

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4006

To amend the Technology Administration Act of 1998 to encourage United States leadership in the development, application, and use of commercial space and airborne remote sensing and other geospatial information, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 29, 2006

Mr. ALLEN (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend the Technology Administration Act of 1998 to encourage United States leadership in the development, application, and use of commercial space and airborne remote sensing and other geospatial information, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Imagery, Mapping, and
5 Geospatial Enhancement Act of 2006”.

1 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS OF OFFICE OF SPACE**
 2 **COMMERCIALIZATION.**

3 Section 8 of the Technology Administration Act of
 4 1998 (15 U.S.C. 1511e) is amended by adding at the end
 5 thereof the following:

6 “(d) **ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS.**—Additional functions
 7 of the Office shall be to promote growth and advancement
 8 in United States space and airborne remote sensing tech-
 9 nologies, and value-added services related thereto, by car-
 10 rying out the following responsibilities:

11 “(1) Examine the role of commercial remote
 12 sensing firms, including small business, in the
 13 United States economy and the contribution which
 14 such firms can make in—

15 “(A) improving competition in the market-
 16 place;

17 “(B) enhancing the role of commercial re-
 18 mote sensing firms in the economy of the
 19 United States;

20 “(C) ensuring that United States firms
 21 continue to lead in the global marketplace;

22 “(D) applying commercial remote sensing
 23 data, products, and services to national prior-
 24 ities;

25 “(E) expanding employment opportunities;

26 “(F) increasing productivity;

1 “(G) stimulating innovation and entrepre-
2 neurship; and

3 “(H) providing an avenue through which
4 new and untested products and services can be
5 brought to the marketplace.

6 “(2) Assess the effectiveness of existing Federal
7 agency use of remote sensing data, products, and
8 services, including grant, subsidy, and assistance
9 programs to non-Federal entities, and facilitate a re-
10 duction in the use of such governmental remote
11 sensing data, products, and services and increase the
12 use of commercial remote sensing firms.

13 “(3) Promote the objectives of the U.S. Com-
14 mercial Remote Sensing Space Policy, issued by the
15 President on May 13, 2003, particularly its provi-
16 sions on relying to the maximum practical extent on
17 United States commercial remote sensing capabili-
18 ties and developing a long term, sustainable relation-
19 ship between the Federal Government and the
20 United States commercial remote sensing commu-
21 nity.

22 “(4) Advocate and implement appropriate
23 measures for creating an environment in which all
24 commercial remote sensing firms will have the op-

1 portunity to compete effectively and expand to their
2 full potential.

3 “(5) Evaluate the efforts of each Federal agen-
4 cy, and of the private sector, to assist commercial
5 remote sensing firms, provide statistical information
6 on the utilization of such firms by the Federal Gov-
7 ernment, and make appropriate recommendations to
8 the Administrator of the National Oceanic and At-
9 mospheric Administration, the President, and the
10 Congress in order to promote the establishment and
11 growth of commercial remote sensing firms.

12 “(6) Serve as a focal point for the receipt of
13 complaints, criticisms, and suggestions concerning
14 the policies and activities of any Federal agency
15 which affects commercial remote sensing firms.

16 “(7) Counsel commercial remote sensing firms
17 on how to resolve questions and problems concerning
18 the relationship of such firms to the Federal Govern-
19 ment.

20 “(8) Develop proposals for changes in the poli-
21 cies and activities of any agency of the Federal Gov-
22 ernment which will better fulfill the purposes of this
23 section and communicate such proposals to the ap-
24 propriate Federal agencies.

1 “(9) Represent the views and interests of com-
2 mercial remote sensing firms before other Federal
3 agencies whose policies and activities may affect
4 such firms.

5 “(10) Enlist the cooperation and assistance of
6 commercial remote sensing firms, and any associa-
7 tion of such firms, in the development of procure-
8 ment strategies, policies, and methodologies that en-
9 hance the utilization of commercial remote sensing
10 firms by Federal agencies (including Federal, State,
11 and local government agencies, universities, non-
12 profit organizations, and foreign governments that
13 expend Federal funds), and strengthen the selection
14 of such firms based on demonstrated competence
15 and qualifications.

16 “(11) Cooperate with public and private agen-
17 cies, businesses, and other organizations in dissemi-
18 nating information about the use and application of
19 remote sensing, the capabilities of commercial re-
20 mote sensing firms, and how such firms can partici-
21 pate in or assist such entities, programs.

22 “(12) Make such other recommendations as
23 may be appropriate to assist the development and
24 strengthening of commercial remote sensing firms.

1 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the
2 term—

3 “(1) ‘remote sensing’ means any activity associ-
4 ated with and related to geospatial activities associ-
5 ated with measuring, locating, and preparing maps,
6 charts, surveys, aerial photographs, satellite images,
7 or other graphical or digital presentations depicting
8 natural or manmade physical features, phenomena,
9 and legal boundaries of the Earth from airborne or
10 spaceborne platforms or other types and sources of
11 data; and

12 “(2) ‘firm’ means any individual, firm, partner-
13 ship, corporation, association, or other legal entity in
14 the United States organized and permitted by law to
15 engage in the business of practicing in the profes-
16 sion of remote sensing through the devotion of time,
17 attention, and labor to providing remote sensing
18 data, products, technology, or services as a regular
19 course of trade or business with the principal objec-
20 tive of livelihood and profit through the sale or dis-
21 tribution thereof.”.

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