

**SMALL UAV
COALITION**
*A Partnership for
Safety & Innovation*

October 25, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leaders McConnell, Schumer, and McCarthy,

The Small UAV Coalition respectfully urges you to bring the DHS Countering Unmanned Aircraft Systems Coordinator Act (S. 1867/H.R. 3787) to the floor for immediate consideration to establish a central point of contact within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to coordinate policies and communication related to federal unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) countermeasure authorities.


As the leading organization representing the commercial UAS industry in the United States, the Coalition works closely with Congress, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and other policy stakeholders, including DHS, to support the development and implementation of a regulatory framework that will expedite safe and secure drone integration. This includes tailored UAS countermeasures authorities afforded to DHS and the Department of Justice (DOJ) in the Preventing Emerging Threats Act of 2018. The Coalition advocated for extending these authorities to DHS and DOJ, which are similar to those previously bestowed upon the Departments of Defense and Energy.

With these authorities in place, the Coalition believes that enacting the DHS Countering Unmanned Aircraft Systems Act is critical to ensuring there is a single resource of information for federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement, as well as the private sector. Further, the Coalition believes the Act will support development of policy guidance for countermeasures consistently applied by these authorized federal departments with due consideration of safety, privacy, and civil liberties.

Congress has played a crucial role in advancing a framework for commercial UAS operations that will harness the potential of UAS technology to deliver untold economic and consumer

benefits. Thank you for your continued support and for your consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Gregory S. Walden
Aviation Counsel
Small UAV Coalition