

FACT SHEET

H.R. 1301 – The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015

- In 1985 Congress and the FCC, through PRB-1, required that state and local governments must reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio antennas while still zoning for height, safety and aesthetic concerns.
- In 1996 Congress and the FCC adopted “Over-the-Air Reception Devices” rules prohibiting private land use restrictions of small satellite antennas and TV antennas, establishing FCC jurisdiction in this area.
- For over 30 years Congress has repeatedly acknowledged the “strong Federal interest” in effective Amateur Radio Communications, e.g. Public Law 103-408 of 1994.
- However, today the vast majority of private land use restrictions still prohibit exterior radio antennas of any type
- The number of residents covered by private land use restrictions in the U.S. is growing exponentially...from 2.1 million in 1970 to 65 million in 2014. It is virtually impossible to buy a home in a District 6 subdivision built within the last 30 years that allows exterior radio antennas.
- H.R. 1301 extends the existing provisions of Federal law and FCC rules regarding Amateur Radio antennas to include private land use restrictions including homeowners’ association regulations and restrictive covenants.
- H.R. 1301 provides a basis for Radio Amateurs to negotiate reasonable accommodations for at least minimal radio antennas with their homeowners’ associations.
- H.R. 1301 does not strip homeowners’ associations of their right to regulate antennas in relation to height, safety or aesthetic concerns.
- H.R. 1301 does provide parity between state, local and private land rules regarding reasonable accommodation of Amateur Radio antennas.
- H.R. 1301 does provide for the continuing ability of Amateur Radio operators to offer ongoing and effective public service and emergency communications throughout District 6, Georgia and the United States.