



SMALL UAV COALITION

*A Partnership for
Safety & Innovation*

NEWS RELEASE

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Small UAV Coalition Commends Lawmakers for Advancing UAS Integration in FAA Reauthorization

Long-Term Authorization Provides Certainty and Provisions to Expedite Safe Expanded Commercial UAS Operations in the United States

WASHINGTON, DC – September 24, 2018 – The [Small UAV Coalition](http://smalluavcoalition.org) commends the bipartisan leadership of the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation and House Transportation and Infrastructure Committees for reaching an agreement over the weekend on legislation to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for five years. The Coalition was honored to work with the committees on this important legislation that includes a robust and forward-leaning unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) subtitle with provisions the Coalition has long championed. We are confident that it will create opportunities for additional and expanded commercial UAS operations in the United States and promote renewed global leadership if acted upon expeditiously.

Once enacted into law, the federal government will have the necessary tools to lift the hold on UAS rulemakings. Congress has authorized the government to establish appropriate remote identification and tracking and countermeasure programs. Accordingly, the Small UAV Coalition expects the FAA to now move forward with regulations to enable routine expanded commercial operations, including flights over people, beyond the visual line of sight, and carrying property.

In particular, the Coalition is pleased that the legislation will:

- Expedite the development and implementation of an unmanned traffic management (UTM) system.
- Give the FAA the flexibility needed to appropriately regulate all UAS, including to impose remote identification and tracking requirements.
- Enable federal law enforcement to conduct tailored countermeasures operations with due consideration to the ongoing safety of the national airspace and privacy and civil liberties.
- Establish a process to develop consensus industry standards in lieu of protracted type and airworthiness certification.
- Improve the pathway to safely enable ubiquitous UAS delivery operations through a rigorous, risk-based certification process.
- Increase transparency in the Part 107 waiver approval process.

As the House and Senate prepare to consider the legislation, the Coalition urges the President to sign the bill into law as soon as received to enable the United States to compete with other countries that have been racing to attract investment and innovation in this important technology.

The Coalition will work with Congress and the Administration to ensure timely implementation of

this legislation. The Coalition also calls on Congress to adequately fund the Department of Transportation and FAA so that they have the resources necessary to carry out this new mandate.

For more information on the Small UAV Coalition, please visit www.smalluavcoalition.org, contact press@smalluavcoalition.org, or follow [@smallUAVs](https://twitter.com/smallUAVs) on Twitter.

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