

April 25, 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,

I am writing to offer my support for HR 6093, the Weather Act Reauthorization. Having worked in both the public and private meteorology and oceanography sectors, I have seen the weather enterprise's efforts from both sides, and I can state unequivocally that the best outcome for the enterprise and American citizens is when the government and the private sector work together, with clearly established guidelines, and playing to the strengths of each sector.

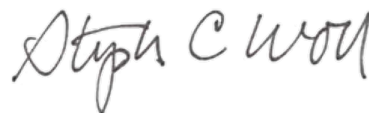
It is clear that NOAA currently has and will for the foreseeable future have THE single foundational role in the national and international weather enterprise. Their team is unmatched worldwide, and they have proven experience and skill sets in some of the most challenging scientific problems facing society and the planet today. That being said, they are a finite organization, and they can optimize the service they provide when there is clear and transparent cooperation and collaboration with the research, university, and private sectors.

The 2017 Weather Act broke ground to encourage NOAA's use of commercial scientific data and partnering with the companies that generate it. That act set the stage for an explosion in data, capabilities, and value delivered to the public. As you are well aware, the private weather sector has grown significantly in recent years, and delivers a level of tailored, high quality, high precision data and services across the last mile to those end users that have very specific and very tailored requirements. These efforts have boosted the nation's economy, improved public safety, and allowed the successful launch of capabilities that were inconceivable only a decade ago.

The pending Reauthorization Act takes those accomplishments and builds on them to allow even more success going forward. As someone with over 40 years of experience in the sector, and as the operator of a meteorology-oceanography small business, I urge you to strengthen our nation's economy and the entire weather enterprise by reauthorizing the Act as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to monitoring the upcoming discussions and consideration.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen C Woll". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Stephen Woll  
Principal  
Little Creek Applied Science LLC