

Submitter:

Nicholas Hara

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB238

Drones appear to be nominally equivalent cameras or aircraft surveillance, and therefore acceptable. However, I offer that it is precisely the opposite. Other forms of police surveillance currently allowed are often abused and generate budgetary bloat without meaningful results. By accepting that we may be watched without consent, without oversight, without warrant, we are ceding further our rights in public spaces and gaining nothing in terms of security.

It is incumbent on the legislative branch to provide guardrails against unwarranted police authority lest we slide into an uncontrollable police state. This bill does nothing to advance safety while infiltrating our sense of privacy, especially among historically minoritized groups.

I urge that this bill be rejected until a reasonable framework for constrained use and reasonable oversight exists.