## EARL BLUMENAUER THIRD DISTRICT, OREGON

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

COMMITTEE ON BUDGET



## Congress of the United States **Couse of Representatives** Washington, DC 20515

May 20, 2016

The Honorable Michael P. Huerta Administrator Federal Aviation Administration 800 Independence Avenue SW Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Huerta:

Thank you for your continued work to develop a regulatory framework for unmanned aerial systems (UAS). I commend the establishment of the Drone Advisory Council (DAC) and am writing to recommend the inclusion of the Small UAV Coalition in the work of the committee.

While this technology has roots in military applications, the largest potential growth area lies in commercial UAS operations. A recent report estimated that the commercial UAS market will be a \$21 billion industry within five years. Accordingly, it is essential that the commercial UAS industry have adequate representation on the DAC as it develops recommendations for the FAA's UAS regulatory framework.

The Small UAV Coalition was the first trade association with a focus on developing policies to safely and expeditiously integrate commercial UAS into the national airspace and will offer the DAC unparalleled experience and expertise in critical issues such as unmanned traffic management, beyond visual line of sight operations, operations over people, carriage of property, and spectrum.

Small UAV Coalition members represent a range of commercial applications, from delivery to surveying and mapping, infrastructure inspection, agriculture, disaster management, retail, and humanitarian aid. The Coalition and its members have become valued resources for both regulators and lawmakers as the United States looks to develop a risk-based regulatory framework to ensure that we embrace the immense economic potential and consumer benefits of this technology with the highest safety standards.

I urge you to include the Small UAV Coalition on the Drone Advisory Council so that it can benefit from the Coalition's wealth of experience and expertise. Thank you for your full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,

Earl Blumenauer Member of Congress

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