

1 SENATE BILL 103

2 **57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Harold Pope

10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO AIRCRAFT; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE UNLAWFUL
12 INTERFERENCE WITH THE FLIGHT OF AN AIRCRAFT; INCLUDING
13 DIRECTING A LASER AT AN AIRCRAFT AS UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE;
14 REPEALING SECTION 64-1-23 NMSA 1978 (BEING LAWS 1965, CHAPTER
15 34, SECTION 3).

16
17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

18 SECTION 1. Section 64-1-22 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1965,
19 Chapter 34, Section 2) is amended to read:

20 "64-1-22. UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH THE FLIGHT OF
21 AIRCRAFT.---[Any]

22 A. Unlawful interference with the flight of an
23 aircraft consists of a person discharging a firearm, [or]
24 setting in flight any missile, projectile or object or
25 directing a laser that is intended to strike, interfere with or
.232429.2

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 collide with any flying aircraft [~~shall be guilty of unlawful~~
2 ~~interference with the flight of an aircraft~~], including
3 personnel on board the aircraft. Whoever commits unlawful
4 interference with the flight of an aircraft is guilty of a
5 fourth degree felony and shall be sentenced pursuant to the
6 provisions of Section 31-18-15 NMSA 1978.

7 B. Whoever commits unlawful interference with the
8 flight of an aircraft for a second and subsequent offense is
9 guilty of a third degree felony and shall be sentenced pursuant
10 to the provisions of Section 31-18-15 NMSA 1978.

11 C. Whoever commits unlawful interference with the
12 flight of an aircraft that results in harm to a person on the
13 aircraft that requires medical treatment is guilty of a third
14 degree felony and shall be sentenced pursuant to the provisions
15 of Section 31-18-15 NMSA 1978.

16 D. As used in this section, "laser" means a device
17 designed or used to amplify electromagnetic radiation by
18 stimulated emission that emits a beam of light."

19 SECTION 2. REPEAL.--Section 64-1-23 NMSA 1978 (being Laws
20 1965, Chapter 34, Section 3) is repealed.