

HB429 INTRODUCED



1 HB429
2 U9UU5DX-1
3 By Representatives Rafferty, England, Tillman, Hendrix
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
5 First Read: 12-Feb-26



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SYNOPSIS:

This bill would provide that it is unlawful to operate an unmanned aircraft system near a ticketed entertainment event.

This bill would provide penalties for violations.

This bill would also provide exemptions.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to crimes and offenses; to prohibit the operation of an unmanned aircraft system near a ticketed entertainment event; to provide penalties for violations; and to provide exemptions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) TICKETED ENTERTAINMENT EVENT. Any music, sporting, or performing arts event held in a location with gated entries or barriers that prevent access to the general public and in which a revocable license that has been issued by an owner, operator, or lessee of the property is required for an



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29 individual to attend the event.

30 (2) UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM. As defined in Section
31 13A-7-4.3, Code of Alabama 1975.

32 (b) (1) It shall be unlawful to operate an unmanned
33 aircraft system within 400 feet of or above a ticketed
34 entertainment event.

35 (2) A violation of this subsection is punishable by a
36 fine of up to five hundred dollars (\$500).

37 (3) A second or subsequent violation of this subsection
38 is a Class A misdemeanor.

39 (c) Subsection (b) shall not apply to an operator of an
40 unmanned aircraft system in any of the following scenarios:

41 (1) The operator has obtained consent by any person
42 with legal authority over the ticketed entertainment event.

43 (2) The operator is authorized by federal regulations
44 to operate an unmanned aircraft system and is operating the
45 system in a lawful manner consistent with federal regulations.

46 (3) The operator is an employee of the property where
47 the event is being held and is conducting official business.

48 (4) The operator is an employee of a utility service
49 provider and is conducting official business.

50 (5) The operator is an owner of private property who is
51 operating an unmanned aircraft system that he or she owns
52 above the private property, where the operation is consistent
53 with federal regulations and is not done for commercial
54 purposes, to convey or communicate a message, or to record for
55 the purposes of commercial broadcasting, commercial
56 publication, monitoring, or to otherwise interfere with a



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57 ticketed entertainment event.

58 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October

59 1, 2026.