

May 19, 2025

The Honorable Sean Duffy Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

RE: Support for Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) UAS Operations Regulation

Dear Secretary Duffy:

On behalf of the National Retail Federation, I write to thank you for advancing critical regulations regarding certain low-altitude unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) operations. We look forward to the rule moving forward from the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs to being published in the Federal Register for public comment.

NRF, the world's largest retail trade association, passionately advocates for the people, brands, policies and ideas that help retail succeed. NRF empowers the industry that powers the economy. Retail is the nation's largest private-sector employer, contributing \$5.3 trillion to annual GDP and supporting one in four U.S. jobs — 55 million working Americans. For over a century, NRF has been a voice for every retailer and every retail job, educating, inspiring and communicating the powerful impact retail has on local communities and global economies.

As retailers continue to evolve their supply chains to provide the best delivery options, the potential use of drones for product delivery to consumers is becoming an important part of their strategy. A final beyond visual line of sight rule will be critical to unlocking safe and scalable commercial drone operations for many retailers. Drone delivery will make items that people need and want quickly, from common household goods to medications, available for ultrafast delivery. Some consumers are already benefitting from drone delivery, but in order to expand and reach a broader array of customers, operators need regulatory certainty. Achieving certainty will attract new and continued investment in drone technology to the benefit of American consumers.

We encourage a quick interagency review to move the regulation forward for public comment. If you have any questions, please contact myself or Jonathan Gold, NRF's vice president of supply chain and customs policy.

Sincerely,

David French Executive Vice President Government Relations