

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 3/24/26 Report 'B'

L.D. 2157
(Filing No. H-892)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 1446, L.D. 2157, "An Act to Prohibit the Unauthorized Use of Drones on or over the Premises of Correctional Facilities and Jails"

Amend the bill in section 1 in §761 by striking out all of subsections 1 and 2 (page 1, lines 4 to 10 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

1. A person is guilty of unauthorized use of a drone on or over the premises of a correctional facility or jail if the person:

A. Intentionally or knowingly flies a drone over the premises of a correctional facility or jail at or below a height of 400 feet above the ground, lands a drone on the premises or flies a drone from the premises. Violation of this paragraph is a Class D crime; or

B. Violates paragraph A and at the time of the offense has one or more prior convictions for violating paragraph A or one or more prior convictions for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that prohibited in paragraph A in another jurisdiction. Section 9-A governs the use of prior convictions when determining a sentence. Violation of this paragraph is a Class C crime.'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §761 by striking out all of subsection 5 (page 1, lines 21 and 22 in L.D.).

Amend the bill in section 1 in §761 by renumbering the subsections to read consecutively.

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, does the following.

- 1. It removes a provision from the bill regarding the use of a drone to convey or attempt to convey prison contraband in correctional facilities or jails.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 2157

LR 2663(03)

An Act to Prohibit the Unauthorized Use of Drones on or over the Premises of Correctional Facilities and Jails

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment
Committee: Criminal Justice and Public Safety
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

B (H-892)

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Correctional and Judicial Impact Statements

The bill creates a Class C crime for unauthorized use of a drone on or over the premises of a correctional facility or jail. It is not known how many additional people may be incarcerated for this crime. The current average cost of incarcerating one individual for a single year is \$55,203. No funding has been included in the bill.

The additional workload associated with the minimal number of new cases filed in the court system does not require additional funding at this time. The collection of additional fines will increase General Fund or other dedicated revenue by minor amounts.