States with UAS Legislation Applicable to Police

In 2013, states began introducing UAS legislation in a rapid-fire fashion. This reaction reflected a public fear in the use of sUAS by law enforcement to violate privacy. Much of the legislation deals with defining drones, limiting law enforcement’s ability to gather information or evidence with them, and setting parameters for their use, especially in the case of emergency response situations.

Because the application of sUAS technology for public safety use is emerging, the legal and regulatory environment is continually changing. Always be sure to consult the most current federal, state, and local laws applicable to sUAS. Law enforcement agencies are strongly advised to consult with their own City Attorney or District Attorney on legal and constitutional issues surrounding the use of sUAS before launching their program.

States that have currently enacted UAS legislation applicable to police include*:

**Specifies warrant requirements, exceptions, and other guidelines for police use**
- Alaska HB 255
- Colorado HB 1070
- Florida SB 92
- Idaho SB 1134
- Illinois SB 1587
- Indiana HB 1009
- Nevada AB 239
- North Carolina SB 744
- Oregon HB 2710
- Tennessee SB 796
- Utah SB 167
- Texas HB 912 & HCR 217
- Virginia HB 2012, SB 1331, HB 2125, SB 1301

**Provides protections or permissions for law enforcement use (general or specific)**
- Arizona SB 1449
- California SB 807 & AB 1680
- Delaware HB 195
- Indiana HB 1013
- Louisiana SB 73
- Oregon HB 3047
- Texas SB 840
- Utah HB 296

**Addresses data collection & retention**
- Alaska HB 255
- Colorado SB 1587 & SB 2937
- Idaho SB 1134
- Illinois SB 1587 & SB 2937
- Indiana HB 1009
- Maine LD 25
- Montana SB 196
- North Dakota HB 1328
- Oregon 4066
- Utah SB 167 & SB 111
- Virginia HB 2012 & SB 1331

**Addresses admissibility of data**
- Iowa HF 2289
- Maine LD 25
- Montana SB 196

**Limits (regulates or prohibits) general or specific use by law enforcement**
- Florida SB 92 & HB 1027
- Iowa HF 2289
- Louisiana SB 141
- Maine LD 25
- North Carolina SB 402
- Vermont 155
- Virginia HB 2012 & SB 1331

* This list is not exhaustive. Includes enacted legislation through 2017.

Contact for more information:
Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems in Public Safety
Police Foundation
www.uaspublicsafety.org

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