

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

SENATE BILL 1531

By: Haste

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to aerospace, aircraft, and aviation infrastructure; amending 3 O.S. 2021, Section 421, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 237, O.S.L. 2025 (3 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 421), which relates to the clearinghouse for unmanned aircraft systems; authorizing the Oklahoma Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics to take certain actions; providing for the promulgation of rules; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 3 O.S. 2021, Section 421, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 237, O.S.L. 2025 (3 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 421), is amended to read as follows:

Section 421. A. The Oklahoma Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics is hereby established as the clearinghouse for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) and advanced air mobility (AAM) in this state and shall be designated as the agency of this state for the promotion, enhancement, and development of UAS and AAM as well as any associated infrastructure necessary to ensure the safe integration and use of this new technology within the state. The

1 purpose of this clearinghouse is to create a partnership between
2 those entities that currently operate UAS, those that desire to use
3 this technology in the future, and other entities that can support
4 the research and development of UAS to ensure that this state can
5 more effectively respond to the needs of this critical sector of the
6 aviation and aerospace industry. In the operation of this
7 clearinghouse, the Department shall cooperate, assist, and
8 coordinate with the federal government, agencies of this state,
9 tribal entities, municipalities, and other persons in the
10 development of unmanned aircraft systems throughout the state to
11 ensure the acceptance of this technology and the successful
12 integration of UAS into the National Airspace System. Contingent
13 upon the availability of funds, the Oklahoma Department of Aerospace
14 and Aeronautics may use established program processes or may
15 contract with other qualified entities to carry out the duties and
16 responsibilities of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Development Act of
17 2021.

18 B. The primary goal of the clearinghouse within the Department
19 is to establish a central point within state government to develop
20 and implement the strategy for how this state can become a leader in
21 the UAS and AAM industry. It will focus the collective resources,
22 knowledge, information, and assets within state government to ensure
23 coordinated efforts amongst all parties. The clearinghouse will
24 have the authority to:

1 1. Conduct research on what other states and localities are
2 doing insofar as their UAS rules and regulations so that it can
3 provide recommendations to ensure this state is in the best position
4 within the industry;

5 2. Organize and coordinate the application for any UAS and AAM
6 test site, integration opportunity, pilot program, or grant funding
7 on behalf of this state;

8 3. Maintain a registry of UAS being operated by state agencies,
9 except those UAS that are part of a university-affiliated research
10 program;

11 4. Maintain a registry of educational institutions that offer
12 training programs for users of UAS;

13 5. Investigate the development of, and if necessary, create a
14 statewide system plan that will provide the framework for the
15 construction, development, siting, and potential partnerships
16 required for vertiports and other infrastructure needed to integrate
17 AAM and UAS into the existing air transportation system of the
18 state;

19 6. Develop a statewide network of UAS and AAM detection systems
20 as necessary to support the safe integration of these technologies
21 into the state's existing air transportation system; and

22 7. Create statewide or regional command, control, and radar
23 systems or centers to carry out the provisions of paragraph 6 of
24 this subsection and the Department's efforts to bring UAS and AAM

1 testing and development to the state. These systems or centers can
2 be stand-alone or in partnership with other federal, state, local,
3 tribal, or non-profit entities;

4 8. Invest in publicly owned infrastructure to support the
5 mission of the clearinghouse and the provisions of this section; and

6 9. Partner and collaborate with other states and industry
7 stakeholders as necessary to create regional or technical centers of
8 excellence with an interest in integration for UAS and AAM
9 technologies.

10 C. The Department is authorized to enter into partnerships with
11 any city or town of this state and any county or political
12 subdivision or district in this state, or any public trust thereof,
13 or any federal government entity for the purpose of investing in and
14 operating infrastructure and any other items necessary to safely and
15 effectively integrate AAM and UAS into the existing air
16 transportation system of this state as well as the testing and
17 development of these aeronautical technologies.

18 D. The Department is authorized to promulgate any rules
19 necessary to implement the provisions of the Unmanned Aircraft
20 Systems Development Act of 2021.

21 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.
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