

SENATE FILE NO. SF0132

Protecting critical infrastructure and systems from drones.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Jones, Anderson, Biteman, Cooper, Dockstader, Driskill, Hicks, Kolb, Landen, McKeown, Rothfuss, Schuler and Steinmetz and Representative(s) Banks, Brown, G, Byron, Davis, Erickson, Geringer, Heiner, Jarvis, Knapp, Larson, JT, Neiman, Ottman, Thayer and Wylie

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to defense forces and affairs; prohibiting  
2 the use and operation of unmanned aircraft systems over  
3 critical infrastructure and critical systems; specifying  
4 exceptions; providing and amending penalties; authorizing  
5 the use of the Wyoming national guard; providing  
6 definitions; making conforming amendments; and providing  
7 for an effective date.

8

9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 19-13-503 is created to read:

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13

ARTICLE 5

## 1 PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

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3 19-13-503. Unlawful operation of unmanned aircraft  
4 systems over critical infrastructure and systems  
5 prohibited; permitted actions by law enforcement.

6

7 (a) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this  
8 section, no person shall operate or use an unmanned  
9 aircraft system over or near critical infrastructure or a  
10 critical system:

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12 (i) To intentionally photograph critical  
13 infrastructure or a critical system;

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15 (ii) To intentionally loiter over or near  
16 critical infrastructure or a critical system; or

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18 (iii) In furtherance of any other criminal  
19 offense.

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21 (b) Unless otherwise authorized by law, no person  
22 shall operate or use an unmanned aircraft system or model  
23 aircraft that is carrying, contains or is an explosive

1 device over or near critical infrastructure or a critical  
2 system. This subsection shall not apply to law enforcement  
3 and the military while acting in the course of their lawful  
4 duties.

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6 (c) This section shall not apply to:

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8 (i) A person authorized by the federal aviation  
9 administration to operate or use an unmanned aircraft  
10 system if the person's operation or use complies with the  
11 authorization granted or with rules promulgated by the  
12 federal aviation administration;

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14 (ii) A governmental entity's use of an unmanned  
15 aircraft system owned by the governmental entity;

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17 (iii) The use of an unmanned aircraft system by  
18 the owner or the owner's agent of critical infrastructure  
19 or a critical system on or near the owner's critical  
20 infrastructure or critical system;

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22 (iv) The use of an unmanned aircraft system by a  
23 law enforcement agency, emergency medical service agency,

1 hazardous materials response team, disaster management  
2 agency or other emergency management agency for the purpose  
3 of incident command, area reconnaissance, personnel and  
4 equipment deployment monitoring, training or a related  
5 purpose;

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7 (v) The use of an unmanned aircraft system by a  
8 private landowner on property owned by the private  
9 landowner.

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11 (d) A person who violates subsection (a) or (b) of  
12 this section is guilty of:

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14 (i) A misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment not  
15 to exceed six (6) months, a fine not to exceed two thousand  
16 five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00), or both, for a first  
17 offense;

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19 (ii) A felony punishable by imprisonment not to  
20 exceed two (2) years, a fine not to exceed five thousand  
21 dollars (\$5,000.00), or both, for a second or subsequent  
22 offense.

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1           (e) A peace officer or law enforcement official may  
2 take or authorize the use of reasonable actions to prevent  
3 or stop the use of unmanned aircraft systems or model  
4 aircrafts operating in violation of this section. For  
5 purposes of this subsection, reasonable actions may include  
6 disabling, damaging or removing the unmanned aircraft  
7 system or model aircraft from the prohibited location.

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9           (f) The governor may order the national guard of  
10 Wyoming to assist in taking or using reasonable actions to  
11 prevent or stop the use of unmanned aircraft systems or  
12 model aircrafts operating in violation of this section, in  
13 accordance with W.S. 19-9-207.

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15           **Section 2.** W.S. 10-4-303 by creating a new subsection  
16 (d), 19-9-207(a) by creating a new paragraph (iv) and by  
17 renumbering (iv) as (v) and 19-13-501(a) by creating new  
18 paragraphs (vi) through (viii) are amended to read:

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20           **10-4-303. Low or dangerous flight; landing on land or**  
21 **water of another; penalties and remedies.**

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1        (d) A person who operates or uses an unmanned  
2 aircraft in a manner that is not lawful under subsection  
3 (a) of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor  
4 punishable by imprisonment not to exceed six (6) months, a  
5 fine not to exceed seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00),  
6 or both.

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8        **19-9-207. Suppressing tumult; preserving order,**  
9 **insuring public safety; expenses; creation of additional**  
10 **units; draft.**

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12        (a) The governor may order any designated person or  
13 commanding officer of any military unit to appear with or  
14 without his command at a time and place specified to:

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16        (iv) Prevent or stop the use of unmanned  
17 aircraft systems or model aircrafts violating W.S.  
18 19-13-503;

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20        ~~(iv)~~(v) Perform such other duties as the  
21 commander in chief may require and which the militia or  
22 national guard may lawfully perform.

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1           **19-13-501. Definitions.**

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3           (a) As used in this article:

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5                   (vi) "Critical system" means any one (1) or more  
6 of the following:

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8                           (A) A petroleum refinery;

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10                           (B) A petroleum, chemical or rubber  
11 production, transportation, storage or processing facility;

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13                           (C) A chemical manufacturing facility;

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15                           (D) A water or wastewater treatment  
16 facility and water development, distribution or conveyance  
17 system, including a dam;

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19                           (E) An electric generation facility and any  
20 associated substation or switchyard;

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22                           (F) An electrical transmission or  
23 distribution substation;

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(G) An electrical transmission line of not less than sixty-nine thousand (69,000) volts;

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(H) An electronic communication station or tower;

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(J) An energy control center;

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(K) A distribution operating center;

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(M) A facility that transfers or distributes natural gas, including a compressor station, regulator station, city gate station or pressure-limiting station or a liquefied natural gas facility or supplier tap facility;

(N) Any railroad infrastructure or facility;

(O) A federal, state, county, chancery or municipal court;



1                   (P) A public safety or emergency operation  
2 facility;

3  
4                   (Q) A federal, state, county or municipal  
5 jail or correctional facility or any other facility where  
6 persons are incarcerated;

7  
8                   (R) A federal or state military  
9 installation or facility;

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11                   (S) A hospital that receives air ambulance  
12 services;

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14                   (T) Any surface, subsurface or in-situ  
15 mining or manufacturing infrastructure or facility.

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17                   (vii) "Model aircraft" means as defined in  
18 section 336 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of  
19 2012, P.L. 112-95;

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21                   (viii) "Unmanned aircraft system" means as  
22 defined by W.S. 6-5-214(a)(iii).

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1           **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2025.

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(END)