AN ACT

RELATING TO AERONAUTICS -- UNPILOTED AERIAL VEHICLE REGULATION

Introduced By: Senator Frank S. Lombardi

Date Introduced: June 18, 2016

Referred To: Placed on Senate Calendar

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Title 1 of the General Laws entitled "AERONAUTICS" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

CHAPTER 8

UNPILOTED AERIAL VEHICLES

1-8-1. Exclusive aerial regulations. -- Subject to federal law, the state of Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Airport Corporation shall have exclusive legal authority to regulate any object capable of flying, which is remotely controlled, and flies autonomously through software controlled flight plans embedded in the object's system by a global position system, commonly known as unpiloted aerial vehicles, remotely piloted aircraft, drones, or unmanned aircraft systems.

SECTION 2. Federal Preemption. -- If federal law preempts any provision of this chapter, that provision shall not apply.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.
This act would grant exclusive authority, subject to federal law, to the state of Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Airport Corporation to regulate un piloted aerial vehicles, remotely piloted aircraft, drones, and unmanned aircraft systems.

This act would take effect upon passage.