

By the Committees on Infrastructure and Security; and Criminal Justice; and Senator Gruters

596-03528-19

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to expanded uses of unmanned aircraft;
3 amending s. 934.50, F.S.; authorizing the use of
4 drones by law enforcement agencies and other specified
5 entities for specified purposes; providing an
6 effective date.

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8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10 Section 1. Present paragraphs (d) through (j) of subsection
11 (4) of section 934.50, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
12 paragraphs (i) through (o), respectively, new paragraphs (d)
13 through (h) are added to that subsection, and paragraph (a) of
14 subsection (3) of that section is amended, to read:

15 934.50 Searches and seizure using a drone.—

16 (3) PROHIBITED USE OF DRONES.—

17 (a) A law enforcement agency may not use a drone to gather
18 evidence or other information except as provided in (4).

19 (4) EXCEPTIONS.—This section does not prohibit the use of a
20 drone:

21 (d) To assist a law enforcement agency in crowd control
22 involving a group of 50 people or more.

23 (e) To assist a law enforcement agency with traffic
24 management, except that a law enforcement agency may not use a
25 drone to gather evidence to enforce traffic infractions.

26 (f) To facilitate a law enforcement agency's collection of
27 evidence at a crime scene or traffic crash scene.

28 (g) By a state agency or political subdivision for the
29 assessment of damage due to a flood, wildfire, or natural

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30 disaster or for vegetation or wildlife management on publicly
31 owned land or water.

32 (h) By certified fire department personnel to perform tasks
33 within the scope and practice authorized under their
34 certifications.

35 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.