



June 26, 2018

The Honorable Lamar Smith
Chairman
Science, Space, and Technology Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

Dear Chairman Smith:

As the United States continues to lead the way in the commercialization of space, we must also lead the way in managing space as a domain. Among the most important tasks at present are space situational awareness (SSA) and space traffic management (STM). The ability to track objects in space and to plan our activities to minimize damage to assets and the creation of debris is critical to our endeavors.

You and your colleagues on the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee understand this well. Your American Space SAFE Management Act is an important contribution to this vital effort. The bill promotes SSA and STM research and development, which will help modernize the nation's capabilities as tracking and management challenges grow more difficult. It creates a civil SSA program to provide SSA information and to relieve the US Air Force of the burden it currently carries. It creates a pathway for a STM framework with voluntary guidelines, practices, and standards, which will help arrive at best practices without rushing to regulate. And it creates a civil space coordination pilot program that will help improve spaceflight safety by serving as a testbed for communication and coordination among operators.

As one of the world's leading manufacturers, operators, and users of satellites and other space assets, Maxar Technologies supports the objectives of the bill. Thank you for your leadership on this important matter. We look forward to working with you and the Senate as the American Space SAFE Management Act advances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marcy A. Steinke", written over a circular scribble.

Marcy A. Steinke
Senior Vice President
Government Relations & Public Policy