

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 1029

BY REPRESENTATIVES TERRY LANDRY, BADON, BROWN, GUILLORY,
HODGES, HONORE, HOWARD, AND NORTON

CRIME: Creates the crime of unlawful aiming of a laser at an aircraft

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 14:336, relative to offenses against the public; to create the crime of unlawful
3 aiming of a laser at an aircraft; to provide for definitions; to provide for criminal
4 penalties; to provide for exceptions; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 14:336 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §336. Unlawful aiming of a laser at an aircraft

8 A. Unlawful aiming of a laser at an aircraft is the intentional projection of
9 a laser on or at an aircraft or at the flight path of an aircraft in the aircraft jurisdiction
10 of the state of Louisiana.

11 B. For purposes of this Section, the following terms have the following
12 meanings:

13 (1) "Laser" means any device that projects a beam or point of light by means
14 of light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation or any device that emits
15 light which simulates the appearance of a laser.

16 (2) "Police officer" shall include commissioned police officers, sheriffs,
17 deputy sheriffs, marshals, deputy marshals, correctional officers, constables, wildlife
18 enforcement agents, and probation and parole officers.

19 C. The provisions of this Section shall not prohibit aiming of a laser at an
20 aircraft by any of the following:

1 (1) An authorized individual in the conduct of research and development or
2 flight test operations conducted by an aircraft manufacturer, the Federal Aviation
3 Administration, or any other person authorized by the Federal Aviation
4 Administration to conduct research and development or flight test operations.

5 (2) Members or employees of the U.S. Department of Defense, U.S.
6 Department of Homeland Security, or police officers acting in the course and scope
7 of their official duties for the purpose of research, development, operations, testing,
8 or training.

9 (3) By a person using a laser emergency signaling device to send an
10 emergency distress signal.

11 D.(1) Whoever commits the crime of unlawful aiming of a laser at an aircraft
12 shall be imprisoned with or without hard labor for not less than one year nor more
13 than five years and shall be fined two thousand dollars.

14 (2) On a conviction for a second or subsequent offense, the offender shall be
15 imprisoned with or without hard labor for not less than two years nor more than ten
16 years and shall be fined four thousand dollars.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Terry Landry

HB No. 1029

Abstract: Creates the crime of unlawful aiming of a laser at an aircraft and provides criminal penalties.

Proposed law defines the crime of unlawful aiming of a laser at an aircraft as the intentional projection of a laser on or at an aircraft or at the flight path of an aircraft in the aircraft jurisdiction of the state of Louisiana.

Proposed law defines "laser" and "police officer".

Proposed law provides penalties of imprisonment with or without hard labor for not less than one nor more than five years, and a fine of \$2,000. For second or subsequent offenses, the offender shall be imprisoned with or without hard labor for not less than two years nor more than ten years and shall be fined \$4,000.

(Adds R.S. 14:336)