

Senate Judiciary Committee

Brendan Bunnell 271-4063

HB 1444-FN, relative to the purchase or acquisition of certain unmanned aircraft systems.

Hearing Date: March 10, 2026

Time Opened: 1:52 p.m.

Time Closed: 1:56 p.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Gannon, Abbas, Altschiller and Reardon

Members of the Committee Absent: Senator Carson

Bill Analysis: This bill prohibits the state or local governments from acquiring certain drones or unmanned aircraft systems after January 1, 2028.

Sponsors:

Rep. Moffett

Rep. Cambrils

Rep. Freeman

Rep. Litchfield

Rep. Mandelbaum

Rep. Notter

Rep. Creighton

Sen. Pearl

Sen. Sullivan

Who supports the bill: Senator Howard Pearl, Representative Daniel Propovici-Muller, Daniel Richardson Tami Lanzillo Zeimet, and Periklis Karoutas (State Shield).

Who opposes the bill: Cory Stone and Jennifer Favreau.

Who is neutral on the bill: Adam Ciardelli and Tricia Lambert (NHSP).

Summary of the testimony presented:

Representative Terry Roy spoke in support of the bill. He expressed that it touched on issues including personal privacy, civil liberties, and security.

Mr. Adam Ciardelli, a counterterrorism consultant with the New Hampshire Information Analysis Center and the State Police Terrorism and Intelligence Unit speaking on behalf of Lieutenant Chris Storm, and **Ms. Tricia Lambert** of the Department of Transportation Bureau of Aeronautics testified in support of the bill.

- Mr. Ciardelli explained that there had been some issues raised with a prior version of the bill, but that they had been addressed sufficiently with this revised version.
- Mr. Ciardelli stated that this would address some concerns around espionage and foreign aircraft.
- Senator Gannon asked if the primary concern at hand was foreign espionage efforts, and whether this bill would limit such activities to the US and authorized governments.
 - o Mr. Ciardelli answered to the affirmative on both questions.

BMB
Date Hearing Report completed: March 13, 2026