

ENROLLED

CS/HB 659

2020 Legislature

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An act relating to drones; amending s. 934.50, F.S.;
adding an exception to prohibited uses of a drone;
providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (k) is added to subsection (4) of
section 934.50, Florida Statutes, and subsection (3) of that
section is republished, to read:

934.50 Searches and seizure using a drone.—

(3) PROHIBITED USE OF DRONES.—

(a) A law enforcement agency may not use a drone to gather
evidence or other information.

(b) A person, a state agency, or a political subdivision
as defined in s. 11.45 may not use a drone equipped with an
imaging device to record an image of privately owned real
property or of the owner, tenant, occupant, invitee, or licensee
of such property with the intent to conduct surveillance on the
individual or property captured in the image in violation of
such person's reasonable expectation of privacy without his or
her written consent. For purposes of this section, a person is
presumed to have a reasonable expectation of privacy on his or
her privately owned real property if he or she is not observable
by persons located at ground level in a place where they have a

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26 | legal right to be, regardless of whether he or she is observable
 27 | from the air with the use of a drone.

28 | (4) EXCEPTIONS.—This section does not prohibit the use of
 29 | a drone:

30 | (k) By a non-law enforcement employee of the Fish and
 31 | Wildlife Conservation Commission or of the Florida Forest
 32 | Service for the purposes of managing and eradicating invasive
 33 | exotic plants or animals on public lands and suppressing and
 34 | mitigating wildfire threats.

35 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.