



April 19, 2024

The Honorable Frank Lucas, Chairman
The Honorable Zoe Lofgren, Ranking Member
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Lucas and Ranking Member Lofgren,

Ethereal Space strongly endorses H.R. 6093, the Weather Act Reauthorization Act. This bill expands on and strengthens provisions in the original Weather Act of 2017 which helped nurture the growing commercial space market that we see today. This bipartisan legislation will further improve our nation's ability to accurately predict weather and space weather phenomena through commercial data programs aimed at strengthening the relationships between NOAA and the private sector.

The private sector, through its support in the Weather Act, now plays a critical role in providing data to NOAA that improves mission success. The Commercial Weather Data Pilot Program and the Commercial Data Purchase program will be better served by expanded roles throughout the agency, which this legislation supports. Commercial data can often support multiple government missions simultaneously and be realized faster and cheaper than traditional government observing systems.

Ethereal Space is the first commercial company to build a dedicated space weather satellite constellation as a sentry to monitor potentially hazardous solar activity and conditions on the Sun, in the solar wind, magnetosphere and ionosphere which can degrade, damage, or devastate spacecraft in orbit, crucial position, navigation and timing services, the power grid, and the Earth-based industries which rely on these elements of our critical infrastructure.

Ethereal Space supports the Committee's work to improve our government's ability to accurately forecast environmental phenomena and looks forward to swift passage and enactment of this important legislation.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shawn Cochran".

Shawn Cochran
CEO and Founder
Ethereal Space Inc.