

Union Calendar No. 175

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2489

[Report No. 111-309]

To authorize a comprehensive national cooperative geospatial imagery mapping program through the United States Geological Survey, to promote use of the program for education, workforce training and development, and applied research, and to support Federal, State, tribal, and local government programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 2009

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN (for herself and Mr. LATOURETTE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

OCTOBER 21, 2009

Additional sponsor: Mr. SARBANES

OCTOBER 21, 2009

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 19, 2009]

A BILL

To authorize a comprehensive national cooperative geospatial imagery mapping program through the United States Geological Survey, to promote use of the program for education, workforce training and development, and applied research, and to support Federal, State, tribal, and local government programs.

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 “National Land Remote*
5 *Sensing Outreach Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 *In this Act:*

8 (1) *PROGRAM.*—*The term “Program” means the*
9 *National Land Remote Sensing Outreach Program es-*
10 *tablished in section 3.*

11 (2) *EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.*—*The term*
12 *“educational institution” means any public or pri-*
13 *vate elementary or secondary school, or any institu-*
14 *tion of vocational, professional, or higher education*
15 *(including a junior college or teachers’ college).*

16 (3) *GEOSPATIAL IMAGERY.*—*The term*
17 *“geospatial imagery”—*

18 (A) *means satellite land remote sensing*
19 *image data registered to map or other spatial co-*
20 *ordinates derived from features on the ground;*
21 *and*

22 (B) *includes a wide range of graphical*
23 *products that convey information about natural*
24 *phenomena and human activities occurring on*
25 *Earth’s surface.*

1 (4) *IMAGE DATA*.—The term “image data”
2 means the raw, unprocessed form of data captured
3 from a sensing instrument.

4 (5) *LAND REMOTE SENSING*.—The term “land
5 remote sensing” means image data of land, coastal
6 areas, or islands and reefs acquired from above the
7 surface of the Earth by instruments on satellite plat-
8 forms.

9 (6) *SECRETARY*.—The term “Secretary” means
10 the Secretary of the Interior.

11 (7) *STATE*.—The term “State” means—

12 (A) each of the several States of the United
13 States;

14 (B) the District of Columbia;

15 (C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

16 (D) Guam;

17 (E) American Samoa;

18 (F) the Commonwealth of the Northern
19 Mariana Islands; and

20 (G) the United States Virgin Islands.

21 (8) *INDIAN TRIBE*.—The term “Indian tribe” has
22 the same meaning given that term in section 4(e) of
23 the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assist-
24 ance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(e)).

1 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL LAND REMOTE SENSING OUTREACH PRO-**
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall establish and*
4 *maintain a national land remote sensing outreach program*
5 *within the U.S. Geological Survey to advance the avail-*
6 *ability, timely distribution, and widespread use of*
7 *geospatial imagery for education, research, assessment, and*
8 *monitoring purposes in each State and the lands of an In-*
9 *dian tribe.*

10 (b) *PURPOSES.*—*The purposes of the program are—*

11 (1) *to increase accessibility to, and expand the*
12 *use of, remote sensing data in a standard, easy-to-use*
13 *format by Federal, State, local, and tribal govern-*
14 *ments, communities, educational institutions, and the*
15 *commercial sector; and*

16 (2) *to assist each participating State and Indian*
17 *tribe in establishing the cooperative infrastructure*
18 *necessary to increase access to geospatial imagery for*
19 *research and educational purposes.*

20 (c) *ACTIVITIES.*—

21 (1) *NATIONAL LAND REMOTE SENSING OUT-*
22 *REACH PROGRAM.*—*The Secretary shall—*

23 (A) *support geospatial imagery sharing, ap-*
24 *plied research, and educational programs of each*
25 *participating State and Indian tribe;*

1 (B) identify new geospatial imagery needs
2 and infrastructure;

3 (C) share and cooperate in the development
4 of geospatial imagery applications, education,
5 and training infrastructure in each partici-
6 pating State and the lands of an Indian tribe;

7 (D) cooperate with participating States and
8 Indian tribes to encourage the expansion of
9 geospatial imagery mapping courses taught at
10 appropriate educational institutions;

11 (E) encourage expansion of geospatial im-
12 agery research at appropriate educational insti-
13 tutions;

14 (F) encourage expansion of the knowledge
15 and use of geospatial imagery products in the
16 workforce through outreach programs, workshops,
17 and other training opportunities;

18 (G) encourage participating States and In-
19 dian tribes to build partnerships with local gov-
20 ernments to identify unique research and devel-
21 opment needs and geospatial imagery applica-
22 tion pilot programs;

23 (H) promote cooperation and sharing of ex-
24 pertise regarding geospatial imagery applica-

1 *tions among participating States and Indian*
2 *tribes; and*

3 *(I) provide a mechanism to enable the*
4 *States and Indian tribes to transfer geospatial*
5 *imagery and applications to the U.S. Geological*
6 *Survey as appropriate.*

7 *(2) GRANTS.—*

8 *(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is author-*
9 *ized to provide grants to qualified educational*
10 *institutions, or to State, local, and tribal govern-*
11 *ments, or to consortia of these entities, on a com-*
12 *petitive basis to—*

13 *(i) advance the interest of the Federal*
14 *Government in promoting the use of im-*
15 *agery by educational institutions, States,*
16 *localities, and Indian tribes; and*

17 *(ii) achieve the purposes of the Pro-*
18 *gram described in section 3(b).*

19 *(B) MATCHING FUNDS.—*

20 *(i) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of*
21 *the cost of each program for which a grant*
22 *is made under this Act may not exceed 75*
23 *percent of the total cost of the program.*

1 (ii) *NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.*—*In*
2 *providing the non-Federal contribution re-*
3 *quired under this paragraph, a grantee—*

4 (I) *shall provide for such share*
5 *through a payment in cash or in kind,*
6 *fairly evaluated, including facilities,*
7 *equipment, technology, or services; and*

8 (II) *may provide for such share*
9 *through State sources or local sources,*
10 *including private funds or donated*
11 *services.*

12 (iii) *WAIVER.*—*The Secretary may*
13 *waive the requirements of subparagraph*
14 *(B), in whole or in part, with respect to*
15 *any program if the Secretary determines*
16 *that the grantee has made a good faith ef-*
17 *fort to obtain the non-Federal contribution*
18 *at the local level but is unable to do so.*

19 (3) *FEDERAL PARTNER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.*—

20 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall es-*
21 *tablish and maintain a committee to advise the*
22 *Director of the U.S. Geological Survey regarding*
23 *the Program.*

24 (B) *MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENT.*—*The*
25 *advisory committee under subparagraph (A)*

1 *shall be chaired by the U.S. Geological Survey*
2 *and composed of such representatives of Federal*
3 *and State agencies, tribal governments, and edu-*
4 *cational institutions as the Secretary may des-*
5 *ignate.*

6 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 *There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-*
8 *retary \$10,000,000 to carry out this Act for each of fiscal*
9 *years 2010 through 2019.*

10 **SEC. 5. SUNSET DATE.**

11 *This Act is repealed on the date that is 10 years after*
12 *the date of the enactment of this Act.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to authorize a national cooperative geospatial imagery program through the United States Geological Survey to promote use of remote sensing data.”.

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