

SENATE BILL No. 156

By Committee on Judiciary

2-3

1 AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; creating
2 the crime of unlawful use of a laser pointer; providing criminal
3 penalties therefor.

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5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. (a) Unlawful use of a laser pointer is knowingly directing
7 light from a laser pointer at:

8 (1) A law enforcement officer while such officer is engaged in the
9 performance of such officer's duties; or

10 (2) an aircraft in flight or the flight path of an aircraft.

11 (b) Unlawful use of a laser pointer as defined in:

12 (1) Subsection (a)(1) is a class A person misdemeanor; and

13 (2) subsection (a)(2) is a severity level 9, person felony.

14 (c) The provisions of subsection (a)(2) shall not apply to:

15 (1) Any person who is authorized by an aircraft manufacturer or the
16 federal aviation administration to conduct research and development or
17 flight test operations while such person is conducting research and
18 development or flight test operations;

19 (2) members or elements of the department of defense or department
20 of homeland security acting in an official capacity for the purpose of
21 research, development, operations, testing or training; or

22 (3) an individual using a laser emergency signaling device to send an
23 emergency distress signal.

24 (d) As used in this section, "laser pointer" means a device that emits
25 light amplified by the stimulated emission of radiation that is visible to the
26 human eye.

27 (e) A person who violates the provisions of this section may also be
28 prosecuted for, convicted of and punished for assault or battery.

29 (f) This section shall be a part of and supplemental to the Kansas
30 criminal code.

31 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
32 publication in the statute book.