

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 324
100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

0778H.02C

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 217, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the offense of unlawful use of unmanned aircraft near a correctional center, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 217, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 217.850, to read as follows:

**217.850. 1. A person commits the offense of unlawful use of unmanned aircraft
2 near a correctional center if he or she knowingly:**

**3 (1) Operates an unmanned aircraft within a vertical distance of three hundred feet,
4 extending from the ground level, or a horizontal correctional center's property line; or**

**5 (2) Allows an unmanned aircraft to make contact with a correctional center,
6 including any person or object on the premises of or within the facility.**

**7 2. For the purposes of this section, "correctional center" shall have the same
8 meaning as under section 217.010 but shall exclude a penal institution located in a county
9 of the first class with a charter form of government.**

**10 3. The provisions of this section shall not prohibit the operation of an unmanned
11 aircraft by:**

**12 (1) An employee of the correctional center at the direction of the chief
13 administrative officer of the facility;**

**14 (2) A person who has written consent from the chief administrative officer of the
15 facility;**

**16 (3) An employee of a law enforcement agency, fire department, or emergency
17 medical service in the exercise of official duties;**

18 (4) A government official or employee in the exercise of official duties; or

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

19 **(5) A public utility if:**

20 **(a) The unmanned aircraft is used for the purpose of inspecting, repairing, or**
21 **maintaining utility transmission or distribution lines, other utility equipment, or**
22 **infrastructure;**

23 **(b) The utility notifies the correctional center at least twenty-four hours before**
24 **flying the unmanned aircraft, except during an emergency; and**

25 **(c) The person operating the unmanned aircraft does not physically enter the**
26 **prohibited space without an escort provided by the correctional center.**

27 **4. The offense of unlawful use of unmanned aircraft near a correctional center is**
28 **a class A misdemeanor unless the person uses an unmanned aircraft for the purpose of:**

29 **(1) Delivering a gun, knife, weapon, or other article that may be used in such**
30 **manner to endanger the life of an offender or correctional center employee, in which case**
31 **the offense is a class B felony;**

32 **(2) Facilitating an escape from confinement under section 575.210, in which case**
33 **the offense is a class C felony; or**

34 **(3) Delivering a controlled substance, as that term is defined by chapter 195, in**
35 **which case the offense is a class D felony.**

36 **5. Each correctional center shall post a sign warning of the provisions of this**
37 **section. The sign shall be at least eleven inches by fourteen inches and posted in a**
38 **conspicuous place.**

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