



February 8, 2023

**Commercial Drone Alliance Statement of Support for the
Increasing Competitiveness for American Drones Act of 2023**

The Commercial Drone Alliance applauds the introduction of the Increasing Competitiveness for American Drones Act of 2023, and we commend and thank Senator Warner and Senator Thune for their leadership on these important issues. While the U.S. has lagged behind other countries in developing and deploying uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS), this legislation provides the U.S. with the opportunity to reestablish its prominence as a global leader in advanced aviation and compete more effectively in the global economy.

In particular, the Increasing Competitiveness for American Drones Act of 2023 provides necessary direction to the FAA that will enable beyond visual line of site (BVLOS) UAS operations, which is critical to scaling the use of UAS for use cases ranging from infrastructure inspection and agriculture to fighting wildfires and package delivery. The legislation also will align responsibility with authority within the FAA to allow UAS certification and operational approvals to progress with the focus and attention of a dedicated unit committed to the safe and secure integration of UAS into the National Airspace System.

The promise of the commercial drone industry remains untapped as laws and regulations have failed to keep pace with aviation technology innovation. Commercial drones offer significant life-saving, economic and societal benefits—from creating jobs and enhancing worker safety, to protecting the environment and revolutionizing inspections of critical infrastructure, to expanding equitable and efficient access to medicines. The Increasing Competitiveness for American Drones Act of 2023 provides important reforms that will move the industry forward and help the country finally start to realize the enormous benefits of UAS.

We encourage Congress to work quickly to pass this legislation and unlock the substantial benefits of UAS for the American people.

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