

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To provide for the operation of micro unmanned aircraft systems.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—114th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. 2658

To amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2016 through 2017, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. BOOKER

Viz:

1 On page 75, between lines 2 and 3, insert the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(b) MICRO UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS OPER-
4 ATIONAL RULES.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the rule-
6 making required by section 332 of the FAA Mod-
7 ernization and Reform Act of 2012 (49 U.S.C.
8 40101 note), the Administrator shall issue regula-
9 tions not later than 270 days after the date of en-
10 actment of the Federal Aviation Administration Re-
11 authorization Act of 2016 under which any person

1 may operate a micro unmanned aircraft system clas-
2 sification of unmanned aircraft systems, the aircraft
3 component of which weighs 4.4 pounds or less, in-
4 cluding payload, without the person operating the
5 system being required to pass any airman certifi-
6 cation requirement, including any requirements
7 under section 44703 of this title, part 61 of title 14,
8 Code of Federal Regulations, or any other rule or
9 regulation relating to airman certification.

10 “(2) OPERATIONAL RULES.—The rulemaking
11 required by paragraph (1) relating to micro un-
12 manned aircraft systems shall consider the following
13 rules, or any appropriate modifications thereof con-
14 cerning altitude, airspeed, geographic location, and
15 time of day as the Administrator considers appro-
16 priate, for operation of such systems:

17 “(A) Operation an altitude of less than
18 400 feet above ground level.

19 “(B) Operation with an airspeed of not
20 greater than 40 knots.

21 “(C) Operation within the visual line of
22 sight of the operator.

23 “(D) Operation during the hours between
24 sunrise and sunset.

1 “(E) Operation not less than 5 statute
2 miles from the geographic center of an airport
3 with an operational air traffic control tower or
4 an airport denoted on a current aeronautical
5 chart published by the Federal Aviation Admin-
6 istration, except that a micro unmanned air-
7 craft system may be operated within 5 statute
8 miles of such an airport if the operator of the
9 system—

10 “(i) provides notice to the airport op-
11 erator; and

12 “(ii) in the case of an airport with an
13 operational air traffic control tower, re-
14 ceives approval from the air traffic control
15 tower.