

**File No. [15-0002-S85](#), [15-0002-S86](#), [15-0002-S87](#), [15-0002-S88](#), [15-0002-S89](#)**

RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to establishing the City's position regarding various bills concerning Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) (i.e. drones).

Recommendations for Council action, pursuant to Resolutions (Wesson - Englander - Martinez), SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE MAYOR:

1. ADOPT the accompanying RESOLUTIONS to include in the City's 2015-16 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for:
  - a. SB 167 (Gaines), which would make it a misdemeanor to use an UAS in a way that interferes with the lawful efforts of a firefighter to extinguish a fire.
  - b. SB 168 (Gaines), which would legally indemnify any emergency responder who damages an UAS in the course of firefighting, air ambulance transport, or in search-and-rescue operations.
  - c. SB 142 (Jackson), which would define property rights in California to include the airspace up to an elevation of 350 feet above the underlying property, and would clarify that the operation of an UAS below that level over the property of another person could constitute trespassing.
2. ADOPT the accompanying RESOLUTIONS to include in the City's 2015-16 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for:
  - a. S. 1608 (Feinstein), the Consumer Drone Safety Act, which would require safety features on consumer UAS as well as strengthen federal law governing the operation of consumer UAS.
  - b. H.R. 3025 (Cook), the Wildfire Airspace Protection Act of 2015, which would make it a crime to launch an UAS in a place near a wildfire that threatens the real or personal property of the United States or any federal department or agency, if the UAS interferes with firefighting efforts.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA). The City Administrative Officer has not completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

## SUMMARY

At its regular meeting held on August 21, 2015, the Rules, Elections, Intergovernmental Relations, and Neighborhoods Committee considered Resolutions (Wesson - Englander - Martinez) relative to establishing the City's position regarding various State and Federal bills concerning UAS (i.e. drones) that would: make it illegal for UAS to interfere with firefighting efforts, indemnify emergency responders who damage UAS in the course of their duties, require safety features on consumer UAS, and define property rights in California to include airspace up

to 350 above the underlying property and clarify that operation of an UAS below that level would constitute trespassing. The report from the CLA dated August 20, 2015, attached to the Council files, provides additional background information on the bills and the Resolutions.

After consideration and after providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee recommended that Council adopt the Resolutions. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

**RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, AND NEIGHBORHOODS  
COMMITTEE**

<b><u>MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>VOTE</u></b>
WESSON:	YES
HUIZAR:	ABSENT
HARRIS-DAWSON:	YES

REW  
8/24/15  
FILE NOS. 15-0002-S85, 15-0002-S86, 15-0002-S87, 15-0002-S88, 15-0002-S89

**-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-**