

H.R. _____, the Commercial Remote Sensing Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. Jim Bridenstine

The private space-based remote sensing industry is experiencing unprecedented growth. This Act will assist Congress in appropriately funding the Department of Commerce so as to meet this increasing demand while protecting national security and maintaining the United States' status as a leader in the development and operation of remote sensing technologies.

Key Provisions

- Provides metrics to inform the workload affecting the Department of Commerce.
- Informs Congress about the Commerce's ability to meet the statutory deadline for adjudicating license applications.
- Strengthens Congressional oversight to ensure the Commerce's continues to monitor licensee operations to protect national security throughout the lifetime of the license.
- Requires Congressional notification of violations of license conditions.
- Aids Congress in updating the existing statute at a future point to reflect the current state of the art for remote sensing technologies.
- Reinforces Congress' expectation that the federal government balance national security with maintaining U.S. private sector leadership in the field.
- Seeks input from the Advisory Committee for Remote Sensing.