

Drone Operator Advocacy & Action Checklist

A one-page playbook for protecting your Part 107 business in 2026.

1. Know the active threats

- **FCC Covered List** — restricts equipment authorizations for DJI/Autel; track FCC Public Safety & Homeland Security Bureau updates.
- **FAA NPRM 2209** — would let critical infrastructure owners petition for airspace restrictions over their facilities. Comment period matters.
- **State/local preemption attempts** — see FAA 'State and Local Regulation of UAS' Fact Sheet for what they can and cannot do.
- **Remote ID enforcement** — confirm your aircraft broadcast or you fly a FRIA.
- **Counter-UAS expansion** — track DHS/DOJ authorities that may affect where you can legally fly.

2. File a public comment (NPRM 2209 & similar)

- Go to [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) and search the docket number (FAA-2024-XXXX for 2209 when posted).
- Click 'Comment', identify yourself as a Part 107 remote pilot and small business owner.
- Be specific: cite missions you fly, revenue at risk, alternatives that would meet the safety goal without blanket restrictions.
- Submit before the deadline. Save a PDF receipt of your submission.

3. Engage the people who decide

- Find your U.S. Representative and two U.S. Senators at [congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov); their staff log every constituent contact.
- Email your state aviation office before any local ordinance gets to a vote — they often back operators against preemption overreach.
- Show up to your city/county council meeting when a UAS ordinance is on the agenda. Three minutes of testimony moves votes.

4. Plug into advocacy groups

- **Drone Advocacy Alliance** — droneadvocacyalliance.org — comment-tracking and template letters.
- **Drone Service Providers Alliance (DSPA)** — dspalliance.org — commercial operator voice on rulemakings including 2209.
- **Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA)** — modelaircraft.org — recreational coalition that also fights overreach.
- **AUVSI** — auvsi.org — industry policy briefings and Hill days.

5. Harden your business against the threat

- Maintain at least \$1M commercial UAS liability insurance; many enterprise clients now require \$2M.
- Document SOPs, training, and incident logs — what protects you in court also protects you with regulators.
- Diversify revenue: don't let a single marketplace or single aircraft platform be a single point of failure.
- Price using a defensible methodology (e.g. Rotor Rate's fair-rate model) so you can hold the line when networks push down.