



SMALL UAV COALITION

*A Partnership for
Safety & Innovation*

NEWS RELEASE

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Small UAV Coalition Applauds introduction of the Increasing Competitiveness for American Drones Act by Senators Warner (D-VA) and Thune (R-SD)

WASHINGTON, DC – February 8, 2023 – The Small UAV Coalition is pleased to support the Increasing Competitiveness for American Drones Act of 2023 introduced today by Senators Warner and Thune. This legislation is an important step toward full integration of drones into the airspace. Drones are providing numerous public benefits, from speedy delivery of every-day goods as well as critical medical supplies, agile search and rescue capabilities, safe and efficient critical infrastructure inspection, and much more.

The Coalition is grateful for the leadership of Senators Thune and Warner, and this bill comes at a pivotal time for the drone industry. Since 2012, Congress has worked to progress the law and regulation around commercial drone use, but now, in 2023, this progress has slowed as regulations and approvals continue to be delayed. With reauthorization of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) programs required by September 30, this year is a critical time for the drone industry.

The Small UAV Coalition strongly supports this bill and urges the Commerce Committee to include this bill in its FAA reauthorization proposal. Coalition aviation counsel Greg Walden stated, “This bill includes several provisions to reduce FAA delays and increase efficiencies. It provides structural reforms to the FAA certification and approval processes that are needed for the industry to scale beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) commercial operations and deliver the multitude of benefits to individuals and communities.”

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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