

Senate Engrossed House Bill

~~lasers; assault; peace officers; penalty~~  
(now: lasers; peace officers; aircraft; penalty)

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-fifth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2022

# HOUSE BILL 2251

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 13-1213, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO AIMING A LASER POINTER.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 13-1213, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 13-1213. Aiming a laser pointer at a peace officer or an  
5 occupied aircraft; classification; definitions

6 A. A person commits aiming a laser pointer at a peace officer if  
7 the person intentionally, ~~or~~ knowingly OR RECKLESSLY directs the beam of  
8 light from a laser pointer ~~or laser emitting device~~ at another person and  
9 the person knows or reasonably should know that the other person is a  
10 peace officer.

11 B. A person commits aiming a laser pointer at an occupied aircraft  
12 if the person intentionally, ~~or~~ knowingly OR RECKLESSLY directs the beam  
13 of light from a laser pointer ~~or laser emitting device~~ at an aircraft and  
14 the person knows or reasonably should know that the aircraft is occupied.

15 C. INTENTIONALLY OR KNOWINGLY AIMING A LASER POINTER AT A PEACE  
16 OFFICER IS A CLASS 5 FELONY. RECKLESSLY aiming a laser pointer at a peace  
17 officer is a class 1 misdemeanor.

18 D. INTENTIONALLY, KNOWINGLY OR RECKLESSLY AIMING A LASER POINTER AT  
19 AN OCCUPIED AIRCRAFT IS A CLASS 2 FELONY IF THE ACT CAUSES THE PILOT TO  
20 CRASH THE AIRCRAFT OR PERFORM AN EMERGENCY LANDING. INTENTIONALLY,  
21 KNOWINGLY OR RECKLESSLY AIMING A LASER POINTER AT AN OCCUPIED AIRCRAFT IS  
22 A CLASS 3 FELONY IF THE ACT RENDERS THE PILOT UNABLE TO SAFELY OPERATE THE  
23 AIRCRAFT. INTENTIONALLY OR KNOWINGLY AIMING A LASER POINTER AT AN  
24 OCCUPIED AIRCRAFT IS A CLASS 6 FELONY. RECKLESSLY aiming a laser pointer  
25 at an occupied aircraft is a class 1 misdemeanor. ~~if the act renders the~~  
26 ~~pilot unable to safely operate the aircraft or causes serious physical~~  
27 ~~injury to any person on board the aircraft it is an assault pursuant to~~  
28 ~~this chapter.~~

29 E. For the purposes of this section:

30 1. "Aircraft" means any vehicle that is ~~designed~~ USED for flight in  
31 the air by buoyancy or by the dynamic action of air on the vehicle's  
32 surfaces, including ~~powered~~ airplanes, gliders and helicopters.

33 2. "Laser pointer ~~or laser emitting device~~" means any device that  
34 ~~is designed or used to amplify electromagnetic radiation by stimulated~~  
35 ~~emission that~~ emits a AN INTENSE beam ~~designed to be used by the operator~~  
36 ~~as a pointer or highlighter to indicate, mark or identify a specific~~  
37 ~~position, place, item or object~~ OF LIGHT AMPLIFIED BY STIMULATED EMISSION  
38 OF ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION.