

**Unmanned Aircraft Systems** - The LRC Study Committee on Unmanned Aircraft Systems shall study both the safety and privacy of its citizens, as well as the economic benefits of enabling unmanned aircraft systems ("UAS"), UAS sub-systems, and peripheral support industries and sciences to develop governmental needs and provide commercial growth in the private and academic sectors in the State. This study shall examine:

- (1) The integration of unmanned aircraft into the national airspace (NAS).
- (2) The diverse operational uses for UAS in the areas of search and rescue, natural disaster mitigation, law enforcement operations, surveying, environmental monitoring and infrastructure monitoring.
- (3) Potential economic benefits to the State through the development of UAS.
- (4) Potential privacy concerns and considerations related to the deployment and use of UAS.
- (5) Potentially viable commercial applications for UAS-enabled technology in the future.
- (6) Any other issues pertinent to this study.

Additionally, the committee shall study issues concerning legal and constitutional limitations of UAS technology. These shall include:

- (1) Government limitations prescribed in the United States Constitution and North Carolina Constitutions concerning illegal searches using UAS technology.
- (2) Whether the common law warrant exceptions developed from the 4th Amendment to the United States Constitution extend to the use of UAS including:
  - (a) Imminent harm to life or property.
  - (b) Felony pursuit.
  - (c) Imminent description of evidence, etc.
- (3) The scope of data that may be collected.
- (4) Penalties for unauthorized data collection.
- (5) Admissibility and limitations of evidence collected by UAS technology.
- (6) Data retention and destruction of unauthorized information collected by UAS technology.
- (7) Reporting requirements identifying who used the technology pursuant to a warrant, the offense specified in the warrant, and the nature of the property or person searched.
- (8) Potential extenuating circumstances where legal clarity is needed.

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