



2026 South Dakota Legislature  
**House Bill 1280**  
**ENROLLED**

AN ACT

**ENTITLED An Act to increase penalties for the operation of drones over certain facilities and to provide for mitigation techniques and countermeasures.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

**Section 1. That § 50-15-3 be AMENDED:**

**50-15-3.** No person may operate a drone over the grounds of a prison, correctional facility, jail, juvenile detention facility, or any military facility unless expressly authorized by the administrator thereof. A violation of this section is a Class 6 felony.

Law enforcement officers may utilize mitigation techniques and countermeasures, authorized in accordance with section 2 of this Act, in response to a violation of this section.

**Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 50-15:**

The Department of Public Safety may promulgate rules, in accordance with chapter 1-26, to:

- (1) Identify the nature and scope of mitigation techniques and drone countermeasures that may be utilized in response to a violation of § 50-15-3; and
- (2) Develop and implement a training program for law enforcement officers in the selection and use of mitigation techniques and drone countermeasures.

An Act to increase penalties for the operation of drones over certain facilities and to provide for mitigation techniques and countermeasures.

I certify that the attached Act originated in the:  
House as Bill No. 1280

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

House Bill No. 1280  
File No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_

Received at this Executive Office  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
2026 at \_\_\_\_\_ M.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
for the Governor

The attached Act is hereby  
approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
\_\_\_\_\_, A.D., 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

**STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA,**  
ss.  
Office of the Secretary of State

Filed \_\_\_\_\_, 2026  
at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Secretary of State