



HOUSE BILL 707: Drones/Certain Vendor Purchases Prohibited.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 30, 2025
Introduced by:	Reps. Torbett, Greene, Miller, Pyrtle	Prepared by:	Brad Krehely
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 707 would prohibit the State and political subdivisions of the State from purchasing unmanned aircraft manufactured or assembled by certain foreign vendors.*

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: 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 aircraft¹ that is operated without the possibility of human intervention from within or on the aircraft." G.S. 15A-300.1

The bill 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.

¹ 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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