

HR 3962

Protecting Individuals From Mass Aerial Surveillance Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Introduced: Nov 5, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations. (Dec 4, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/3962>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]

Party: Democratic • **State:** WA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Nov 5, 2015
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Nov 5, 2015
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Nov 5, 2015
Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]	R · TX		Nov 5, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 4, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 1595	Related bill	Jun 17, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S4251-4252)

Protecting Individuals From Mass Aerial Surveillance Act of 2015

This bill prohibits a federal entity from using unmanned aircraft or other mobile aerial-view devices (MAVDs) to: (1) surveil property, persons, or their effects; or (2) gather evidence pertaining to known or suspected criminal conduct, or conduct that violates a law or regulation.

Exceptions allow MAVDs to be used by federal entities to:

- surveil national borders or national waters to prevent or deter illegal entry of persons or illegal substances;
- prevent imminent danger of death or serious bodily harm to a specific individual, counter an imminent risk of a terrorist attack by a specific individual or organization, prevent imminent destruction of evidence, or counter an imminent or actual escape of a criminal or terrorist suspect;
- monitor or research environmental, geologic, or weather-related damage and events, including forest fires, erosion, floods, wildlife, habitats, or illegal vegetation on public lands; or
- acquire information about an individual who consents to the use of an MAVD.

Law enforcement officials or agencies may use an MAVD to surveil specific property, persons, or their effects pursuant to a search and seizure warrant.

The bill: (1) prohibits a federal entity actor from making an intentional effort to identify an individual from, or associate an individual with, the information collected under certain exceptions to the prohibition on the use of MAVDs; and (2) bars disclosure of collected information except to another federal entity or state, tribal, or local government agency that agrees to be bound by the restrictions in this Act. Such identification and disclosure restrictions shall not apply if there is probable cause that the information collected is evidence of specific criminal activity and a warrant is obtained.

Federal entities are prohibited from: (1) soliciting or awarding contracts to surveil by MAVD for a federal entity, unless the federal entity has existing authority for such surveillance; or (2) purchasing information obtained from MAVD surveillance by a nonfederal entity if such information contains personal information, except with the consent of the affected persons.

This Act shall not be construed to preempt any state law regarding the use of MAVDs exclusively within the borders of that state.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 4, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Nov 5, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 5, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

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