AMENDMENT NO._____ Calendar No._____

Purpose: Relating to remote land sensing.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—113th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 1317

To authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for fiscal years 2014 through 2016, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. WARNER

Viz:

At the end of subtitle A of title III, add the following:

SEC. 302. LAND REMOTE SENSING.

(a) REAFFIRMATION OF FINDING.—Congress reaffirms the finding in section 2(1) of the Land Remote Sensing Policy Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–555; 106 Stat. 4163; 15 U.S.C. 5601), namely, that ''[t]he continuous collection and utilization of land remote sensing data from space are of major benefit in studying and understanding human impacts on the global environment, in managing the Earth's natural resources, in carrying out national security functions, and in planning and conducting many

other activities of scientific, economic, and social importance''.

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Since 1972, the Landsat program has provided standardized scientific data, the continuity of which is essential to ensuring the value of Landsat in monitoring the environment, modeling and detecting changes in the global supply of natural resources, and updating maps relevant to national security.

(2) Landsat data engages and benefits a broad group of national stakeholders, from Landsat data processors in South Dakota to coastal restoration planners in Louisiana, forest managers in Colorado, Texas, and West Virginia, fire risk assessors in California, and beyond.

(3) The May 2013 operationalization of Landsat 8 is especially notable given the dramatic increase in the usage and economic value of Landsat data which has occurred since the 2008 adoption of free and open data policies.

(4) Rapidly proceeding with the definition and construction of the next global land-imaging system, Landsat 9 offers the potential for cost savings by

taking advantage of the standing infrastructure and flight hardware used to construct Landsat 8 to sustain the highly successful Landsat partnership between the Administration and the United States Geological Survey.

(5) According to the report of the National Academies of Sciences entitled ''Future U.S. Workforce on Geospatial Intelligence'', remote sensing is one of the five core areas on which the current production and analysis of geospatial intelligence relies.

(c) SYSTEM DEFINITION AND PROCUREMENT OF NEXT GLOBAL LAND-IMAGING SYSTEM.—The Administrator shall use existing studies and data to initiate system definition and procurement of the next global land-imaging system in a manner consistent with continuing Earth remote sensing data collection over multi-decade time periods.

(d) SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION IN REMOTE SENSING DISCIPLINES.—The Administrator shall, to the extent practicable within funds available to the Administration, seek partnerships with institutions of higher education, and other Federal agencies, to support education of the next generation of remote sensing engineers, scientists, and analysts.