

H. B. No. 434

As Introduced

_____ moved to amend as follows:

In line 1 of the title, after "Code" insert "and to amend Section 1
755.20 of H.B. 96 of the 136th General Assembly" 2

In line 4 of the title, after "requirements" insert ", to expand the 3
Drones for First Responders Program," 4

After line 132, insert: 5

"Section 3. That Section 755.20 of H.B. 96 of the 136th 6
General Assembly be amended to read as follows: 7

Sec. 755.20. (A) As used in this section: 8

(1) "First responder" means a law enforcement agency, fire 9
department, or emergency medical services organization. 10

(2) "Unmanned aerial vehicle system" has the same meaning 11
as in section 4561.50 of the Revised Code. 12

(B) The Director of Transportation shall establish a 13
Drones for First Responders pilot program to be administered by 14
the Department of Transportation. 15



(C) The program shall be designed to focus on the following goals:

(1) Acquiring unmanned aerial vehicle system assets for first responders within municipal corporations, counties, and townships;

(2) Providing training on the operation of unmanned aerial vehicle systems to the operators of those systems;

(3) Obtaining approval from the Federal Aviation Administration for beyond visual line of sight operations for purposes of the pilot program and the operation of unmanned aerial vehicle systems within the program;

(4) Integrating existing Ohio unmanned aerial vehicle system infrastructure for purposes of conducting beyond visual line of sight operations within the program;

(5) Collecting metrics for cost-benefit analyses related to advanced unmanned aerial vehicle system operations;

(6) Developing a comprehensive approach for community acceptance and integration of unmanned aerial vehicle system operations;

(7) Standardizing an approval process with the Federal Aviation Administration for unmanned aerial vehicle system operators across the state.

(D) (1) The Director shall establish a process to award money available under the program to the legislative authority of municipal corporations, boards of county commissioners, and boards of township trustees that are willing to participate in the program and meet any guidelines established by the Director for meeting the program's goals. The money awarded shall be

allocated towards the purchase of unmanned aerial vehicle 44
systems for first responders within the municipal corporations, 45
counties, and townships for training support, for assisting in 46
navigating federal processes and approvals, and for supporting 47
the integration of statewide operations. 48

(2) Any unmanned aerial vehicle system purchased through 49
the program shall comply with the federal laws and regulations 50
for such systems, including those in the national security 51
interests of the United States. As such, no system, including 52
any components, services, or maintenance of that system, shall 53
originate from a country or other entity that has been deemed a 54
national security risk by the United States Secretary of State 55
in accordance with 22 U.S.C. 2780 and 50 U.S.C. 4813. 56
Additionally, any system shall comply with the "Support Anti- 57
terrorism by Fostering Effective Technologies Act of 2002," 6 58
U.S.C. 441, et seq., and any applicable conditions of national 59
defense spending. 60

(E) The Director shall establish any procedures and 61
requirements necessary to administer this section, including 62
award processes, and any conditions for the expenditure of 63
funding awarded under the program. 64

(F) (1) Not later than two years after ~~the effective date~~ 65
~~of this section~~September 30, 2025, the Director shall submit a 66
report regarding the program to the Governor, the Speaker of the 67
House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, the 68
Minority Leaders of the House of Representatives and Senate, and 69
the chairs of any committee of the House of Representatives and 70
Senate related to transportation issues. 71

(2) The report shall detail how funds were expended 72
through the program, the success of the program in meeting its 73

goals, the cost-benefit analysis created through the program, 74
and any recommendations for additional integration of unmanned 75
aerial vehicle system operations by first responders. 76

Section 4. That existing Section 755.20 of H.B. 96 of the 77
136th General Assembly is hereby repealed." 78

In line 133, delete "3" and insert "5" 79

The motion was _____ agreed to.

SYNOPSIS 80

Drones for First Responders Program 81

Sections 3 and 4 82

Expands the Drones for First Responders Program, enacted 83
through H.B. 96 of the 136th General Assembly (the main 84
operating budget), to apply to first responders in counties and 85
townships. 86