



Brief Update on Newly Launched Congressional GPS Caucus and Other Educational Efforts



**GPS Innovation
Alliance**

June 6, 2019

Purpose of the GPS Caucus

- Launched on March 12, 2019.
- The bipartisan, bicameral caucus is intended to bring heightened awareness to the wide-ranging economic and societal benefits of GPS.
- Advocates to ensure GPS signals remain continuously available, accurate, reliable, and resilient.
- Serves as a platform for hosting educational briefings, technology demonstrations and advocates for policies that support the long-term health and future of GPS.

Senate GPS Caucus Co-Chairs

- Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)
 - Iraq War Veteran, Purple Heart recipient and former Assistant Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
 - Member of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee and Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation.
 - “GPS has proven to be an invaluable tool in making our transportation systems more efficient and more secure.”

Senate GPS Caucus Co-Chairs

- Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA)
 - Senator Ernst retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Iowa Army National Guard after 23 years of military service.
 - Member of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee and Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.
 - “From Iowa’s agriculture industry that depends on GPS for weather mapping and crop projections, to our military personnel needing the most reliable data, GPS has been a strong contributor to our nation’s security and growth.”

House GPS Caucus Co-Chairs

- Rep. Dave Loebsack (D-IA)
 - Member of the House Energy & Commerce Committee.
 - Championed the *Precision Agriculture Connectivity Act of 2018* (signed into law as part of last year's Farm Bill).
 - “GPS has been an important tool for safely getting passengers from one location to another, but is beneficial to many different sectors including defense and infrastructure. GPS is also being used throughout rural communities and on farms as the use of precision agriculture continues to grow.”

House GPS Caucus Co-Chairs

- Rep. Don Bacon (R-NE)
 - Served nearly 30 years in the U.S. Air Force, ultimately retiring as a Brigadier General.
 - Member of the House Armed Services and Agriculture Committees.
 - “As a 30-year Air Force veteran, I take an immense amount of pride in the GPS constellation our country operates. More than 12,000 miles away, these incredible satellites not only enable our national security but they also power every sector of the American economy.”

Other GPS Caucus Members (as of June 4th)

- Rep. Mike Doyle (D-PA) – Chair of the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology
- Rep. Yvette Clarke (D-NY)
- Rep. Sharice Davids (D-KS)
- Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA)
- Rep. Hank Johnson (D-GA)
- Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA)
- Rep. Jerry McNerney (D-CA)
- Rep. Mark Takano (D-CA)

Other Educational Efforts

- In April, GPSIA hosted a “GPS 101” Briefing on Capitol Hill with remarks from Senator Duckworth, Rep. Loeb sack and Col. Curtis Hernandez of the National Space Council.



House GPS Resolution

- H.Res.219 was introduced on March 12 by Reps. Loeb sack and Bacon.
- The resolution recognizes the contributions made by the men and women of the U.S. Air Force for their work in operating and maintaining the GPS constellation and affirms the importance of continuous availability, accuracy, reliability, and resiliency of the GPS constellation.
- Other Cosponsors (as of June 4th):

Rep. Sharice Davids (D-KS)

Rep. Mike Doyle (D-PA)

Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA)

Rep. Kendra Horn (D-OK)

Rep. Hank Johnson (D-GA)

Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL)

Rep. Mark Takano (D-CA)

Rep. Filemon Vela (D-TX)

Rep. Nydia Velázquez (D-NY)

Senate GPS Resolution

- S.Res.216 was introduced by Senators Duckworth and Ernst on May 21st and passed the Senate by unanimous consent the same day.
- Other cosponsors: Senators Merkley (D-OR) and Hassan (D-NH)

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 216

Recognizing the contributions made by the men and women of the Air Force who are responsible for operating and maintaining the Global Positioning System constellation and affirming the importance of continuous availability, accuracy, efficiency, robustness, reliability, and resiliency of the Global Positioning System constellation.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 21, 2019

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. HASSAN)
submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

Other Platforms for GPS Educational Efforts

- Social Media
 - Twitter: @GPS4Life
 - Facebook: @GPSInnovationAlliance
 - LinkedIn: /company/GPSIA



- South by Southwest (SXSW)

- GPSIA Blog – tackles topics ranging from GPS’ role in public safety to assisting the visually impaired and advancing 5G.

- Testimony to key Congressional Committees.

What's Next?

- Briefing on the Importance of GPS for 9-1-1 (Summer 2019)
- GPS Technology Demo on Capitol Hill (Fall 2019)
- Blog Posts and Op-Eds (Ongoing)

We welcome your suggestions for future educational outreach focused on protecting, promoting, and enhancing GPS.



GPS Innovation Alliance

For questions and further information, please contact:

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