



# HOUSE BILL 707: Drones/Certain Vendor Purchases Prohibited.

2025-2026 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House State and Local Government. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	April 15, 2025
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Torbett, Greene, Miller, Pyrtle	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Brad Krehely
<b>Analysis of:</b>	PCS to First Edition H707-CSRN-9		Committee Co-Counsel

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**OVERVIEW:** *The Proposed Committee Substitute (PCS) for House Bill 707 would prohibit the State and political subdivisions of the State from purchasing unmanned aircraft manufactured or assembled by certain foreign vendors. The PCS deletes the term "small, unmanned aircraft system" and substitutes the term "unmanned aircraft"; makes contracts void if they violate these provisions; modifies the effective date; and makes technical and conforming changes.*

**CURRENT LAW:** Article 3 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes addresses purchases and contracts for the State of North Carolina and its political subdivisions. Currently, there is not a specific statute which limits the purchase of unmanned aircraft manufactured by specific foreign vendors.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The PCS for House Bill 707 would prohibit the State and its political subdivisions from purchasing or otherwise acquiring any unmanned aircraft manufactured or assembled by a covered foreign entity.

A "covered foreign entity" would include: An individual, foreign government, or party that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Is on the United States Consolidated Screening List or Entity List.
- Is domiciled in the People's Republic of China or the Russian Federation.
- Is under the influence or control of the government of the People's Republic of China or the Russian Federation.
- Is a subsidiary or affiliate of an individual, government, or party of the People's Republic of China or the Russian Federation.

"Unmanned aircraft" is defined as "[a]n aircraft<sup>1</sup> that is operated without the possibility of human intervention from within or on the aircraft." G.S. 15A-300.1

The PCS also would prohibit the use of State funds to purchase or acquire any unmanned aircraft manufactured or assembled by a covered foreign entity. It would provide that contracts entered into in violation of this section would be void.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The act would become effective July 1, 2027, and would apply to unmanned aircraft purchased or acquired on or after that date.

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<sup>1</sup> An aircraft is "any contrivance now known, or hereafter invented, used or designed for navigation of or flight in the air." G.S. 63-1(3).

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