



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 11:36 PM

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I am in Support of this Bill and its intension of Buying in our own County and not abroad. Our State's Security MUST a Top-priority!



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BEV EHLEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: bevehlen@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2025 11:21 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES HARRIS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-761-7875	
REPRESENTING: STATE ARMOR ACTION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 122 E HIGH STREET, SUITE 200			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MASON SISK		PHONE NUMBER: 701-214-3756	
REPRESENTING: ASSOCIATION FOR UNCREWED VEHICLE SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 8172 W THUNDER MT. DR.			
CITY: BOISE		STATE: ID	ZIP: 83709
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: libertytree.cottage976@passinbox.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2025 9:17 AM
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I SUPPORT HB 751 as originally filed. I support this because it's a limit the government is placing on itself, instead of on individual citizens and private businesses. This will help support domestic drone manufacturers while also reducing security risks.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: NEAL ENGLISH		PHONE NUMBER: 314-494-8924	
REPRESENTING: STATE SHIELD		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 811 WINSTON CT			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SHANNON COOPER		PHONE NUMBER: 660-890-1432	
REPRESENTING: CITY OF KANSAS CITY		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 208 MADISON STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: AUSTIN KING	PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SAINT LOUIS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT	TITLE: POLICE OFFICER	
ADDRESS: 1915 OLIVE STREET		
CITY: SAINT LOUIS	STATE: MO	ZIP: 63103
EMAIL: asking@slmpd.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2025 12:27 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My name is Austin King. I am the lead UAS Drone Operator for the Saint Louis City SWAT team. I frequently use DJI drones in our tactical operations. They have been a priceless asset in our operations, big and small. I have experience using other American made drones, such as the BRINC Lemur S drone. My experience using the Brinc Lemur drone has been very disappointing. The Brinc drone is difficult to fly, glitchy and frequently loses connection while flying, in comparison to the DJI drone counterparts. The Brinc drones are also very expensive compared to the DJI drones. The DJI avata drone is what we most often use for interior building searches, this drone is priced at approximately \$1,200. The newest Brinc Lemur drone (the equivalent to the DJI avata) is priced at a starting price of \$20,000. This difference alone, makes a huge difference for departments in deciding what they can afford to purchase. I have test ran the new Brinc Drone and it still underperforms the DJI avata. It is glitchy and awkward. It is still not as easy to fly as the DJI. These bills are being introduced due to lobbyists from Brinc, alleging that DJI is a security risk to American infrastructure. There has never been a single shred of evidence to support this claim. The DOD previously authorized the Green Berets special forces to use DJI drones in top secret missions. The IDF uses DJI avata drones in their conflicts and Ukraine frequently uses DJI drones in their war against Russia. If DJI drones posed a security risk in favor of China, Ukraine would obviously not use them against China's ally. Instead of creating a better product to compete with DJI, Brinc is attempting to ban the competition by fearmongering the public. We all understand and share the concerns about the CCP, but there has never been a single instance of DJI posing a security or intelligence risk. Banning DJI drones would significantly sabotage the SLMPD SWAT team's operational abilities.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BRET HILL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: bret.w.hill@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 10:16 AM
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Dear Sir/Ma'am, I am writing to highlight the importance of DJI drones in modern law enforcement operations. As a leader/supervisor of an unmanned aircraft unit, I cannot overstate their critical role in enhancing safety, efficiency, and operational effectiveness. DJI drones have become indispensable tools for law enforcement, offering unique advantages in aerial surveillance, search and rescue, crime scene analysis, and crowd control. Their high-definition imaging and advanced flight capabilities allow law enforcement to gather real-time intelligence from hard-to-reach areas, improving both response times and decision-making during critical situations. These capabilities are unmatched by drones produced in the USA, especially when cost is considered. USA-made drones usually cost 3-4 times as much as their DJI counterparts and still don't have the same level of capability. Contrary to some concerns, DJI has made significant strides to address data privacy and security, ensuring that its drones do not pose a risk to national security. The company has instituted measures to ensure that all data captured by its drones remains under the control of the user and is not transmitted to China. DJI's software allows for full data localization and does not automatically relay information to the company's servers. Furthermore, independent audits and investigations have found no evidence that DJI drones send sensitive data to foreign governments or unauthorized third parties. Many of these concerns have been brought to the forefront by lobbyists for the drone company Skydio. Do not play into their attempt to force their inferior over-priced products into the market based solely on fear mongering. As the technology continues to evolve, the role of drones in law enforcement will only expand. By providing law enforcement agencies with reliable, cost-effective, and cutting-edge aerial technology, DJI drones remain an essential asset in ensuring the safety and security of communities. Thank you for considering the vital role that these drones play in law enforcement operations. Sincerely, Det. Sgt. Bret Hill



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: BRIAN GAUDET		PHONE NUMBER: 314-220-6863	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: HILLSBORO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT		TITLE: FIRE CHIEF	
ADDRESS: 120 5TH STREET			
CITY: HILLSBORO		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63050
EMAIL: bgaudet@hbfpd.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 9:22 AM	
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Testimony in Opposition to Missouri HB 751 and HB 930 Presented to the Missouri State Legislature

Chairperson, Members of the Committee, I am submitting this testimony in strong opposition to HB 751 and HB 930, which seek to restrict the use of drones in Missouri. As a fire chief with firsthand experience in emergency response, I can attest to the life-saving role that drones play in mitigating emergencies and protecting both first responders and the public. Drones have become an indispensable tool in emergency response operations, aiding in fire suppression, search and rescue, disaster assessment, and hazardous materials incidents. Restricting their use would significantly hinder the ability of first responders to operate safely and effectively in high-risk situations.

1. Search and Rescue Operations: Drones equipped with thermal imaging cameras are critical in locating missing persons, especially in vast or inaccessible terrain. Whether it is a lost child, a stranded hiker, or an elderly person with dementia, drones reduce search times and improve survival chances.

2. Firefighting and Disaster Response: Drones provide real-time aerial intelligence that allows firefighters to assess wildfire spread, locate hotspots, and determine safe entry points. They also assist in post-disaster damage assessments, reducing the time needed to identify affected areas and prioritize response efforts.

3. Hazardous Materials and Public Safety: In hazardous materials incidents, drones allow responders to assess dangerous environments without exposing personnel to life-threatening substances. Law enforcement also relies on drones for surveillance during active threats, ensuring the safety of both officers and civilians.

4. Cost-Effective and Efficient: Drones reduce response times and operational costs. Traditional manned aircraft operations are expensive and not always immediately available, whereas drones provide an immediate and cost-effective alternative for aerial reconnaissance. Restricting the use of drones through HB 751 and HB 930 would undermine the safety of Missouri residents and limit the effectiveness of emergency services. Instead of imposing blanket prohibitions, lawmakers should work alongside first responders to establish reasonable regulations that allow for responsible drone usage while addressing privacy and safety concerns. For the safety of our communities and the effectiveness of emergency response efforts, I urge the committee to oppose HB 751 and HB 930.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Gaudet
 Fire Chief
 Hillsboro Fire Protection District
 120 5th Street
 Hillsboro MO, 63050
 636-797-3619



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHAD HARTMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: CHIEF CHRIS DIGIUSEPPI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: THE LAW ENFORCEMENT LEGISLATIVE COALITION		TITLE: FOUNDING MEMBER LELC
ADDRESS: 13354 MANCHESTER RD SUITE 210		
CITY: DES PERES		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63131
EMAIL: lelCUSinfo@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 11:07 AM

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On behalf of the Law Enforcement Legislative Coalition representing Police Chiefs and Law Enforcement Leaders across the state we stand in opposition of these bills as they will cripple drone programs in law enforcement agencies that keep our officers safe and aid us in lowering crime. We have had ongoing discussions with the advocates for these bills and look forward to working with them as we would prefer to utilize USA made drones when the technology and pricing are comparable.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: CHIEF CHRIS DIGIUSEPPI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: THE MISSOURI POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION		TITLE: BOARD PRESIDENT
ADDRESS: 13354 MANCHESTER RD SUITE 210		
CITY: DES PERES		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63131
EMAIL: lelCUSinfo@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 11:09 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

On behalf of the Missouri Police Chiefs Association representing Police Chiefs and Law Enforcement Leaders across the state we stand in opposition of these bills as they will cripple drone programs in law enforcement agencies that keep our officers safe and aid us in lowering crime. We have had ongoing discussions with the advocates for these bills and look forward to working with them as we would prefer to utilize USA made drones when the technology and pricing are comparable.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHRIS HALL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DANIEL GEARHART		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: d.gearhart88@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2025 11:12 PM
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I have been a law enforcement sUAS (drone) operator for the past several years, including establishing the drone program in the city that I reside. While creating the program, I obtained quotes from most major manufacturers, including DJI, Autel, and Skydio. After conducting T&E of these three, as well as obtaining quotes my last agency was priced out of obtaining American made equipment. The "drone as subscription" model, in addition to their high start up cost, almost immediately removed Skydio from being a viable option. The initial start up cost would have been three times that of the DJI models that were purchased. The recurring costs would have made the equipment essentially useless after the first 12-months, due to the high operating costs. In addition to the high costs, the equipment specifications do not match up to what is available in other platforms. The DJI equipment purchased included camera resolutions several times better than the Skydio alternative. When using drones, whether thermal or RGB cameras, to monitor suspects or locate missing persons, the resolution can be the difference between identifying a weapon, or an inert object, ultimately changing a life and death decision. The lack of resolution can also cause searchers to move away from a "blob" instead of investigating, causing the missing person to be left behind. Since being involved with a sUAS training academy for first responders, I have observed two catastrophic failures in Skydio equipment. One involved the prop motor housing separating from the arm, causing the device to lose control and crash to the ground from about 200 feet. This was a controlled training event, and we were able to clear the area. Had this been a real-world scenario, there is no telling the damage or injury that could have been incurred. This also put those department's programs out of service while their drone was out for repair, and others of similar makes were grounded to ensure they were safe to operate. Skydio has also proven they are not immune from Chinese complications. The batteries provided with the Skydio X10 are a Chinese manufactured smart battery, which is capable of storing data. The use of Chinese batteries was further complicated when China began restricting the export of their batteries. This left many agencies paying 2 times the cost and only having one battery to operate, which essentially makes the drone useless. I am not aware of any public safety agency that would feel comfortable operating an sUAS with only one battery available. While I understand the data privacy concerns of the Chinese made drones, I have seen more evidence showing these concerns can be mitigated, than they actually exist. DJI drones in particular no longer communicate with DJI servers. Third party applications can be used to further separate the data collected from DJI, while still maintaining functionality. DJI allows their devices to be completely disconnected from internet connections while in operation and after. The operator also has the ability to not connect the controller to the internet at any point, preventing any connection and information sharing. The FAA already restricts flights over critical infrastructure, except in extraordinary circumstances. This means images of these facilities is already restricted, and is not exposed any more than information already available by services like Google Earth. In my years of flight, I have never captured any imagery or videos of property or persons that has not been available

to anyone in the general public. However, removing these drones from our fleets, especially within two years, will decimate sUAS operations for public safety. My current agency is obtaining quotes to replace some aging aircraft. One Skydio aircraft has been quoted at \$25,000. Brinc has not provided a quote yet. This price by Skydio is nearly 4 times the latest DJI thermal model, and 2 1/2 times the larger thermal model offered by DJI. The cost of Skydio will continue to grow due to the subscriptions to maintain full functionality. Cutting our fleet, reduces availability of this technology when needed, when lives are on the line.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: ERIC C SCHMITT		PHONE NUMBER: 417-294-3309	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CITY OF BRANSON; BRANSON POLICE DEPARTMENT; LELC		TITLE: CHIEF OF POLICE	
ADDRESS: 110 W MADDUX ST #100			
CITY: BRANSON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65616
EMAIL: Eschmitt@bransonmo.gov	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 11:40 AM	

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This bill would significantly and negatively impact public safety operations in the Branson area, as well as nearly every lane enforcement drone program in the state. Every professional police agency deploying these drones has already ensured that foreign companies cannot access our data and systems. Further, domestic manufactures are not yet producing drones of the same capabilities for the price point needed by all but the largest agencies in the state.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: FRED FARRIS		PHONE NUMBER: 816-436-3550
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: GLADSTONE POLICE DEPARTMENT; METRO CHIEFS AND SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT		TITLE: CHIEF OF POLICE
ADDRESS: 7010 N. HOLMES		
CITY: GLADSTONE	STATE: MO	ZIP: 64118
EMAIL: fredf@gladstone.mo.us	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2025 10:18 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

While I completely agree with concerns for equipment being purchased from unfriendly foreign nations, specifically the CCCP, I am in opposition to this bill because there are no suitable replacements. My agency, along with many agencies across the State, have invested in DJI drones for several years and they have proven to be vital in public safety operations. From locating missing children and fleeing suspects to reconstructing crime and crash scenes, they have proven to be a low cost solution to necessary operations. Other states have looked at similar legislation but at least had a plan to phase the current drones out over a period of years and have also set up funds to help in the replacement costs to ensure that agencies can still afford these valuable tools. I would certainly support such an alternative to simply banning them without an alternative solution. The notion that these current drones are somehow broadcasting sensitive information is completely unfounded but I do understand the need to have American made products in use. The technology in manufacturing to ensure affordability is simply not there yet and I think there needs to be more work put into affordable solutions.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: GREGORY S HECHT		PHONE NUMBER: 573-339-6330
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CAPE GIRARDEAU FIRE DEPARTMENT		TITLE: DEPUTY CHIEF
ADDRESS: 1 S SPRIGG ST		
CITY: CAPE GIRARDEAU		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63703
EMAIL: ghecht@cityofcapegirardeau.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2025 5:41 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

House Bill 751 'The Foreign Unmanned Aircraft Law', prohibiting the purchase of unmanned aircraft systems manufactured by foreign entities, will be detrimental to public safety. Public safety is utilizing drone technology more than ever, and its use has proven vital to protecting lives and property across the United States. Utilization of the latest affordable technology is critical for the continued utilization of drone usage. While drone products made in the United States is advancing, affordable technology that exceeds that of United States products is what is predominantly utilized across public safety. Limiting the purchase of systems manufactured by foreign entities will limit the number of public safety agencies that can afford to utilize drone technologies. Minimizing the services that public safety can offer to our communities is surely not what the Missouri House desires. One must wonder why the Missouri House is overly concerned with unmanned aircraft manufactured by foreign entities, as China manufactures the majority of I-Phone's, which is arguably the most used cell phone in the world. Will the Missouri House restrict the use of the I-Phone by public entities? This bill restricts public safety entities from utilizing the leading technological drone manufacturing entity, which is also the most affordable with those of us with limited budgets. Please remove this bill for the sake of public safety entities across the great state of Missouri.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JASON WARZINIK	PHONE NUMBER: 573-447-5017	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: BOONE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT; MISSOURI TASK FORCE ONE	TITLE: IT DIVISION MANAGER	
ADDRESS: 2201 INTERSTATE 70 DR NW		
CITY: COLUMBIA	STATE: MO	ZIP: 65202
EMAIL: jwarzinik@bcfdmo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2025 7:43 PM
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Good evening. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee my name is Jason Warzinik and I serve as the IT Division Manager of the Boone County Fire Protection District and the UAS Program Manager for Missouri Task Force 1. As a local, state and national emergency and disaster response agency, the Boone County Fire District and Missouri Task Force 1 oppose HB 751 for the following reasons:1. HB 751 would not allow my agency to use the most capable drone for the mission. We have flown a variety of drones on local, state and national search and rescue missions. The drones this legislation would ban are currently the most capable and most affordable drones for our types of missions. Additionally, the eleven drones in our current fleet that would be banned come in a variety of different models with unique capabilities that match the various mission types we fly and replacement of these banned drones, that originally cost \$68,500, would cost our agency between \$165,000 and \$715,000.2. HB 751 only bans the use of drones that public safety agencies like mine use, while allowing any ordinary citizen, who can fly right next to me by the way, use this type of banned drone.3. HB 751 bans our use of drones based on where they are manufactured rather than verifiable security risks. If there are truly security risks with these drones, are there not security risks with any device (or parts of devices) made in the "countries of concern", such as, cell phones, tablets and computers and their peripherals? For these reasons, I urge you to oppose this potentially damaging piece of legislation.



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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JOHN BARTON		PHONE NUMBER: 636-677-3371
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: HIGH RIDGE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT		TITLE: FIRE CHIEF
ADDRESS: 2842 HIGH RIDGE BLVD		
CITY: HIGH RIDGE	STATE: MO	ZIP: 63049
EMAIL: jbarton@highridgefire.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 12:45 PM

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I am the Fire Chief of an organization that has successfully operated an FAA-compliant drone program for more than 5 years. I also have more than 20 years of experience in information technology, focused on computer and network security. I maintain multiple industry certifications, including Certified Network Defense Architect - a counter-hacker certification for government employees. I am also an FAA part 107 certified drone operator. I approach the topic of drone usage from both the first responder and privacy/security perspective. A couple of years ago, our fire district was requested to assist in an outdoor search for a missing older adult having a mental health crisis. The individual was reported to have taken off all his clothes, entered a creek in 40-degree weather, and had been missing for some time. I arrived on the scene and launched our drone, and in less than 10 minutes, we located the patient, crawling on his hands and knees on a hillside. Not only did we find him with the drone, but we could also guide rescuers directly to him in the middle of the night when visibility was limited. This is one example of the positive outcomes made possible by drone technology. Without it, this patient may not have survived the cold that night. I understand and appreciate the concerns over data security and privacy for our citizens, and we take those concerns seriously. We use drone hardware manufactured overseas because it is currently superior in capabilities and is the most cost-effective solution for our taxpayers. However, the software we use to control our drone is developed by an American company. Our data is protected with modern encryption. We do not connect our drone to our private network, and it has no access to sensitive data. We do not fly over any infrastructure that is not already easily visible using any online map provider. I have found no publicly available studies showing evidence of sensitive data being leaked to countries of concern. I am submitting my testimony in opposition to legislation that would stop our fire district from utilizing the hardware we currently have or prevent us from progressing along with technology. Drones have become an invaluable resource to first responders. Grounding our drones would impose a substantial financial burden on our district. The significantly higher expense of replacement hardware will likely shutter many drone programs. I ask that you not pass legislation that enacts harmful drone bans that limit our ability to provide our citizens with the best possible emergency response.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JOHN CLINE		PHONE NUMBER: 660-827-0052
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: PETTIS CO. SHERIFF'S OFFICE		TITLE: SERGEANT
ADDRESS: 319 S. LAMINE		
CITY: SEDALIA		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65301
EMAIL: clinej@pettisco.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 11:16 AM

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I am in opposition to any regulation that would hinder public safety drone operations. Many public safety entities in Missouri operate drones that are manufactured outside of the United States. The reasons for this include lower acquisition and support costs, superior reliability, and better capabilities that domestically produced drones. We have used our drones to save lives on numerous occasions and will continue to do so in the future. Types of operations include searches for dangerous criminals, searches for lost persons (including children and the elderly), structure and wildland fire response, disaster response and mitigation, over watch for high risk search warrant service, accident reconstruction and investigation, crime scene investigation, and many others. Hindering public safety drone operations through legislation is not in the best interests of the people of Missouri. Therefore I oppose any effort to limit public safety drone capabilities due to unfounded security risks or outside financial interests.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JOHN CLINE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: PETTIS CO. SHERIFF		TITLE: SERGEANT
ADDRESS: 319 S. LAMINE		
CITY: SEDALIA		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65301
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOHN P. YEAST		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jyeast@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 9:45 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JORGEN SCHLEMEIER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-4876	
REPRESENTING: FIRE SERVICE ALLIANCE		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 213 E. CAPITAL AVE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KYLE MYRICK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kylemyrick3@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 3:34 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I wish to express serious concerns about Missouri House Bills 751 and 930, which threaten to severely hinder our law enforcement drone operations under the guise of national security. These bills specifically ban drones manufactured in "countries of concern," yet they fail to acknowledge a critical reality—nearly all electronics, from body cameras to radios, and yes, even our smartphones, are produced or contain components sourced from these same nations. If the goal is true security, why single out drones while ignoring the very devices we carry in our pockets every day—devices that constantly transmit data and pose far greater cybersecurity risks? Drones are an essential tool for modern law enforcement. They assist in search and rescue, tactical operations, accident reconstruction, and disaster response. The restrictions imposed by these bills would force agencies to abandon cost-effective, highly capable drones in favor of significantly more expensive alternatives with little to no security benefit. This is not about safety; it's about politics interfering with practical policing. If lawmakers are truly concerned about cybersecurity, they should address the broader issue of electronic vulnerabilities, not cripple a single, indispensable technology. Instead of a blanket ban, we need smart, evidence-based policies that ensure security without undermining our ability to serve and protect the public.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LES CREWS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: crews.l@monarchfpd.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 10:49 AM
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I'm in opposition to the proposed bill and I plan to attend in person.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: LYNNE SCHLOSSER		PHONE NUMBER: 913-461-8724
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI SOCIETY OF LAND SURVEYORS		TITLE: CONTRACT LOBBYIST
ADDRESS: 1521 PEPPERWOOD DRIVE		
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63146
EMAIL: lyneschlosser@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 1:18 PM

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There are no drones with the same capabilities that are manufactured in the US let alone, all the parts being manufactured in the US. If the drone is "manufactured" here, the parts are still not made in the US, they are simply assembled here and cost 10X more for the same drone. The software - - is what could be infiltrated - - but that is manufactured in the Texas.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MATT MOORE		PHONE NUMBER: 696-797-5019	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE		TITLE: CAPTAIN	
ADDRESS: 400 FIRST ST			
CITY: HILLSBORO		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63050
EMAIL: mmoore@jeffcomo.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 6:52 PM	

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As a representative of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office and Sheriff Dave Marshak, we oppose this bill. We routinely use drones in a rural environment for search and rescue and for officer safety purposes.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NICK KARPEL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: nkarpel@sccad.com		ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 1:50 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Good morning/afternoon, My name is Nick Karpel and as a UAS Pilot for St. Charles County Ambulance District and St. Charles County Police Department, I am deeply committed to advancing the safety and security of our communities, thus I come before you today to advocate for the continued utilization of DJI drones in emergency operations. These drones represent a critical tool in our arsenal, enhancing our ability to effectively respond to and manage any emergency scenario. In the realm of law enforcement, DJI drones have emerged as indispensable assets in our efforts to uphold public safety and combat crime. From urban search and rescue operations to providing tactical support during SWAT interventions, these drones offer a level of situational awareness that is unparalleled. Their aerial perspective grants us invaluable insights into unfolding events, enabling us to make informed decisions swiftly and decisively. One of the most compelling aspects of these drones is their cost-effectiveness, particularly in the context of police and SWAT operations. Unlike traditional methods such as manned aircraft or ground-based surveillance teams, drones offer a more affordable solution without compromising on effectiveness. The relatively low cost of deployment and maintenance ensures that even departments with limited resources can harness the capabilities of these drones to bolster their operational capabilities. Moreover, DJI drones are incredibly versatile and adaptable to the dynamic nature of SWAT and emergency operations. Equipped with specialized payloads such as high-resolution cameras, thermal imaging systems, and loudspeakers, these drones can perform a wide range of tasks, from reconnaissance and perimeter surveillance to suspect tracking and hostage negotiation support. Their versatility empowers law enforcement personnel to respond effectively to diverse and evolving threats. I understand and appreciate the concerns surrounding safety and privacy, but I want to assure you that DJI prioritizes responsible drone operation and data security. One notable feature that addresses these concerns is the ability for users to configure their drones in a way that ensures data privacy and security. DJI offers options to enable local data storage directly on the controller, ensuring that sensitive information captured during operations remains securely in the hands of authorized personnel and does not leave the immediate control of the agency or department. Additionally, DJI incorporates robust data encryption measures to safeguard against unauthorized access to captured footage or telemetry data. By encrypting the data transmissions between the drone and controller, as well as implementing secure storage protocols, DJI drones are designed to protect sensitive information from interception and exploitation. I urge you to consider the numerous success stories and testimonials from law enforcement agencies that have integrated DJI drones into their operations. These drones have consistently demonstrated their efficacy in scenarios ranging from four teens stuck on a rock bluff 400 feet up to a suspect surrendering to a DJI Avata following a home invasion. In conclusion, I implore you to continue supporting the use of DJI drones in emergency operations. By doing so, we can equip our first responders with the necessary tools to effectively combat crime, safeguard communities, and uphold the rule of law. Thank you for your

attention and consideration



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: REBECCA EICHELBERGER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-230-1458
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 2200 MAGUIRE BLVD		
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65201
EMAIL: reichelberger@mpua.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 5:27 PM
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Opposed to the bill



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT SHOCKEY		PHONE NUMBER: 573-636-5444	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MO POLICE CHIEF ASS.		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 1001 E HIGH ST			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: SCOTT OLSEN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-268-5942	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: BOONE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT		TITLE: FIRE CHIEF	
ADDRESS: 2201 I-70 DRIVE NW			
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65202
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SHAWN RHODES		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI SHERIFFS UNITED		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: BUS. US 60			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SHEA LANE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: shealane89@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 10:16 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Missouri State Capitol Jefferson City, MO Subject: Opposition to HB 209, HB 210, HB 930, and HB 751 – Harmful Restrictions on Drone Technology I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 209, HB 210, HB 930, and HB 751, as these bills would severely limit the use of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) in Missouri, negatively impacting businesses, public safety, and innovation. These bills place unnecessary restrictions on drones, including those manufactured by foreign companies, despite the fact that there are currently no competitive, reasonably priced alternatives made in the United States. Restricting the use of these drones will: Hurt Businesses and Consumers – Many industries, including agriculture, construction, and media, depend on affordable drones for essential operations. These bills would force users to abandon proven technology without viable replacements. Undermine Public Safety – First responders, law enforcement, and emergency personnel rely on drones for search-and-rescue missions, disaster response, and monitoring dangerous situations. Restricting access could put lives at risk. Stifle Innovation and Economic Growth – The drone industry is a growing sector that provides jobs and technological advancement. These bills discourage investment and progress in Missouri. While national security is a valid concern, an outright ban or restriction on foreign-manufactured drones is not the answer. Instead, I urge you to support balanced regulations that ensure security while allowing businesses and agencies to continue using the most effective tools available. I strongly urge you to oppose HB 209, HB 210, HB 930, and HB 751 and instead advocate for policies that foster innovation, economic growth, and responsible drone use. Please consider the significant harm these bills will cause to Missouri residents and industries. I appreciate your time and attention to this important matter and would welcome the opportunity to discuss this issue further. Please feel free to contact me at [Your Email] or [Your Phone Number]. Sincerely, Shea Lane (417-830-2762, shealane89@gmail.com)



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: THOMAS MAXIE DAVIS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: tdavis@capecountysheriff.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 4:10 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Testimony in Opposition to HB 751 Honorable Chairperson and Members of the Committee, My name is Deputy Thomas Davis, and I serve as the Drone Program Manager for the Cape Girardeau County Sheriff's Office. I am here today to express my strong opposition to House Bills 751 and 930, which, while aiming to enhance security, would severely hinder law enforcement agencies' ability to use unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) for public safety operations.

Impact on Law Enforcement Operations These bills prohibit public entities from purchasing or operating drones manufactured or assembled by covered foreign entities, including those from China and Russia. While cybersecurity is a legitimate concern, this legislation, as written, creates major operational challenges for law enforcement:

Lack of Affordable Alternatives – The current UAS market is dominated by manufacturers from the countries listed in these bills. Restricting their use without affordable, U.S.-made alternatives will leave agencies without the critical tools we need for search and rescue, disaster response, and tactical operations.

Budget Constraints – Replacing existing drone fleets is not financially feasible for many agencies, including mine. These bills mandate the disposal of current equipment without providing funding or viable alternatives, effectively forcing law enforcement to abandon a vital tool without a clear path forward.

Operational Challenges The legislation bans the operation of restricted drones after May 1, 2027. However, this blanket prohibition does not account for the following real-world concerns:

Emergency Situations – UAS technology is critical for tracking fleeing suspects, locating missing persons, and assessing dangerous situations from a safe distance. If these bills pass without exception clauses, officers may lose the ability to respond effectively in emergencies.

Training and Transition Time – Our agency has invested significant time and resources in training personnel on our current UAS systems. Replacing these drones will require retraining, additional costs, and an operational learning curve that could compromise efficiency.

In closing, while cybersecurity and national security concerns are valid, this legislation, as written, would create more problems than it solves for local law enforcement. We need a practical, balanced approach that ensures security without compromising the ability to protect and serve our communities. Thank you for your time and consideration.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: TRAVIS ROZEBOOM		PHONE NUMBER: 402-577-0062	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: REMOTE TACTICAL SOLUTIONS GROUP LLC		TITLE: CO-FOUNDER	
ADDRESS: 1200 LAKE ST. LOUIS BLVD. SUITE 403			
CITY: LAKE SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63367
EMAIL: travis@rts-group.us	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 10:22 AM	

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HB 751 being considered is detrimental to public safety for a variety of reasons; most importantly because it negatively impacts the safety of citizens and public safety professionals. Make no mistake about it, this bill is being pushed by American companies who do not currently have the capability to make or produce a comparable product to those platforms being utilized daily by public safety in the United States. While having US based platforms and technologies would be ideal, the fact is; no such platform currently exists. In the interim, rather than legislate away the competition, please consider the safety implications of doing so. A more logical and appropriate approach would be to address any cyber security concerns by having public entities utilize flight software programs with SOC2 Type 2 security protocols. By doing so, the technology hardware that IS LIFESAVING could continue to be utilized while American drone manufacturers work to develop, produce and bring to market viable replacements.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: TYLER GROSSER		PHONE NUMBER: 816-672-9843	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI FIRE DEPARTMENT		TITLE: CAPTAIN & UAS COORDINATOR, KANSAS CITY MISSOURI FI	
ADDRESS: 635 WOODLAND AVE			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64106
EMAIL: tyler.grosser@kcmo.org		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 2:31 PM

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As residents and stakeholders in Kansas City, we strongly oppose the current Missouri drone ban bill. While we recognize the importance of addressing legitimate security concerns, this legislation overreaches and threatens vital public safety operations in our city, particularly those carried out by the Kansas City Fire Department. The proposed ban would have unintended consequences that significantly undermine the well-being of our citizens, without any conclusive evidence that it meaningfully protects against “information leaking” or other security threats.

- Essential Public-Safety Tool** The Kansas City Fire Department relies on drones daily to respond to critical incidents such as structure fires, hazardous material situations, and search-and-rescue missions. With drones, firefighters can rapidly assess dangerous environments, locate victims in need, and allocate resources where they are needed most. Banning this technology outright hinders real-time situational awareness, jeopardizing the lives of both first responders and the citizens they serve.
- Lack of Conclusive Security Data** Proponents of this legislation often cite fears about data being transmitted to foreign governments or other unauthorized entities. However, no conclusive data or independent studies have been presented demonstrating that drones used by fire departments (most of which have stringent cybersecurity measures) pose a credible security risk. Moreover, existing regulations and best practices (such as data encryption and secured flight-control systems) already mitigate potential vulnerabilities, making a blanket ban unnecessary and counterproductive.
- Selective Targeting of Chinese-Manufactured Technology** If the stated concern is truly about technology sourced from China, it is inconsistent and arbitrary to single out drones while countless other devices, such as smartphones, network components, and computer hardware remain unaffected. Many of these other Chinese-manufactured products process far more sensitive personal and business data every day yet are not subject to similar bans. This selective approach raises questions about the motivation behind the proposed legislation.
- Weaponizing Politics for Profit** There is growing concern that these bills are part of a coordinated effort to benefit a handful of domestic drone and technology companies. By banning certain foreign products outright, lawmakers could open the door to increased market share and profits for companies with close ties to those promoting the ban. In short, this legislation appears to exploit valid national security concerns to advance political and commercial interests, instead of genuinely enhancing public safety or cybersecurity.
- Impact on Kansas City’s Economy and Innovation** Drones have become integral to multiple industries in Kansas City, from real estate and infrastructure inspection to public safety and scientific research. Stifling this technology risks slowing the city’s economic growth and undermines our reputation as a forward-looking metropolis that embraces innovation. Local businesses, entrepreneurs, and public institutions could be driven away or

forced to navigate burdensome regulations, resulting in a loss of talent, income, and opportunity. Conclusion Any legislation restricting the use of drones should address legitimate security issues through targeted, evidence-based measures, rather than imposing sweeping bans that impede lifesaving public safety operations. The current Missouri drone ban proposal undermines critical emergency-response capabilities, ignores the lack of concrete evidence supporting its core premise, selectively targets Chinese-manufactured products, and may serve the financial interests of a few influential corporations at the expense of public welfare. Kansas City has a vested interest in preserving access to drones of our choice for the Kansas City Fire Department and other critical operations. We urge legislators to reject this bill and work toward nuanced, clearly defined regulations that protect both our national security and our city's ability to save lives and foster innovation. The health and safety of our citizens should not be compromised by misguided, politically driven attempts to regulate technology without substantial proof of risk.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: WM MATTHEW PAGANO		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mpagano@mhfire.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person		SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 6:14 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Opposition to Bill related to Fire Department Operations.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: ZICO OROZCO		PHONE NUMBER: 314-791-2623	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: WRIGHT CITY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT		TITLE: DRONE OPERATIONS MANAGER	
ADDRESS: 396 W 2ND ST N			
CITY: WRIGHT CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63390
EMAIL: zorozco@bcfdmo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 2:25 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

These tools have been in the market and have yet to be shown to be a security risk.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JAY SCHROEDER		PHONE NUMBER: 314-353-3200	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI FOP		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 715 JEFFERSON ST			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: center67@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 5:06 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. Provided there will be a product of comparable price and quality we could be in support of the bill.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 751		DATE: 2/10/2025
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Onesuegibson@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2025 1:18 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

They are uncrewed aircraft.