

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-33
OFFERED BY MR. SUBRAMANYAM OF VIRGINIA

At the end of subtitle B of title XVII, add the following:

1 **SEC. 17___ . UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM PILOT TRAIN-**
2 **ING GRANT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of Transpor-
4 tation, acting through the Administrator of the Federal
5 Aviation Administration, shall establish a program to
6 award grants to covered entities to carry out activities to
7 support training of unmanned aircraft system pilots.

8 (b) **ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.**—A covered entity in re-
9 ceipt of a grant awarded under this section may use such
10 grant—

11 (1) to establish and develop an unmanned air-
12 craft system training program, including curriculum
13 design, instructional materials, and related resources
14 necessary to carry out—

15 (A) training of public safety personnel on
16 aviation safety, Federal Aviation Administration
17 regulations, basic airspace principles, and public

1 safety mission profiles relating to the operation
2 of unmanned aircraft systems;

3 (B) training of certified remote pilots on
4 risk management, flight execution, data collec-
5 tion for unmanned aircraft systems;

6 (C) specialized instruction for certified re-
7 mote pilots leading unmanned aircraft system
8 missions in complex, multi-agency environ-
9 ments; and

10 (D) the development and validation of pub-
11 lic safety UAS instructors to serve as instruc-
12 tors in certain regions throughout the United
13 States upon completion of such certification;

14 (2) to purchase an unmanned aircraft system
15 that meets all Federal safety standards and regu-
16 latory requirements for the purpose of carrying out
17 the training described in this paragraph; and

18 (3) for reasonable administrative costs directly
19 associated with the delivery of training and program
20 implementation under this section, including support
21 services necessary to ensure student participation
22 and program completion, expenses incurred due to
23 staff attendance, including travel coordination, and
24 local facility use.

1 (c) COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.—To be eligible to receive
2 a grant under this section, a covered entity shall dem-
3 onstrate the ability to manage Federal funds and submit
4 to the Secretary a comprehensive plan describing how such
5 entity will use such funds to develop and sustain un-
6 manned aircraft system training and operations. Such en-
7 tity shall include in the comprehensive plan information
8 on—

9 (1) administration and oversight for any pro-
10 gram proposed to be established using such grant;

11 (2) risk management procedures;

12 (3) airspace coordination and safety protocols;

13 (4) certified personnel rosters;

14 (5) equipment maintenance schedules;

15 (6) data and privacy protections; and

16 (7) legal compliance documentation.

17 (d) REQUIREMENTS.—With respect to a training pro-
18 gram established with a grant awarded under this section,
19 a covered entity shall—

20 (1) operate or administer such program in ac-
21 cordance with applicable Federal law and regula-
22 tions, which may include section 44807 of title 49,
23 United States Code, or parts 91 or 107 of title 14,
24 Code of Federal Regulations, as applicable, and—

1 (A) National Wildfire Coordinating Group
2 Standard A-450 or S-373;

3 (B) ASTM International Standard F3266,
4 F3330, or F3370; or

5 (C) National Fire Protection Association
6 Standard 2400; and

7 (2) ensure—

8 (A) that the curriculum for such program
9 is maintained by, or licensed through, a na-
10 tional nonprofit public safety organization or a
11 nonprofit emergency response training entity;

12 (B) that such curriculum remains con-
13 sistent with operational standards and reflects
14 mission specific public safety training needs;
15 and

16 (C) that any modification to such cur-
17 riculum is subject to the approval of the organi-
18 zation through which the curriculum is main-
19 tained or licensed.

20 (e) PRIORITIZATION.—In awarding grants under this
21 section, the Secretary shall prioritize selecting covered en-
22 tities who—

23 (1) engage in high risk operations or operate in
24 underserved regions;

1 (2) demonstrate multi-agency or regional co-
2 ordination;

3 (3) propose to carry out training that is con-
4 sistent with Federal Aviation Administration, Na-
5 tional Wildfire Coordinating Group, and National
6 Fire Protection Association standards; and

7 (4) lack the capacity for unmanned aircraft sys-
8 tems training.

9 (f) REPORTS.—

10 (1) REPORT BY RECIPIENT.—Each recipient of
11 a grant awarded under this section shall, not less
12 frequently than annually, submit to the Secretary a
13 report containing the following information:

14 (A) The number and type of personnel
15 trained using such grant.

16 (B) The number of certifications of public
17 safety UAS instructors under subsection (b)(4).

18 (C) The number of instructors partici-
19 pating in any training provided using such
20 grant.

21 (D) The number of unmanned aircraft sys-
22 tem deployments carried out by such recipient
23 after completion of training carried out with
24 such grant.

1 (E) Challenges or recommendations related
2 to a program established using such grant.

3 (2) REPORT BY SECRETARY.—Not less fre-
4 quently than annually, the Secretary shall submit to
5 Congress a report on the grant program carried out
6 under this section that contains the following infor-
7 mation:

8 (A) A description of grant recipients,
9 disaggregated by region and type of entity re-
10 ceiving such grant.

11 (B) A summary of progress made in build-
12 ing unmanned aircraft system training capacity
13 across the United States.

14 (C) Any recommendations for improve-
15 ments to training standards and the grant pro-
16 gram established under this section.

17 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 (1) CERTIFIED REMOTE PILOT.—The term
19 “certified remote pilot” means a pilot certified to op-
20 erate an unmanned aircraft system under part 107
21 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, or under a
22 valid public aircraft operation or Federal Aviation
23 Administration authorization.

24 (2) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered en-
25 tity” means—

1 (A) a governmental or nonprofit fire de-
2 partment, emergency medical service, or law en-
3 forcement agency;

4 (B) a State or regional public safety train-
5 ing academy;

6 (C) an interagency unmanned aircraft sys-
7 tem collaborative; or

8 (D) a nonprofit public safety training orga-
9 nization that—

10 (i) has demonstrated a national pres-
11 ence in public safety education;

12 (ii) maintains a primary mission fo-
13 cused on emergency response readiness;
14 and

15 (iii) has a documented history of part-
16 nerships with Federal, State, Tribal, terri-
17 torial, or local public safety agencies.

18 (3) EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE.—The term
19 “emergency medical service” has the meaning given
20 the term “emergency medical services” under section
21 553(e) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
22 290ee–10(e)).

23 (4) HIGH RISK OPERATION.—The term “high
24 risk operation” means an unmanned aircraft mission
25 conducted in an environment, condition, or for pur-

1 poses where a loss of control, system, failure, or
2 operational error could reasonably be expected to re-
3 sult in serious injury or death, substantial property
4 damage, or disruption to public safety or critical in-
5 frastructure.

6 (5) INTERAGENCY UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYS-
7 TEM COLLABORATIVE.—The term “interagency un-
8 manned aircraft system collaborative” means a for-
9 mal partnership, task force, or mutual aid frame-
10 work involving 2 or more governmental or nonprofit
11 public safety or emergency response agencies that
12 jointly develop, operate, or coordinate unmanned air-
13 craft system training and deployment to support all-
14 hazards response.

15 (6) NONPROFIT.—The term “nonprofit”, with
16 respect to a covered entity, means an entity that is
17 described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue
18 Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under
19 section 501(a) of such code.

20 (7) PUBLIC SAFETY UAS INSTRUCTOR.—The
21 term “public safety UAS instructor” means an in-
22 structor providing training for unmanned aircraft
23 system operations conducted for the purpose of
24 emergency response at or on behalf of a covered en-
25 tity.

1 (8) UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM.—The term
2 “unmanned aircraft system” has the meaning given
3 such term in section 44801 of title 49, United
4 States Code.

5 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
6 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
7 \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2027 through 2030.

