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September 8, 2025

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

Dear Chairman Babin and Ranking Member Lofgren,

I am writing this letter to offer my support for H.R. 5089, the Weather Act Reauthorization Act of 2025. I currently serve as the Delaware State Climatologist and direct the University of Delaware's Center for Environmental Monitoring and Analysis. In this capacity, I lead a team of scientists that serve the state of Delaware on various weather and climate issues, including severe weather, drought, floods, and snow storms. We rely heavily on NOAA's forecasts, data, and products to help state and local officials make decisions that affect the health and safety of Delawareans. This Act is not just an investment in NOAA. It's an investment in our communities' public safety and the economic security of our state and our nation.

H.R. 5089 is vital to enhancing NOAA's forecast and weather and climate support capabilities. The reauthorization of the National Mesonet Program and the creation of the Commercial Data Program will allow NOAA to access the best available data for initializing and validating current and next generation forecast systems, including models built with artificial intelligence. In addition, the Act supports vital research programs, such as the National Integrated Drought Information System and National Coordinated Soil Moisture Monitoring Network, which are critical to improving our ability to understand how drought develops, monitor our water resources, and mitigate the risk to our economy, including agriculture, tourism, and energy production. We cannot support the state without these programs.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue. I commend the work that you, your committee, and your staff have done to craft this legislation, and I look forward to its eventual passage into law.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kevin R. Brinson

Delaware State Climatologist

Director, Center for Environmental Monitoring and Analysis

University of Delaware