

Opposition to House Bill 6151, “Wireless Telecommunications Act”

Stephen Dahl, Kingston, RI 02881

Madame Chair and Members of the Committee, my name is Stephen Dahl, of Kingston, RI 02881.

I am here to voice my **strong opposition** to House Bill 6151, which says it will “regulate wireless service for zoning and public safety,” but in fact, the bill **completely fails to protect the public.**

Enactment of this bill will affect my health adversely because I have a disability caused by wireless radiation.

A stay-at-home dad, I worked 20 hours a week at the Peace Dale Library’s Circulation Desk from December 2015 to May 2016.

I enjoyed the work, until I began to get health problems. Insomnia, Brain fog, Dyslexia, Memory loss, Anxiety, heart palpitations, stomach cramps, flushing, inflammation, eye pressure, headaches, and irritability.

I finally realized that my workstation was 10 feet from the whole-library Wi-Fi transmitter.

We did not have Wi-Fi at home, however, so I was able to tell the difference. I had replaced Wi-Fi with hardwired ethernet connections because The American Academy of Pediatrics had implored the Federal Communications Commission to update its inadequate 1996 radiofrequency radiation standards, which it still refuses to do.

This bill does not allow any regulation of wireless radio frequency radiation. Page 4 of this bill, in the public safety chapter, says: “For the purposes of this chapter, public safety shall not include requirements relating to radio frequency emissions of wireless facilities.”

This negligence comes at the price of health. Radiofrequency radiation has been proven to cause “clear evidence of cancer” and DNA damage by our nation’s gold-standard lab, the National Toxicology Program. That cellphone study is one of thousands of peer-reviewed medical studies showing biological harm from radiofrequency radiation which you can read about at the Environmental Health Trust website. Another great database is by Cece Doucette, called Understanding EMFs: <https://sites.google.com/site/understandingemfs/>

Instead of protecting the public, this bill upholds a corrupt federal law, the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which attempts to prohibit the mention of health in objections to siting towers and in doing so violates civil and human rights. It is currently being challenged in court. The Rhode Island Constitution demands we protect the public from harm. You need an attorney who understands wireless legislation to help re-write the bill, one who does not have a conflict-of-interest such as having worked for Verizon, Cox, National Grid, or PPL. Since the Public Utilities Commission already has members with vested interests, they are not a good choice for protecting our rights.

Rewrite this bill to protect all Rhode Islanders from the proven harm of radiofrequency radiation. It **is** possible.

Stephen Dahl

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