

Senator Walker offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 107.

A resolution to support and endorse the proposal submitted by the Michigan Advanced Aerial Systems Consortium requesting that Michigan be named one of six federally-identified unmanned aircraft system (UAS) test sites.

Whereas, The use of UAS for military, governmental, and commercial use is expected to surge greatly over the course of the next decade. UAS applications include dangerous military missions, law enforcement, emergency services, and border surveillance; and

Whereas, The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), in accordance with the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, initiated a program to identify six UAS test ranges throughout the United States. These congressionally-mandated test sites will conduct critical research into how best to safely integrate UAS into the national airspace over the next several years and what certification and navigation requirements will need to be established; and

Whereas, The Michigan Advanced Aerial Systems Consortium has submitted an application for Michigan to be considered for one of the six UAS test sites. The consortium is led by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and is made up of government, academic, corporate, industry, and military partners, including Alpena County, the Michigan Department of Transportation, the Michigan National Guard, the University of Michigan, Michigan Technological University, Northwestern Michigan College, Kettering University, Western Michigan University, and Alpena Community College; and

Whereas, Michigan is an ideal location for a UAS test site. The consortium brings together researchers, scientists, operators, regulators, and industry leaders with the expertise and commitment to create a dynamic center of expertise and operation; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we support and endorse the proposal submitted by the Michigan Advanced Aerial Systems Consortium requesting that Michigan be named one of six federally-identified UAS test sites; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Michigan congressional delegation and the Federal Aviation Administration.