

April 28, 2024

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

Dear Chairman Lucas and Ranking Member Lofgren:

The National Weather Service Employees Organization (NWSEO) supports the passage of H.R. 6093, The Weather Act Reauthorization Act of 2023. NWSEO represents the employees of the National Weather Service nationwide, as well as employees in other NOAA line and staff offices.

Committee leadership and members took into account major concerns of NWSEO workforce:

- Recommendations to outsource hiring to any entity other than the National Weather Service in order to meet such milestones, timelines, and service level expectations.
- Determinations of the number of staff and designated positions required at each forecasting office to provide services to protect lives and property in the geographic region of responsibility.
- Health and Morale Assessment -- The Director of the National Weather Service shall contract or continue to partner with an entity other than the National Weather Service to conduct an assessment of medical impacts, including stress and long-term health impacts, on National Weather Service employees related to required rotating shift work.
- The Director of the National Weather Service may designate at least one service hydrologist at each Weather Forecast Office of the National Weather Service – for increased impact-based decision support services (IDSS).

NWSEO salutes your leadership on this Reauthorization of the Weather Act and looks forward to continued cooperation with you to advance the well-being NOAA employees.

Sincerely,

JoAnn Becker National President, NWSEO