

The U.S. weather system provides essential resources to communities across the country:

- Americans rely on accurate weather forecasting for everything from efficient crop planting to protecting life and property.
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration provides critical weather tools, data, and operations accessible and useful to citizens nationwide.
- Every second counts during weather emergencies, and NOAA's services equip Americans with timely warnings and support.
- A recent 2023 survey ranked The Weather Channel – which heavily depends on data from NOAA's National Weather Service – as the most trusted news source among Americans.
- Ensuring NOAA is modern and reliable will secure the United States' global leadership in weather forecasting, modeling, and prediction.

This legislation builds on significant advances in our weather forecasting abilities:

- In 2017, the House Science Committee passed the bipartisan Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act, the first comprehensive weather policy authorization in over two decades.
- The Weather Act Reauthorization will build on the bill's accomplishments, which made advancements in weather forecasting and the prediction of high impact weather events.

The Weather Act Reauthorization gives Americans better forecasts:

- Improves severe weather forecasting by modernizing the critical research programs authorized by the 2017 Weather Act, including tornado warning capabilities and hurricane forecasting capacity.
- Supports cutting-edge forecasting by establishing new research and development programs related to the next generation of radar, atmospheric rivers, coastal flooding & storm surges, aviation weather, and more.
- Increases NOAA's access to critical forecasting data by expanding its authority to contract with the private sector to acquire commercial weather data and codifying the Commercial Data Program to lead this work.
- Strengthens emergency preparedness by improving the communication of weather and water events to the public from critical warnings to emergency information.
- Provides farmers and ranchers better tools and services for agriculture and water management, including improvements to subseasonal to seasonal research and forecasting.
- Authorizes the continuation of key public tools including the National Integrated Drought Information System, the National Mesonet Program, and the National Coordinated Soil Moisture Monitoring Network.
- Includes provisions from 20 different standalone bills and touches on the interests of 63 Republican and Democrat Members who cosponsored those bills.
- Removes 18 different reports, plans, or strategies to Congress, ensuring NOAA is focused on taking action, not bureaucratic assessments.