

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2489

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 28, 2009

Received

DECEMBER 24, 2009

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
Transportation

AN ACT

To authorize a national cooperative geospatial imagery program through the United States Geological Survey to promote use of remote sensing data.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “National Land Remote
3 Sensing Outreach Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) **PROGRAM.**—The term “Program” means
7 the National Land Remote Sensing Outreach Pro-
8 gram established in section 3.

9 (2) **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.**—The term
10 “educational institution” means any public or pri-
11 vate elementary or secondary school, or any institu-
12 tion of vocational, professional, or higher education
13 (including a junior college or teachers’ college).

14 (3) **GEOSPATIAL IMAGERY.**—The term
15 “geospatial imagery”—

16 (A) means satellite land remote sensing
17 image data registered to map or other spatial
18 coordinates derived from features on the
19 ground; and

20 (B) includes a wide range of graphical
21 products that convey information about natural
22 phenomena and human activities occurring on
23 Earth’s surface.

24 (4) **IMAGE DATA.**—The term “image data”
25 means the raw, unprocessed form of data captured
26 from a sensing instrument.

1 (5) LAND REMOTE SENSING.—The term “land
2 remote sensing” means image data of land, coastal
3 areas, or islands and reefs acquired from above the
4 surface of the Earth by instruments on satellite plat-
5 forms.

6 (6) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
7 the Secretary of the Interior.

8 (7) STATE.—The term “State” means—

9 (A) each of the several States of the
10 United States;

11 (B) the District of Columbia;

12 (C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

13 (D) Guam;

14 (E) American Samoa;

15 (F) the Commonwealth of the Northern
16 Mariana Islands; and

17 (G) the United States Virgin Islands.

18 (8) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe”
19 has the same meaning given that term in section
20 4(e) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education
21 Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(e)).

22 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL LAND REMOTE SENSING OUTREACH**
23 **PROGRAM.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish and
25 maintain a national land remote sensing outreach program

1 within the U.S. Geological Survey to advance the avail-
2 ability, timely distribution, and widespread use of
3 geospatial imagery for education, research, assessment,
4 and monitoring purposes in each State and the lands of
5 an Indian tribe.

6 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the program are—

7 (1) to increase accessibility to, and expand the
8 use of, remote sensing data in a standard, easy-to-
9 use format by Federal, State, local, and tribal gov-
10 ernments, communities, educational institutions, and
11 the commercial sector; and

12 (2) to assist each participating State and In-
13 dian tribe in establishing the cooperative infrastruc-
14 ture necessary to increase access to geospatial im-
15 agery for research and educational purposes.

16 (c) ACTIVITIES.—

17 (1) NATIONAL LAND REMOTE SENSING OUT-
18 REACH PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall—

19 (A) support geospatial imagery sharing,
20 applied research, and educational programs of
21 each participating State and Indian tribe;

22 (B) identify new geospatial imagery needs
23 and infrastructure;

24 (C) share and cooperate in the develop-
25 ment of geospatial imagery applications, edu-

1 cation, and training infrastructure in each par-
2 ticipating State and the lands of an Indian
3 tribe;

4 (D) cooperate with participating States
5 and Indian tribes to encourage the expansion of
6 geospatial imagery mapping courses taught at
7 appropriate educational institutions;

8 (E) encourage expansion of geospatial im-
9 agery research at appropriate educational insti-
10 tutions;

11 (F) encourage expansion of the knowledge
12 and use of geospatial imagery products in the
13 workforce through outreach programs, work-
14 shops, and other training opportunities;

15 (G) encourage participating States and In-
16 dian tribes to build partnerships with local gov-
17 ernments to identify unique research and devel-
18 opment needs and geospatial imagery applica-
19 tion pilot programs;

20 (H) promote cooperation and sharing of
21 expertise regarding geospatial imagery applica-
22 tions among participating States and Indian
23 tribes; and

24 (I) provide a mechanism to enable the
25 States and Indian tribes to transfer geospatial

imagery and applications to the U.S. Geological Survey as appropriate.

(2) GRANTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to provide grants to qualified educational institutions, or to State, local, and tribal governments, or to consortia of these entities, on a competitive basis to—

(i) advance the interest of the Federal Government in promoting the use of imagery by educational institutions, States, localities, and Indian tribes; and

(ii) achieve the purposes of the Program described in section 3(b).

(B) MATCHING FUNDS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of the cost of each program for which a grant is made under this Act may not exceed 75 percent of the total cost of the program.

(ii) NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.—
In providing the non-Federal contribution required under this paragraph, a grantee—

(I) shall provide for such share through a payment in cash or in kind,

1 fairly evaluated, including facilities,
2 equipment, technology, or services;
3 and

4 (II) may provide for such share
5 through State sources or local
6 sources, including private funds or do-
7 nated services.

8 (iii) WAIVER.—The Secretary may
9 waive the requirements of subparagraph
10 (B), in whole or in part, with respect to
11 any program if the Secretary determines
12 that the grantee has made a good faith ef-
13 fort to obtain the non-Federal contribution
14 at the local level but is unable to do so.

15 (3) FEDERAL PARTNER ADVISORY COM-
16 MITTEE.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall es-
18 tablish and maintain a committee to advise the
19 Director of the U.S. Geological Survey regard-
20 ing the Program.

21 (B) MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENT.—
22 The advisory committee under subparagraph
23 (A) shall be chaired by the U.S. Geological Sur-
24 vey and composed of such representatives of
25 Federal and State agencies, tribal governments,

4 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
5 retary \$10,000,000 to carry out this Act for each of fiscal
6 years 2010 through 2019.

8 This Act is repealed on the date that is 10 years after
9 the date of the enactment of this Act.

Attest: LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk.