

By: Nevárez, Simmons

H.B. No. 3238

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the regulation of unmanned aircrafts by political subdivisions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 21, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 21.007 to read as follows:

Sec. 21.007. REGULATION OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT BY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION. (a) In this section, "political subdivision" includes a county, a joint board created under Section 22.074, and a municipality.

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), a political subdivision may not adopt or enforce any ordinance, order, or other similar measure regarding the ownership or operation of an unmanned aircraft.

(c) A political subdivision may adopt and enforce an ordinance, order, or other similar measure regarding:

(1) the political subdivision's use of an unmanned aircraft; or

(2) the use of an unmanned aircraft near a facility or infrastructure owned by the political subdivision, if the political subdivision:

(A) applies for and receives authorization from the Federal Aviation Administration to adopt the regulation; and

(B) after providing reasonable notice, holds a

1 public hearing on the political subdivision's intent to apply for  
2 the authorization.

3 (d) An ordinance, order, or other similar measure that  
4 violates Subsection (b) is void and unenforceable.

5 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.