraft system and knowingly, intentionally or recklessly
7 causes death or serious physical injury, as defined in ORS 161.015, to another
8 person by causing the unmanned aircraft system to:

9 (a) Direct a laser at an aircraft while the aircraft is in the air;

10 (b) Crash into an aircraft while the aircraft is in the air; [*or*]

11 (c) Prevent the takeoff or landing of an aircraft[.]; **or**

12 **(d) Interfere with a wildfire suppression, law enforcement or emer-**
13 **gency response effort.**

14 (4) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, a person commits a
15 Class A misdemeanor if the person violates subsection (1) of this section and
16 the person has one or more convictions under subsection (1) of this section
17 at the time of the offense.

18 (5) In addition to and not in lieu of any other sentence the court may
19 impose, upon a person's second or subsequent conviction under this section,
20 the court shall, at the time of sentencing, declare the unmanned aircraft
21 system used in the offense to be contraband and order that the unmanned
22 aircraft system be forfeited.

23 **SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 837.374 by section 1 of this**
24 **2025 Act apply to conduct occurring on or after the effective date of**
25 **this 2025 Act.**

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