

To: RI House Innovation, Internet and Technology Committee

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Re: OPPOSE RI H6151 Wireless Telecommunications Act

From: Jean Williams <jtbeen@yahoo.com>

Date: April 12, 2021

My name is Jean Williams. I'm writing to oppose H6151, the RI Wireless Telecommunications Act.

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 public health and safety are not protected, and are in fact undermined by H6151.

This bill bolsters the corrupt Telecommunications Act of 1996. **On page 4 of the bill, in the chapter discussing public safety, it says: "For the purposes of this chapter, public safety shall not include requirements relating to radio frequency emissions of wireless facilities."** This bill replaces the RI Small Cell Siting Act and, instead of improving on it, makes it easier for a telecom to disregard health!

House Bill 6151 claims to "Authorize municipalities to regulate wireless service for zoning and public safety" but actually does nothing of the kind. We need a repeal of 2017 RI Small Cell Siting Act, but H6151 is not it. It will make things worse for Rhode Islanders by removing public safety protections involving radio frequency emissions from wireless facilities. H6151 may be the most important piece of legislation I'll see in RI in my lifetime, and it needs to be stopped.

Increasingly, people are becoming sensitive to effects of radiofrequency/microwave radiation, which can debilitate and even lead to death. It's important that fiber optics carriers, like Verizon in RI, do not project Wi-Fi into streets. 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/> For more on 5G and why it's the wrong direction for Rhode Islanders, please see 5GFreeRI.com.

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 all depend.

Thanks for your serious consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,
JL Williams

