



**California Aviation Related Legislative  
Bill Analysis Summary  
Prepared by the  
California Department of Transportation  
Division of Aeronautics  
September 16, 2016**

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- *September 30<sup>th</sup> – Last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature before Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> and in the Governor's possession on or after Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>.*
- *November 8<sup>th</sup> – General Election*
- *November 30<sup>th</sup> – Adjournment Sine Die at midnight  
(Lat. The final adjournment of a legislative session, without adjourning to a specific time or date; Adjournment without definitely fixing a day for reconvening; literally "adjournment without a day." Usually used to connote the final adjournment of a session of Congress or State Legislature.)*
- *January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 – Statutes take effect.*

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**Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 18, Senator Lois Wolk, District 3 – Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems**

*Status – May 20<sup>th</sup> – Enrolled and filed with the Secretary of State at 3:15 p.m.; May 20<sup>th</sup> – Chaptered by Secretary of State. Res. Chapter 43, Statutes of 2016.*

**SB 807, Senate Member Ted Gaines, District 1 – (Civil Code): relating to Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Non-liability for Emergency Responders**

This bill would ensure that any emergency responder would not be liable for damage to any Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS), if the damage was caused while the emergency responder was rendering emergency assistance, and the UAS was interfering with this assistance. This bill would also ensure that any public entity or public employee would not be liable for damage to any UAS, if the damage was caused while the public entity or employee was rendering emergency assistance, and the UAS was interfering with this assistance.

*Status – August 24<sup>th</sup> – Ordered to special consent calendar; August 29<sup>th</sup> – Assembly amendments concurred in. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.); Ordered to engrossing and enrolling; September 8<sup>th</sup> – **Enrolled** and presented to the Governor at 5:00 p.m.*

**SB 809** - Senate Member Ted Gaines, District - 1 (Penal Code): Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) - School Restrictions

Status – January 28<sup>th</sup> – Referred to Committee on Public Safety and Education.

**SB 810** - Senate Member Ted Gaines, District 1 – (Penal Code): Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Fire Interference

Status – January 28<sup>th</sup> – Referred to Committee on Public Safety.

**SB 811** – Senate Member Ted Gaines, District 1 – (Penal Code): Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – State Prison

Status – January 28<sup>th</sup> – Referred to Committee on Public Safety.

**SB 868** – Senate Member Hannah-Beth Jackson, District 19 – (Public Utilities Code): Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Remote Piloted Aircraft Act

Status — June 9<sup>th</sup> – Referred to Commission on Public Safety and Committee on Privacy and Community Protection. **June 21<sup>st</sup>** – Set for first hearing. **Failed passage** in Committee. (Ayes 3, Noes 4) Reconsideration granted. **(DEAD)**

**SB 1215** – Senate Member Ben Allen, District 26 – (Government Code): California Aerospace Commission

Status – April 18<sup>th</sup> hearing placed on Appropriations suspense file; May 20<sup>th</sup> – Set for hearing May 27<sup>th</sup>. May 27<sup>th</sup> – Hearing held in committee and under submission.

**SB 1246** – Senator Member Janet Nguyen, District 34 – (Food and Agricultural Code), and the (Health and Safety Code) relating to Pesticides and UAS:

Status – April 5<sup>th</sup> – From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Committee on Environmental Quality; April 20<sup>th</sup> – April 20<sup>th</sup> set for second hearing cancelled at the request of author. **(DEAD)**

**AB 1662** - Assembly Member Ed Chau, District 49 – (Public Utilities Code, starting with Par 6.5, Section 24455): Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Reporting Accidents

This bill requires the operator of any unmanned aircraft system involved in an accident resulting in injury to an individual or damage to property shall immediately land the unmanned aircraft at the nearest location that will not jeopardize the safety of others. Moving the unmanned aircraft in accordance with this subdivision does not affect the question of fault. The operator shall also immediately do one of the following: Present valid identification, locate and notify the owner of the property, via written notice if necessary, by leaving it in a conspicuous place on the damaged property and notify the police department.

A person who fails to comply with these requirements is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months or by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or by both that imprisonment and fine. However, this section does not apply to law enforcement officers.

Status – August 31<sup>st</sup> – In Assembly. Concurrence in Senate amendments pending; August 31<sup>st</sup> – Assembly Rule 63 suspended; August 31<sup>st</sup> – Senate amendments concurred in; To Engrossing and Enrolling; September 2<sup>nd</sup> – **Enrolled**.

**AB 1680 – Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez, District 52 – (Penal Code): Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Crimes: Emergency Personnel**

Any person who goes to the scene of an emergency for the purpose of viewing the scene or activities of first responders, in the course of their duties, unless it is part of that person's employment to view the scene or activities, is guilty of a misdemeanor. For purposed of this bill, a person shall include a person who operates or uses an UAS.

*Status – August 2<sup>nd</sup> – Read second time, Ordered to third reading; August 16<sup>th</sup> – Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Assembly. (Ayes 38. Noes 0); August 16<sup>th</sup> – In Assembly, ordered to Engrossing and Enrolling; August 17<sup>th</sup> – **Enrolled**; August 29<sup>th</sup> – Presented to the Governor at 4:00 p.m.*

**AB 1724 – Assembly Member Marie Waldron, District 75 – (Vehicle Code): Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Identification Requirements**

*Status – February 25<sup>th</sup> – Referred to Committee on Privacy and Community Protection; March 29<sup>th</sup> – In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing cancelled at the request of author. **(DEAD)***

**AB 1820 – Assembly Member Bill Quirk, District 20 – (Penal Code): Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Law Enforcement Allowable Use**

This bill describes the allowable and unallowable uses for an Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) by law enforcement agencies; what data can and cannot be kept longer than one year, what purposes require a warrant, who has access to the data obtained, the training required for use of an UAS, etc. And it specifically states that a UAS cannot not be armed. The bill requires that the law enforcement agency complies with all applicable federal, state, and local law and the UAS policy developed by the law enforcement agency pursuant to the bill's provisions. This bill is not intended to conflict with or supersede federal law, including rules and regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

*Status – June 22<sup>nd</sup> – From Committee: Do pass and re-refer to Committee on Judicial (Ayes 5. Noes 2). June 28<sup>th</sup> – In Committee: Set, first hearing. Failed passage - **Reconsideration Granted. (DEAD)***

**AB 2148 – Assembly Member Chris Holden, District 41 – (Fish and Game Code): Unmanned Aircraft Systems**

This bill would make it unlawful for any person to launch, land, or operate an unmanned aircraft system from Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and Dept. of Parks and Recreation managed lands or waters, except as authorized by these departments or unless exempted from the prohibition. It would also make it unlawful to use an UAS to take, or assist in the take of, fish or wildlife, including, but not limited to the use of UAS for scouting purposes. Because violations of the provisions of the bill would be crimes, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program, and no reimbursement is required of this act.

The department shall consider protecting wildlife from disturbance and protecting sensitive species, including endangered species. Protecting natural, cultural and historic values of state lands as well. Consideration will be provided for permitting appropriate use of UAS for

conservation and scientific research purposes. Additionally, the department shall allow minimal access by adjacent landowners for agricultural purposes.

*Status – August 30<sup>th</sup> – Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling; September 8<sup>th</sup> – **Enrolled** and presented to the Governor at 4:00 p.m.*

**AB 2320 – Assembly Member Ian Calderon, District 57; and Assembly member Evan Low, District 28 – (Penal Code): Unmanned Aircraft Systems**

This bill would specifically prohibit a person who is prohibited from coming within a specified distance of another person, from operating an unmanned aircraft system in a way that causes an unmanned aircraft, as those terms are defined, to fly within the prohibited distance of the other person or from capturing images of the other person by using an unmanned aircraft system. By creating a new crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

*Status – August 24<sup>th</sup> – Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 80, Noes). Page 6194.); August 25<sup>th</sup> – **Enrolled**; August 31<sup>st</sup> – Presented to the Governor at 4:00 p.m.*

**AB 2600 – Assembly Member Tom Lackey, District 36 – (Education Code): California Institute for Aerospace**

*Status – April 27<sup>th</sup> – In committee: Set, first hearing, Referred to Appropriations suspense file. May 27<sup>th</sup> – In committee: held under submission.*

**AB 2724 – Assembly Member Mike Gatto, District 43 – (Section 9570 – Division 4 of the Civil Code relating to UAS): Unmanned Aircraft Systems: Liability of first responders**

This bill may be cited as the Drone Registration Omnibus Negligence Prevention Enactment (DRONE) Act. A person who manufactures an unmanned aircraft for sale in this state shall include with the unmanned aircraft both of the following: (1) A copy of FAA safety regulations applicable to unmanned aircraft; (2) If the unmanned aircraft is required to be registered with the FAA, a notification of that requirement; (b) An unmanned aircraft equipped with global positioning satellite mapping capabilities shall also be equipped with geofencing technological capabilities that prohibit the unmanned aircraft from flying within five miles of an airport. The owner of a UAS shall procure adequate protection against liability imposed by law on owners of UAS including the payment of damages for personal bodily injuries and death, and for property damage, resulting from the operation of the UAS.

The owner of a UAS shall procure adequate protection against liability imposed by law on owners of UAS including the payment of damages for personal bodily injuries and death, and for property damage, resulting from the operation of the UAS.

This part does not apply to a UAS pursuant to a current commercial operator exemption issued pursuant to Section 333 of the Federal Aviation Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, or other commercial operator authorization granted by the FAA.

This part shall become operative on January 1, 2020.

*Status – August 24<sup>th</sup> – Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Assembly; August 26<sup>th</sup> – In Assembly. Concurrence in Senate amendments pending. May be considered on or after August 28<sup>th</sup> pursuant to Assembly Rule 77; August 30<sup>th</sup> – Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling; August 31<sup>st</sup> – **Enrolled.***