



NATIONAL CONFERENCE of STATE LEGISLATURES

The Forum for America's Ideas

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October 30, 2015

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

The Honorable Michael Huerta
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20591

Dear Secretary Foxx and Administrator Huerta,

The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), the bi-partisan organization that represents the state legislatures of the nation's states, commonwealths, and territories, commends the U.S. Department of Transportation on its efforts to promote the safe integration of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) into our nation's aviation system.

The creation of a stakeholder driven task force to develop recommendations for a registration process for UAS is a needed first step. As both of you have stated, the task force will consist of representatives from the UAS and manned aviation industries, the federal government, and other stakeholders, I urge you to ensure that the state legislative perspective also be incorporated into the task force. To date, 26 states have enacted laws addressing UAS issues while six states have adopted resolutions. In 2015 alone, 45 states have considered 166 bill related to UAS. As you can see, almost every state legislature in the country has made researching safe UAS technology a priority. Additionally, NCSL formed a steering committee on UAS in 2014 that is focused on state policy issues related to the developing field of unmanned aircraft systems for private and government uses and serves as a resource on state legislative UAS action that provides balanced perspectives on industry and economics, standards, law enforcement, privacy and related issues.

NCSL would welcome the opportunity to offer our assistance in providing recommendations to the department for a state legislative representative to serve on the task force. Please contact NCSL staff, Ben Husch (ben.husch@ncsl.org) and Melanie Condon (Melanie.condon@ncsl.org) with any additional questions.

Sincerely,

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October 26, 2015

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