

18 December 2012

To the Weather Enterprise:

I am writing on behalf of The American Geophysical Union and our 60,000 members to express my support for creating a U.S. Weather Commission to ensure cost-effective spending on the nation's weather systems while minimizing the impacts of major storms and normal weather fluctuations.

Superstorm Sandy is just the most recent in a long line of weather events that have cost our nation billions of dollars. With the current economic situation tightening budgets across the government, and the increasing impacts of a changing climate, it is more important than ever that the U.S. has a commission of experts to provide guidance to policymakers to help protect lives, property, and businesses from damaging weather events.

A 2012 report by the National Research Council, *Weather Services for the Nation: Becoming Second to None*, states that our nation needs to improve its ability to harness the best science and private sector resources available to protect us from weather impacts. A U.S. Weather Commission would provide critical and timely advice on how to keep abreast of the latest technology and user needs, including industry and military, and inform policymakers about options to lower costs and minimize losses.

For the sake of our citizens, our economy, and the advancement of science, AGU supports creating a U.S. Weather Commission to keep our economy competitive and provide maximum protection of lives and property in our nation.

Sincerely,



Christine W. McEntee  
Executive Director/CEO  
American Geophysical Union