2021 SENATE BILL 868

January 13, 2022 – Introduced by Senator ROTH, cosponsored by Representatives PLUMER, GUNDRUM, KNODL and MURPHY. Referred to Committee on Housing, Commerce and Trade.

AN ACT to create 114.047 of the statutes; relating to: restriction of state or local governmental acquisition, possession, and use of certain drones.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits local governmental units and state agencies from acquiring or, beginning one year after the effective date of the bill, possessing or using drones manufactured or distributed by SZ DJI Technology Co., Ltd.; a subsidiary of, or successor to, SZ DJI Technology Co., Ltd.; or any entity that is determined by the U.S. Department of Justice to be subject to or vulnerable to extrajudicial direction from a foreign government. The bill also requires local governmental units and state agencies to report to the Wisconsin Department of Justice their possession, use, and plan for disposal of these drones. WDOJ must then summarize these reports and provide the summary to the legislature.

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 114.047 of the statutes is created to read:

114.047 Restriction on use of certain drones. (1) Definitions. In this section:
(a) “Local governmental unit” has the meaning given in s. 19.42 (7u).

(b) “Restricted drone” means a drone, as defined in s. 941.292 (1), manufactured or distributed by SZ DJI Technology Co., Ltd.; a subsidiary of, or a successor to, SZ DJI Technology Co., Ltd.; or any entity that is determined by the U.S. department of justice to be subject to or vulnerable to extrajudicial direction from a foreign government.

(c) “State agency” has the meaning given in s. 1.12 (1) (b).

(2) Restrictions. (a) No local governmental unit or state agency may acquire a restricted drone.

(b) After one year after the effective date of this paragraph .... [LRB inserts date], no local governmental unit or state agency may possess a restricted drone.

(c) After one year after the effective date of this paragraph .... [LRB inserts date], no local governmental unit or state agency may operate or otherwise use a restricted drone.

(3) Report. (a) No later than 6 months after the effective date of this paragraph .... [LRB inserts date], each local governmental unit and state agency shall report to the department of justice all of the following:

1. A description of the possession and use of restricted drones by the local governmental unit or state agency.

2. The plan of the local governmental unit or state agency for the disposal of restricted drones.

(b) No later than 8 months after the effective date of this paragraph .... [LRB inserts date], the department of justice shall prepare a report summarizing the
information gathered under par. (a) and submit the report to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature for distribution to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2).