

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8935

To exempt the Secretary of Energy of certain prohibitions with respect to an unmanned aircraft system, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 20, 2026

Ms. LEE of Nevada (for herself, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, and Mr. ALFORD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To exempt the Secretary of Energy of certain prohibitions with respect to an unmanned aircraft system, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Department of Energy
5 Drone Defense Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF ENERGY WITH RE-**
2 **SPECT TO COVERED UNMANNED AIRCRAFT**
3 **SYSTEMS FROM COVERED FOREIGN ENTI-**
4 **TIES.**

5 (a) EXEMPTION FROM PROHIBITION ON PROCURE-
6 MENT OF COVERED UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS
7 FROM COVERED FOREIGN ENTITIES.—Section 1823(b) of
8 the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
9 2024 (Public Law 118–31; 137 Stat. 692) is amended,
10 in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “Sec-
11 retary of Energy,” after “Secretary of State,”.

12 (b) EXEMPTION FROM PROHIBITION ON OPERATION
13 OF COVERED UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS FROM
14 COVERED FOREIGN ENTITIES.—Section 1824(b) of the
15 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024
16 (Public Law 118–31; 137 Stat. 693) is amended, in the
17 matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “Secretary
18 of Energy,” after “Secretary of State,”.

19 (c) EXEMPTION FROM PROHIBITION ON USE OF
20 FEDERAL FUNDS FOR PROCUREMENT AND OPERATION
21 OF COVERED UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS FROM
22 COVERED FOREIGN ENTITIES.—Section 1825(b) of the
23 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024
24 (Public Law 118–31; 137 Stat. 694) is amended, in the
25 matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “Secretary
26 of Energy,” after “Secretary of State,”.

1 (d) GRANTING SECRETARY OF ENERGY ACCOUNTING
2 EXCEPTION.—Section 1827(c) of the National Defense
3 Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118–
4 31; 137 Stat. 696) is amended by inserting “Department
5 of Energy,” after “Department of Transportation,”.

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