



COMMERCIAL
WEATHER
ALLIANCE

July 10, 2023

Representative Frank Lucas
Chairman
House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Zoe Lofgren
Ranking Member
House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
1401 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Lucas and Ranking Member Lofgren:

On behalf of the Commercial Weather Alliance, thank you for your leadership on weather policy in the U.S. House of Representatives. The work of your committee will leave a lasting positive impact on Federal abilities to protect lives and property.

As you know the Weather Act of 2017 authorized numerous programs that empowered agencies to access commercial innovation to solve problems that had plagued the government for years. The commercial weather industry has thrived in the years since then thanks to your efforts. The CWA encourages Congress to continue advancing policies that foster growth in support of market competition and public-private partnerships.

In particular, the committee should be commended for passages throughout the draft bill that encourage program managers to look to the United States weather industry for cost-effective solutions to public needs. The CWA also commends the committee approach to protecting novel proprietary data acquired from commercial sources and protecting market competition. The reprioritized authorities for ICAMS should also make ICAMS more effective at leading the Federal government in weather strategies and streamlining Federal budgets.

However, the CWA encourages you to revise the draft bill to be truly technology neutral and inclusive. Provisions suggesting certain sensor types be utilized have historically been narrowly interpreted and arrested commercial innovation.

Thank you again for your consideration and leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives. We look forward to working with you to support and further improve this already strong legislation.

Kind regards,
The Commercial Weather Alliance