



AAG

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
of GEOGRAPHERS

November 29, 2017

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
U.S. Senate
104 Hart SOB
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hatch,

The undersigned organizations are writing to thank for your leadership in championing legislation to establish clear standards for federal agencies in their utilization and dissemination of geospatial data. We strongly support S. 2128 and urge you to seek passage of this important bill.

The rapidly-growing geospatial technologies and analysis industries are currently estimated to produce over \$100 billion in revenue annually and will foster job growth of between 16-35 percent. All federal agencies generate, use, and share geospatial data, and the important provisions contained in the revised legislation would strengthen U.S. geographic science, research capacity, and competitiveness. This bill would harness the productivity, talent, scientific and technical skills, and creativity and innovation that characterize the nation's GIS and mapping companies and workforce.

Please do not hesitate to let us know if you have any questions about these important issues. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff to enact this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

American Association of Geographers (AAG)
American Geosciences Institute (AGI)
Association of Research Libraries (ARL)
The Atlantic Group, LLC
Blue Raster, LLC
Boundless Spatial, Inc.
Cartegraph Systems, Inc.
Cartography and Geographic Information Society (CaGIS)
Centre for Spatial Law and Policy
Cityworks – Azteca Systems, LLC

Davey Resource Group, Inc.
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GeoComm, Inc.
GIS Certification Institute (GISCI)
GISinc
Geographic and Land Information Society (GLIS)
Geospatial Information & Technology Association (GITA)
Google LLC
InfoGeographics, Inc.
International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO)
MDA Information Systems, LLC
MidAmerica GIS Consortium (MAGIC)
National Association of Counties (NACo)
National Association of Regional Councils (NARC)
National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO)
National League of Cities (NLC)
National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC)
National Tribal Geographic Information Support Center (NTGIS)
1Spatial, Inc.
SharedGeo
Sidwell Company
Society for Conservation GIS (SCGIS)
Surdex Corporation
Tableau Software
Tesla Government, Inc.
United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF)
University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (UCGIS)
Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA)
Women in GIS (WiGIS)

cc: Senators Warner, Heller, Wyden, Boozman, and Klobuchar