

Submitter:	Donald Backman
On Behalf Of:	SB 238A
Committee:	House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB238

Thank you for reading this.

As an FAA Part 107 licensed drone operator, I am well aware of the privacy ramifications of Senate Bill 238A. In my dealings with local emergency management, they already have all the capabilities they need and want to enforce the law and respond to emergencies. They do not need to operate drones virtually unfettered by restrictions in the manner this bill will allow.

I am also familiar with what my commercially available drone, which is optimized for photography and videography, is capable of, and I know that drones are available with far more surveillance capabilities. Drones can be outfitted with IR capabilities and with sophisticated noise-cancelling directional microphones and literally eavesdrop on anyone. While well-intended, this bill goes too far and essentially enables a surveillance state.

This bill will allow a degree of surveillance that is unprecedented and will allow bad actors far too much surveillance capability, far more than is needed for valid law enforcement or emergency response.

I urge a resounding vote of NO on this bill.