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**ACTION ALERT on HB 5452 – Talking Points for ILACP Members**

**“Support the drone bill to give law enforcement an important tool”**

August 9, 2022

1. **ACTION ALERT:** 
   1. **Contact your state reps and senators NOW – in August 2022 – and tell them it’s a priority to get HB 5452 passed this fall, whether in a special session or veto session.**
   2. Share with them the attached FACT SHEET.
   3. Tell them Illinois law needs to be changed to allow law enforcement to have common-sense ways to deploy drones at events. Waiting until something happens is too late!
2. This bill will make it easier for law enforcement to use drones, especially at community events, while still protecting people’s privacy and civil rights.
3. For law enforcement, a drone (technically called an unmanned aerial vehicle):  
   1. Is a force multiplier, adding to other tools now utilized
   2. Allows for real-time, unobtrusive intelligence at events such as parades, concerts, and festivals
   3. Is a much more common device now used by citizens, hobbyists, Realtors, inspectors of bridges, and much more
4. Why we need this bill: Law enforcement can use drones to photograph accident scenes and crime scenes, to search for missing persons, and after an emergency is under way, **but cannot proactively observe a community event such as a concert or parade**.  
     
   The Highland Park incident on July 4 is a clear example where law enforcement and the entire community may have benefited from more common-sense language in state law.
5. Ironically, helicopters with cameras are now allowed, but not drones, which are far less expensive and far easier to deploy.
6. Types of events and incidents where the law would allow LE to have real-time intelligence:  
   Cars dashing into crowds, people on rooftops, parades, festivals, concerts.
7. Examples of incidents where proactive use of drones, if allowed in Illinois, would have been helpful in possibly preventing a mass incident or reducing its negative impact: the Las Vegas concert shooting, the Waukesha parade, the Houston concert trampling