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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2935

03/10/2016 Authored by Newberger and Schoen

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; prohibiting the use of unmanned aerial vehicles near
1.3 public safety helicopters; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes,
1.4 chapter 609.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. [609.5001] INTERFERING WITH PUBLIC SAFETY HELICOPTERS;
1.7 UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For the purposes of this section, the terms in this
1.9 subdivision have the meanings given them.

1.10 (b) "Public safety helicopter" is a helicopter operated by a law enforcement agency,
1.11 fire department, or emergency medical service provider.

1.12 (c) "Unmanned aerial vehicle" means a powered, aerial vehicle that:

1.13 (1) does not carry a human operator;

1.14 (2) can fly autonomously or be piloted remotely;

1.15 (3) uses aerodynamic forces to provide vehicle lift;

1.16 (4) can be expendable or recoverable; and

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

1.18 Subd. 2. Crime. Whoever knowingly operates an unmanned aerial vehicle within
1.19 one mile of a public safety helicopter during operations is guilty of a crime and shall
1.20 be punished as provided in subdivision 3.

1.21 Subd. 3. Penalty. (a) A person who violates subdivision 2 is guilty of a misdemeanor.

1.22 (b) A person who violates subdivision 2 a second or subsequent time is guilty of a
1.23 gross misdemeanor.