

June 25, 2021

The Honorable Jim Inhofe, Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services  
228 Russell Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Member Inhofe,

The Coalition of Geospatial Organizations ([COGO](#)) is a coalition of 13 national professional societies, trade associations, and membership organizations in the geospatial field, representing more than 170,000 individual producers and users of geospatial data and technology. COGO only communicates on policy matters when there is complete unanimity among all organizations. We are writing to you to express our collective support for your recently introduced legislation, S.2166, entitled “RETAIN GPS and Satellite Communications Act”. The legislation addresses many of the concerns our coalition has about the Ligado Networks’ proposal and the interference it would cause to GPS and GNSS data acquisition, processing and use.

Unbiased testing has repeatedly confirmed that implementation of their proposal would surely undermine many of the uses of that data which have come to be anticipated, even essential, among the public and within the geospatial profession that provides services to it. We were particularly pleased to note that S.2166 includes an understanding on Reimbursable Costs, that the Ligado Networks’ proposal will likely result in significant costs that must be reimbursed to individuals and private sector businesses if their proposal moves forward.

Sincerely,

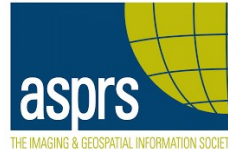
*Christine Stinchcomb*

Christine Stinchcomb  
Chair, Coalition of Geospatial Organizations

**COGO Organizations:**

- American Association for Geodetic Surveying (AAGS)
- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS)  
American Association of Geographers (AAG)  
Cartography and Geographic Information Society (CAGIS)  
GIS Certification Institute (GISCI)  
International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO)  
Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors (MAPPS)  
National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS)  
National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC)  
University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (UCGIS)  
United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF)  
Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA)  
MidAmerica GIS Consortium (MAGIC)



August 3, 2021

The Honorable Jim Cooper  
The Honorable Mike Turner  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Cooper and Turner,

The Coalition of Geospatial Organizations ([COGO](#)) is a coalition of 13 national professional societies, trade associations, and membership organizations in the geospatial field, representing more than 170,000 individual producers and users of geospatial data and technology. COGO only communicates on policy matters when there is complete unanimity among all organizations. We are writing to you to express our collective support for your recently introduced legislation, [H.R. 4634](#), entitled “RETAIN GPS and Satellite Communications Act”. The legislation addresses many of the concerns our coalition has about the Ligado Networks’ proposal and the interference it would cause to GPS and GNSS data acquisition, processing and use.

Unbiased testing has repeatedly confirmed that implementation of their proposal would surely undermine many of the uses of that data which have come to be anticipated, even essential, among the public and within the geospatial profession that provides services to it. We were particularly pleased to note that H.R. 4634 includes an understanding on Reimbursable Costs, that the Ligado Networks’ proposal will likely result in significant costs that must be reimbursed to individuals and private sector businesses if their proposal moves forward.

Sincerely,

*Christine Stinchcomb*

Christine Stinchcomb  
Chair, Coalition of Geospatial Organizations

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MidAmerica GIS Consortium (MAGIC)

Cc: Representatives Don Beyer, Ken Calvert, Frank Lucas, Abigail Spanberger, Glenn “GT” Thompson, Nydia Velázquez, Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, HASC Chairman Adam Smith, HASC Ranking Member Mike Rogers, Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Frank Pallone, Energy and Commerce Ranking Member Cathy McMorris Rodgers, additional House cosponsors.