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## DIGEST

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HB 265 Original

2021 Regular Session

Brass

**Abstract:** Provides for increased penalties for unlawful use of an unmanned aircraft system.

Present law (R.S. 14:337(A)(1)) prohibits the use of an unmanned aircraft system to conduct surveillance of, gather evidence or collect information about, or photographically or electronically record a targeted facility without the prior written consent of the owner of the targeted facility.

Present law provides that the penalty for a first conviction of unlawful use of an unmanned aircraft system is a fine of up to \$500 or imprisonment for up to six months, or both.

Proposed law increases the penalty for a first conviction to a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000, imprisonment with or without hard labor for not more than two years, or both.

Present law provides that the penalty for a second or subsequent conviction of an unmanned aircraft system is a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$2,000, imprisonment with or without hard labor for not less than six months nor more than one year, or both.

Proposed law increases the penalty for second and subsequent convictions to a fine of not less than \$1,500 and not more than \$20,000, imprisonment with or without hard labor for not less than one year and not more than five years, or both.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 14:337(E)(1) and (2))