
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1684 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY GAINNEY, READSHAW, ENGLISH, YOUNGBLOOD, THOMAS,
D. COSTA, PASHINSKI, MILLARD, ROZZI, MAHONEY, FARINA, WARD
AND COHEN, NOVEMBER 5, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in sports and amusements, prohibiting
3 the use of drones near stadiums.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 7108. Prohibited use of drones near stadiums.

9 (a) General rule.--A person may not operate a drone below
10 3,000 feet above and within three miles of a stadium where a
11 sporting event or other public event is occurring in this
12 Commonwealth.

13 (b) Exceptions.--This section shall not apply to the use of
14 a drone by any of the following:

15 (1) a law enforcement agency to counter a high risk of a
16 terrorist attack if the United States Secretary of Homeland
17 Security determines that credible intelligence indicates that
18 there is a risk of a terrorist attack;

1 (2) a law enforcement agency if the law enforcement
2 agency possesses reasonable suspicion that, under particular
3 circumstances, swift action is needed to prevent imminent
4 danger to life or serious damage to property; or

5 (3) an authorized person for operational purposes in
6 connection with a public event in a stadium, including team-
7 sponsored broadcast coverage for the broadcast rights holder,
8 if the person using the drone is otherwise operating in
9 compliance with regulations of the Federal Aviation
10 Administration of the United States Department of
11 Transportation.

12 (c) Penalty.--A person who violates this section commits a
13 misdemeanor of the third degree.

14 (d) Definition.--As used in this section, the term "drone"
15 shall mean a powered, aerial vehicle that:

16 (1) does not carry a human operator;

17 (2) uses aerodynamic forces to provide vehicle lift;

18 (3) can fly autonomously or be piloted remotely;

19 (4) can be expendable or recoverable; and

20 (5) can carry a lethal or nonlethal payload.

21 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.