

**SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6(FIN)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 4/13/13**

**Referred: Rules**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES HUGHES, Kawasaki, Isaacson, Pruitt, Johnson, Thompson, Drummond, Saddler**

**A RESOLUTION**

1 **Recognizing the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration at the**  
2 **University of Alaska Fairbanks as a national leader in unmanned aircraft research and**  
3 **development; and relating to a Task Force on Unmanned Aircraft Systems.**

4 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 **WHEREAS** the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Program at the University of Alaska  
6 Fairbanks has, since 2001, been designing payloads and upgrades for unmanned aircraft  
7 systems, testing and evaluating their safety and effectiveness, developing and demonstrating  
8 new uses for various potential users, working with the Federal Aviation Administration to  
9 make the use of unmanned aircraft systems safe, and developing technology to improve safety  
10 and is known across the nation for its leadership in advancing the state of the art and the safe  
11 use of unmanned aircraft systems; and

12 **WHEREAS** the importance of the program's work to the state was recently  
13 recognized by the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska when the regents established  
14 the Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration at the University of Alaska Fairbanks  
15 to continue research and development of unmanned aircraft systems for the benefit of the

1 state; and

2 **WHEREAS** the legislature recognizes the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft  
3 Systems Integration at University of Alaska Fairbanks as the state's leader in unmanned  
4 aircraft systems research, meeting the goals of industry, the Federal Aviation Administration,  
5 and government operations; and

6 **WHEREAS** the legislature has provided significant financial support to the Alaska  
7 Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration at University of Alaska Fairbanks to  
8 further the center's research initiatives, and to increase its capabilities for use as a possible  
9 Federal Aviation Administration test site; and

10 **WHEREAS** the State of Alaska, the University of Alaska, the Alaska Aerospace  
11 Corporation, the Alaska Aviation Safety Project, and other public and private institutions have  
12 developed cooperation with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Federal  
13 Aviation Administration, the United States Department of the Interior, the United States  
14 Department of Defense, and others to further advance the research, development, and use of  
15 technology to benefit and support Alaskans and Americans with the safe use of unmanned  
16 aircraft systems; and

17 **WHEREAS** Alaska state government and the state's business and research community  
18 continue to work with the Federal Aviation Administration to promote the establishment of  
19 safe unmanned aircraft system ranges onshore and offshore Alaska, which will help establish  
20 procedures for the safe operation of unmanned aircraft systems in the National Airspace  
21 System; and

22 **WHEREAS** the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration, by virtue  
23 of being located in Alaska, has access to an area of geographic and climatic diversity where  
24 the air and surface population density is desirable for conducting research and development of  
25 unmanned aircraft systems; and

26 **WHEREAS** the state has the highest per capita use of general aviation activity in the  
27 nation, and Alaska aviation organizations have helped the Federal Aviation Administration  
28 develop the next generation of air traffic control for the nation and the world, while making  
29 major gains for the state's aviation safety in the process; and

30 **WHEREAS** unmanned aircraft systems may present a risk to privacy, but neither the  
31 Federal Aviation Administration nor any other state or federal agency currently has specific

1 statutory authority to regulate privacy matters relating to unmanned aircraft systems;

2 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the Alaska Center  
3 for Unmanned Aircraft at the University of Alaska Fairbanks as a leader in aviation  
4 pioneering and further recognizes the significant benefit to the state and nation the center  
5 provides in research and development of unmanned aircraft systems; and be it

6 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature fully supports the efforts  
7 of the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration at the University of Alaska  
8 Fairbanks to become one of the nation's six test sites for unmanned aircraft systems testing  
9 and research; and be it

10 **FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Legislature that the Task Force on  
11 Unmanned Aircraft Systems is created in the legislative branch and shall consist of 7  
12 members, who, except for the member from the senate and the member from the house of  
13 representatives, shall be appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the  
14 house of representatives, as follows:

15 (1) one senator selected by the president of the senate, who shall serve as co-  
16 chair;

17 (2) one representative selected by the speaker of the house of representatives,  
18 who shall serve as co-chair;

19 (3) the commissioner of public safety or the commissioner's designee;

20 (4) the adjutant general of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs or  
21 the adjutant general's designee;

22 (5) a member representing the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems  
23 Integration at University of Alaska Fairbanks;

24 (6) a member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics;

25 (7) a member from the state Aviation Advisory Board; and be it

26 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that a vacancy on the task force shall be filled in the  
27 manner of the original appointment; and be it

28 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the duties of the task force shall include

29 (1) reviewing regulations and guidance from the Federal Aviation  
30 Administration regarding unmanned aircraft systems;

31 (2) providing written recommendations, together with suggested legislation,

1 for a comprehensive state policy for unmanned aircraft that protects privacy and allows the  
2 use of unmanned aircraft systems for public and private applications; and

3 (3) submitting, not later than January 15, 2014, an initial report to the  
4 legislature and, not later than July 1, 2014, submitting a final report to the legislature; and be  
5 it

6 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force may meet as frequently as necessary to  
7 carry out its responsibilities; and be it

8 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force may meet during and between legislative  
9 sessions and may request administrative and technical support from the University of Alaska  
10 Fairbanks; and be it

11 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the public members of the task force serve without  
12 compensation but are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized for boards and  
13 commissions under AS 39.20.180; and be it

14 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force terminates on July 1, 2014.