



June 7, 2017

Committee on Space, Science and Technology
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Smith,

Thank you for marking up the American Space Commerce Free Enterprise Act of 2017 in the Committee on Science, Space and Technology. Panasonic is in strong support of the bi-partisan efforts in the development of this bill, and we support efforts to bring it before the House of Representatives as soon as possible.

The Act has a number of important provisions, most important is that the proposed legislation will simplify and strengthen the outdated space-based remote sensing regulatory system.

Equally important is that the Act will enhance U.S. compliance with international obligations, will serve to improve national security and eliminates cumbersome regulatory barriers facing new and innovative space technology companies.

We support the creation of a single authority for registration of nongovernmental space activities located at the Department of Commerce Office of Space Commerce; as well as, maintaining our international obligations to the Outer Space Treaty and recognizing any safety risks posed to our existing federal space systems.

Panasonic Avionics Corporation, a U.S. corporation, is a subsidiary of Panasonic Corporation of North America, the principal North American subsidiary of Panasonic Corporation. Panasonic Avionics Corporation utilizes space-based Ku-band high-throughput satellites to provide connectivity and communication solutions to the maritime and aviation industries.

I thank you and the co-sponsors for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Neil Jacobs

CC: US Rep. Brian Babin and US Rep. Jim Bridenstine