

## Dawn Huntley

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**From:** JW <jtbeen@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 3:27 PM  
**To:** House Innovation, Internet and Technology Committee  
**Cc:** stephen70@cox.net  
**Subject:** In favor of H5148, the RI Broadband Development Program

My name is Jean Williams. I'm writing in favor of H5148, the RI Broadband Development Program, for all reasons listed in the Legislative Findings. I reside in Wakefield RI. I've educated myself on the subject of pulsed radiofrequency/microwave radiation emitted from wireless devices, and am convinced that fiber-optics to the premises is the safest, fastest, and most reliable and privacy-secure means of providing Internet access throughout RI.

I want to point out one observation related to point [3] in the Legislative Findings:

*[3] Telecommunications industry has been using fiber-optic cable for the past forty 40 years.*

*Any effective fifth generation (5G) wireless network requires a fiber-optic backbone.*

While this statement is not technically inaccurate, it offers a loophole to continue rollout across RI of "small cell" antennas for 5G and the Internet of Things. With fiber to the premises (FTTP), each home and business would be connected to the Internet with the full benefits of access, and none of the harms of the wireless systems.

Reasons FTTP (Fiber-optics to the premises) is superior to wireless.

- FTTP runs directly to the home or business and allows data rates up to 1,000 times faster than wireless.
- FTTP allows for more secure and private transmission (as wireless communications can be hacked or surveilled).
- FTTP emits no harmful pulsed radiofrequency/microwave radiation.
- FTTP is more resilient - continues to work in case of a power emergency (wireless won't run without power for the "small cell" transmitters and towers).
- FTTP is capable of transmitting tremendous amounts of data.
- FTTP is infinitely upgradable for up to 40-50 years. As end-point electronics improves, it can be swapped out to increase the data rate transmitted over the fiber-optic cable.
- FTTP is not an energy guzzler, as is wireless.

Increasingly, people are becoming sensitive to effects of radiofrequency/microwave radiation, which can be debilitating and even lead to death. It's important that fiber optics carriers, like Verizon in RI, do not project Wi-Fi into streets. This is often done from a basement utility box routinely set up to accommodate security systems, even when no security system is in operation. Coaxial cable connections, usually done by Cox Communications, can be easier to set up for people already aware they're electro-sensitive, because (1) there's no box from which to deactivate security system-ready Wi-Fi (in addition to a Wi-Fi modem), and because (2) corded landline phones may be easier to install with a coaxial setup. From a non-Wi-Fi modem or a modem with Wi-Fi disabled, an ethernet router may be used to connect corded devices without using radiofrequency/microwave radiation. Our Public Utilities Commission must make opting out of "smart" electrical, gas, and water meters easier and cost-free, as these meters emit pulsed radiation 24/7.

Summarized below are harms to both human health/security and environmental health, from 5G wireless and the Internet of Things enabled by 5G:

- Health: The robust and growing independent science shows harms to our health from microwave radiation.
- Privacy: The invasion of our privacy from the collection and mining of our digital data.
- Cyber Security: The fast growing and devastating cyber security risks
- Environment: The harms to wildlife, particularly bees, butterflies, and other pollinators.
- Energy: The huge energy consumption to produce and power a wireless Internet of Things.
- Brains and Humanity: The effects on our brains and humanity from connecting virtually every "thing" to the Internet.
- E-waste: The astronomical e-waste that will be generated from connecting virtually every "thing" to the internet.

- Conflict Minerals: 5G and the IoT will vastly grow our dependence on conflict minerals, which have brought about the death of close to 6 million people.
- Ethics: Ethical issues arising from the IoT. New human rights laws are being considered: How should humans relate to robots and AI? The blurring of what was once a clear definition between technology and humans.

“Concern for man himself and his fate must always form the chief interest of all technical endeavors...in order that the creations of our minds shall be a blessing and not a curse to mankind.” – Albert Einstein, California Institute of Technology, Feb 16, 1931

<https://whatis5g.info/?fbclid=IwAR1k4RjBrdc7mGkTeegvUSXliDBpfVc6eHMfTsdTI3OP4udkT6tN3eetITE>

For more information on 5G and why it's the wrong direction for Rhode Islanders, please see our website 5GFreeRI.com.

I hope and expect this important bill to pass out of committee and be passed in the General Assembly. Please keep in mind the benefits of fiber to the premises, and abandon the notion that 5G wireless is the only or best means to provide safe, reliable, and affordable Internet access for Rhode Islanders.

Rather than creating “Smart” cities, we have responsibility to apply human wisdom and foresight to protect our residents and the natural environment on which we in the Ocean State al depend.

Thanks for your serious consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,  
JL Williams