



NCSL FOUNDATION

For State Legislatures

NCSL Partnership Project on Unmanned Aircraft Systems August 2015

**Supported by Amazon, American Society of Civil Engineers, Google,
MAPPS and State Farm.**

The NCSL Foundation for State Legislatures is undertaking an exciting new partnership project on unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). Lawmakers have a unique opportunity to work with industry leaders, researchers and safety experts as they discuss UAS state and federal legislative policy topics and learn about the myriad of UAS uses for private businesses and governments. By creating specialized educational resources and facilitating candid discussions between state policymakers, industry leaders and end-users, this project will identify options for maximizing the benefits of UAS while also addressing privacy, safety and 4th Amendment concerns. As the FAA works to integrate UAS into American airspace, state policymakers and their constituents are working to tap the potential of UAS.

Since 2013, 49 states have considered legislation addressing UAS, with 26 states enacting new laws. During this time of intense legislative focus and industry activity, this project will provide needed and open dialogue among state lawmakers, industry leaders and interested others, and provide state legislatures with critical information as they consider UAS policies.

A Steering Committee of state legislators and participating Foundation sponsors/partners will discuss and develop policy issues and options related to use of UAS for agriculture, insurance, natural resource management, law enforcement and a variety of other purposes, with consideration for privacy, safety, business and economic interests and concerns.

Following a meeting at the NCSL Forum in Washington, D.C. in December, a final partners' project report on the UAS legislative landscape will be prepared and published. Steering Committee legislators and private partners will advise on topics and content for the report, which will provide state policymakers with a resource on UAS integration in states that provides balanced perspectives on industry and economics, standards, law enforcement, privacy and related issues. The report will be released in the first quarter of 2016.

Steering Committee Members

- Co-Chairs
 - Rep. Shelley Hughes (R) – Alaska
 - Sen. Daniel Biss (D) – Illinois
- Members
 - Rep. Jimmy Pruet (R) – Georgia
 - Sen. Ray Holmberg (R) – North Dakota
 - Rep. Sharon Schwartz (R) – Kansas
 - Rep. Jeff Essmann (R) – Montana
 - Rep. Kenneth Wilson (R) - Missouri
 - Assemblyman Elliot Anderson (D) – Nevada
 - Rep. Angus McKelvey (D) – Hawaii
 - Sen. A. Donald McEachin (D) – Virginia
- Legislative Staff Members
 - Jennifer Jones, Texas Sunset Advisory Board
 - Eric Gray, Connecticut Office of Program Review and Investigations
- Private Partners
 - Amazon
 - American Society of Civil Engineers
 - Google
 - MAPPs
 - State Farm