

**ACT No. 854**

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 940

BY REPRESENTATIVE BERAULT

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 44:4.1(B)(7) and to enact R.S. 14:337.2, R.S. 42:17(F), and R.S.  
3 49:954(F), relative to unmanned aircraft systems; to provide for definitions; to  
4 provide for duties of law enforcement agencies and officers; to provide for  
5 interception and mitigation measures; to provide for training; to provide for the  
6 submission of reports; to provide for duties of the office of technology services, the  
7 Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the office of  
8 state police, and the office of the attorney general; to provide for the creation of a  
9 joint task force; to provide for exceptions to the Open Meetings Law; to provide for  
10 public records exceptions; to provide for exceptions to the Administrative Procedure  
11 Act; to provide for a presumption; to provide relative to immunity; to provide for an  
12 effective date; and to provide for related matters.

13 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

14 Section 1. R.S. 14:337.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

15 §337.2. Unmanned aircraft systems; law enforcement training standards; reporting;  
16 immunity

17 A. The provisions of this Section shall be known and may be cited as the  
18 "Law Enforcement Training Standards Governing Operations Act" or "LETS GO!  
19 Act".

20 B. For purposes of this Section, the following terms have the following  
21 meanings:

22 (1) "Forensic" means any technique in which an unmanned aircraft system,  
23 its control station, or its data is examined or preserved as evidence in connection  
24 with a law enforcement or regulatory action.

1                   (2) "Intercept" means any authorized action of a law enforcement officer or  
2                   agency to detect, track, disable, seize, or otherwise mitigate an unmanned aircraft  
3                   system threat in accordance with this Section.

4                   (3) "Rules of engagement" means policies and operational procedures  
5                   governing how a law enforcement agency or officer responds to, interdicts, or  
6                   mitigates the operations of an unmanned aircraft system.

7                   (4) "Task force" means the Counter-Unmanned Aircraft Systems Joint Task  
8                   Force established pursuant to the provisions of this Section.

9                   (5) "Unmanned aircraft system" means an unmanned, powered aircraft that  
10                  does not carry a human operator, can be autonomous or remotely piloted or operated,  
11                  and can be expendable or recoverable. "Unmanned aircraft system" does not include  
12                  any of the following:

13                   (a) A satellite orbiting the earth.

14                   (b) An unmanned aircraft system used by the federal government or a person  
15                   who is acting pursuant to contract with the federal government to conduct  
16                   surveillance of specific activities.

17                   (c) An unmanned aircraft system used by the state government or a person  
18                   who is acting pursuant to a contract with the state government to conduct  
19                   surveillance of specific activities.

20                   (d) An unmanned aircraft system used by a local government law  
21                   enforcement agency or fire department.

22                   (e) An unmanned aircraft system used by a person, affiliate, employee,  
23                   agent, or contractor of any business that is regulated by the Louisiana Public Service  
24                   Commission or by a local franchising authority or the Federal Communications  
25                   Commission under the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act  
26                   of 1992 or of a municipal or public utility, while acting in the course and scope of  
27                   his employment or agency relating to the operation, repair, or maintenance of a  
28                   facility, servitude, or any property located on the immovable property which belongs  
29                   to such a business.

1           (f) An unmanned aircraft system authorized by the Federal Aviation  
2           Administration to conduct commercial flights if such system is being operated by an  
3           employee or agent of the system's owner in the scope of his employment.

4           C.(1) A law enforcement agency or officer acting pursuant to the rules of  
5           engagement may take reasonable mitigation measures against an unmanned aircraft  
6           system that the agency or officer reasonably suspects is engaged in illegal, nefarious,  
7           or threatening conduct.

8           (2) Any interception or mitigation shall adhere to federal law and all of the  
9           following procedures:

10           (a) It is consistent with approved rules of engagement.

11           (b) It is documented in writing or electronically.

12           (3) All equipment employed for interception or mitigation measures against  
13           an unmanned aircraft system shall comply with applicable state and federal laws.

14           D.(1) A law enforcement agency or officer who performs or supervises an  
15           interception of an unmanned aircraft system shall complete the training program  
16           created pursuant to this Section.

17           (2) Agencies shall maintain records of officer certifications and make such  
18           records available to the task force for inspection.

19           (3) By January thirtieth of each year, every agency exercising interception  
20           authority over unmanned aircraft systems shall submit an annual summary of  
21           training and operational incidents to the task force. Each such summary shall be  
22           exempt from disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Law.

23           E. Forensic laboratories utilized pursuant to this Section shall be accredited  
24           or approved by the task force or by federal agencies authorized to mitigate against  
25           unmanned aircraft systems.

26           F.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the purchase,  
27           lease, or rental of any information technology equipment, related services, or  
28           software pursuant to the provisions of this Section shall be exempt from the  
29           oversight and procurement authority of the office of technology services; however,  
30           all such procurements shall be made in conformity with applicable state and federal

1 procurement laws and regulations and the office of technology services shall assist  
2 with execution of the provisions of this Section.

3 (2) The task force, with the assistance of the office of technology services,  
4 shall maintain the following, the contents of which shall be exempt from disclosure  
5 pursuant to the Public Records Law:

6 (a) A statewide inventory of approved hardware and software technologies  
7 for agency use.

8 (b) A database accessible by state and local law enforcement agencies of  
9 technical advisories and bulletins regarding the capabilities of emerging  
10 counter-technology software to unmanned aircraft systems.

11 G. The task force shall prepare a threat and vulnerability, law enforcement  
12 sensitive assessment for the purpose of prevention of terrorist-related activity for the  
13 House and Senate Select Committees on Homeland Security.

14 H.(1) The Counter-Unmanned Aircraft Systems Joint Task Force is hereby  
15 created under the jurisdiction of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections,  
16 office of state police.

17 (2) The membership of the task force shall be as follows:

18 (a) The superintendent of the office of state police, or his designee, who shall  
19 serve as the chairman.

20 (b) Two employees of the office of state police who are each subject matter  
21 experts in unmanned aircraft systems.

22 (c) The Adjutant General of Louisiana, or his designee.

23 (d) An employee of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and  
24 Emergency Preparedness who is a subject matter expert in unmanned aircraft  
25 systems.

26 (e) The executive director of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, or his  
27 designee.

28 (f) Two members of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, appointed by the  
29 association's executive committee, who are each subject matter experts in unmanned  
30 aircraft systems.

1           (g) The president of the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police, or his  
2           designee.

3           (h) One member of the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police who is  
4           selected by the executive officers of the association and who is a subject matter  
5           expert in unmanned aircraft systems.

6           (3) Members shall serve without compensation, except for per diem or  
7           expenses to which they may be entitled as members of their constituent  
8           organizations.

9           (4) A majority of the total membership shall constitute a quorum of the  
10          task force and any official action taken by the task force shall require an affirmative  
11          vote of the majority of the quorum present and voting.

12          (5) The office of state police shall provide staff support to the task force.

13          (6) The task force may create subcommittees as it deems necessary.

14          I.(1) A law enforcement officer or agency who performs or supervises a  
15          mitigation of an unmanned aircraft system shall be presumed to have acted within  
16          the scope of lawful authority if he acts in good faith and in substantial compliance  
17          with this Section.

18          (2) Immunity shall not extend to acts of gross negligence, willful  
19          misconduct, or knowing violations of constitutional or statutory law.

20          (3) Nothing in this Subsection shall preclude an individual from seeking  
21          judicial relief for unlawful actions or a violation of rights.

22          J.(1) The task force shall adopt policies and procedures necessary for the  
23          implementation and administration of the provisions of this Section.

24          (2) The policies and procedures shall comply with federal law and include  
25          but not be limited to any of the following:

26                 (a) Rules of engagement and coordination with federal agencies pertaining  
27                 to the interception and mitigation of unmanned aircraft systems.

28                 (b) Training and certification standards for law enforcement officers engaged  
29                 in mitigation or forensic activities. Training shall include but not be limited to all  
30                 of the following:



1 §4.1. Exceptions

2 \* \* \*

3 B. The legislature further recognizes that there exist exceptions, exemptions,  
4 and limitations to the laws pertaining to public records throughout the revised  
5 statutes and codes of this state. Therefore, the following exceptions, exemptions, and  
6 limitations are hereby continued in effect by incorporation into this Chapter by  
7 citation:

8 \* \* \*

9 (7) R.S. 14:337.2, 403, 403.1, 403.5

10 \* \* \*

11 Section 4. R.S. 49:954(F) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §954. Exemptions from provisions of Chapter

13 \* \* \*

14 F. This Chapter shall not be applicable to the Counter-Unmanned Aircraft  
15 Systems Joint Task Force and any sub-committee thereof.

16 Section 5. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
17 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
18 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
19 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
20 effective on the day following such approval.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_