



June 6, 2017

The Honorable Lamar Smith
Chairman
House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Ranking Member
House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Johnson,


Thank you for your work on the American Space Commerce Free Enterprise Act (ASCFEA). As leaders in the U.S. commercial remote sensing satellite industry, we appreciate the attention that has been given to this important issue, and the willingness to reform an outdated regulatory process. Collectively, we want to express our support for the Remote Sensing provisions of the Act. We believe that were they to become law these provisions will help to ensure that U.S. companies are able to stay at the cutting edge of technology and maintain international leadership.

In the nearly three decades since its commercialization, remote sensing has become a critical part of everyday life. From something as simple as finding the nearest coffee shop to ensuring first responders have the most accurate up to date information, to military applications and human rights, remote sensing contributes to our location-enabled lives in every way. This is why it is so important that rules and regulations support and not hinder industry's ability to innovate and grow.

We believe this bill will do just that by presuming approval, redefining what needs to be regulated, streamlining the permitting process with actionable deadlines, increasing transparency and establishing an Assistant Secretary of Space Commerce. The passage is absolutely necessary to U.S. industry and we hope to see full bipartisan support.

Again, thank you for your work on this bill and for your support of our industry. We greatly appreciate the efforts.


Sincerely,



Jonathan Rosenblatt
General Counsel
Spire Global, Inc.



Robbie Schingler
Co-Founder & Chief Strategy Officer
Planet Labs, Inc.



Marcy Steinke
Senior Vice President
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