



September 3, 2025

The Honorable Bruce Westerman, Chairman
Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jared Huffman, Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Westerman, Ranking Member Huffman, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter in support of the Digital Coast Act Reauthorization (H.R. 4526). The Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors (MAPPS) is the predominant geospatial industry association in with over 100 members across the United States that provide mapping, surveying, photogrammetry, remote sensing (satellite and airborne), aerial imaging, hydrography, GPS, GIS data collection and conversion, technology development, and geospatial products. Our member firms are passionate about providing the best geospatial data available to federal, state, and local partners.

MAPPS member firms have played a significant role in supporting the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Digital Coast program, which provides critical geospatial data and tools to coastal communities for informed decision-making. Authorized under the Digital Coast Act, this program delivers high-quality data, including elevation, land cover, and imagery, to support coastal management, resilience planning, and hazard mitigation. MAPPS' firms possess strong expertise in remote sensing technologies, such as Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) and aerial imagery, which supports the Digital Coast program's mission to provide accessible, high-resolution data to empowers communities to address challenges like natural disaster preparedness, response and mitigation, coastal flooding, and erosion.

The Digital Coast Reauthorization Act of 2025 (H.R.4256) ensures continued support for this vital program, which delivers measurable benefits in terms of public safety, economic resilience, and environmental stewardship. MAPPS strongly supports its passage.

By passing H.R.4256 and reauthorizing the Digital Coast program, Congress is reinforcing a proven model of federal-state-private sector partnership that delivers results. Reauthorization will enable NOAA and its partners to maintain and enhance data accessibility, update critical datasets, and expand training and technical assistance for coastal communities. The programs' reauthorization additionally provides certainty to an industry that provides critical data services to government at all levels.

MAPPS thanks the Committee for its consideration of this legislation and urges passage of H.R.4256 to ensure continued investment in the Digital Coast program and its contributions to coastal resilience and management.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Renee Walmsley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Renee Walmsley
President, MAPPS