

**ASSEMBLY, No. 1645**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**219th LEGISLATURE**

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PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO**

**District 20 (Union)**

**Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman JAY WEBBER**

**District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**Assemblyman NICHOLAS CHIARAVALLOTI**

**District 31 (Hudson)**

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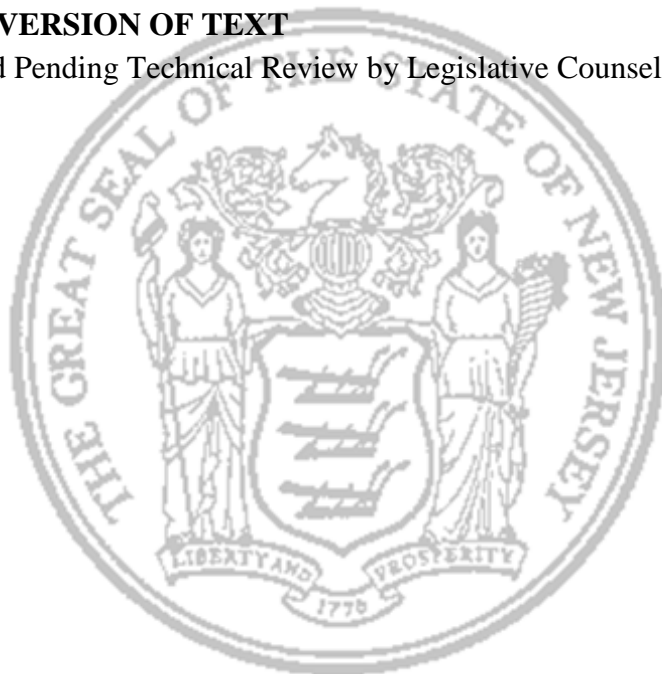
**Assemblywomen Vainieri Huttle and B.DeCroce**

**SYNOPSIS**

Creates fourth degree crime of operating drone equipped with weapon.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning unmanned aircraft systems and supplementing  
2 Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. a. As used in this section:

8 "Anti-personnel device" means a firearm as defined in N.J.S.2C:39-  
9 1, any prohibited weapon or device under N.J.S.2C:39-3, or any other  
10 projectile designed to harm, incapacitate, or otherwise negatively  
11 impact a human being.

12 "Civilian unmanned aircraft system" means an unmanned aircraft  
13 and associated elements, including communication links and the  
14 components that control the unmanned aircraft that are required for the  
15 pilot in command to operate safely and efficiently. The term shall apply  
16 only to unmanned aircraft and associated elements owned or operated  
17 by a private individual or business entity.

18 "Operate" shall have the same meaning as defined in section 1 of  
19 P.L.2017, c.315 (C.2C:40-27).

20 "Unmanned aircraft" shall have the same meaning as defined in  
21 section 1 of P.L.2017, c.315 (C.2C:40-27).

22 b. A person who operates a civilian unmanned aircraft system that  
23 is equipped with an anti-personnel device shall be guilty of a crime of  
24 the fourth degree.

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26 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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31 This bill makes it a fourth degree crime to operate a drone that is  
32 equipped with a weapon.

33 Specifically, under the provisions of this bill, a person who  
34 operates a civilian unmanned aerial vehicle, commonly referred to as  
35 a drone, that is equipped with an anti-personnel device is guilty of a  
36 fourth degree crime.

37 A fourth degree crime is punishable by up to 18 months  
38 imprisonment, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.

39 The bill defines "civilian unmanned aerial vehicle" as an aerial  
40 vehicle owned or operated by a private individual or business entity  
41 that uses aerodynamic forces to propel the vehicle and does not carry  
42 a human operator, and which is capable of flying autonomously or  
43 being piloted remotely and conducting surveillance.