

September 11, 2015

Rep. -----
----- Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative ----- ,

I am writing this letter on September 11, 2015, which is an important day in American history. On this tragic day Amateur Radio was called upon to aid in communications. As a federally licensed Amateur Radio operator, and a constituent in your state, I need your help in making sure Amateur Radio operators are able to provide assistance when called upon.

There are nearly three-quarters of a million Amateur Radio licensees of the Federal Communications Commission in the United States. We provide communications support for, and participate in public service events on behalf of our communities. During and in the aftermath of disasters and emergencies, when other forms of communications are unavailable, we provide communications for first responders and Federal, state and local governmental agencies and non-governmental agencies, including the Red Cross and Salvation Army; for the United States Military through the Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS); and to our neighbors when communications systems are overloaded or fail. Radio Amateurs contribute to the future of telecommunications as we participate in the development of innovative technology in this digital age. Amateur Radio is non-commercial, and we provide our services at no charge to anyone.

We cannot do any of these things, however, unless we can erect an outdoor antenna at our residences. Recently, a bi-partisan Bill, H.R. 1301 - "The Amateur Radio Parity Act", was introduced by Congressman Adam Kinzinger (IL-16) with Congressman Joe Courtney (CT-02) and eleven additional original co-sponsors. HR 1301 directs the FCC to extend their existing PRB-1 regulations of "reasonable accommodation" of Amateur Radio communications to include private land use regulators. This would afford us the ability to negotiate with homeowner's associations in residential developments. Private land use regulations routinely include restrictions that completely preclude Amateur Radio communications operators from installing any type of outdoor antenna system. The "reasonable accommodation" policy has for 30 years applied to municipal zoning ordinances. This Bill would extend the policy to operators living under private land use restrictions. The FCC has asked Congress for guidance in this area and this Bill provides it.

As your constituent, I am asking that you support the bill by signing-on as a cosponsor. Please contact Rep. Kinzinger's office to do so. If you have any questions, please contact ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio, attention Dan Henderson, at 860.594.0236. Thank you.

Sincerely,

LICENSEE NAME & CALL
LICENSEE ADDRESS

September 11, 2015

Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)
302 Hart Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Klobuchar,

I am writing this letter on September 11, 2015, which is an important day in American history. On this tragic day Amateur Radio was called upon to aid in communications. As a federally licensed Amateur Radio operator, and a constituent in your state, I need your help in making sure Amateur Radio operators are able to provide assistance when called upon.

There are nearly three-quarters of a million Amateur Radio licensees of the Federal Communications Commission in the United States. We provide communications support for, and participate in public service events on behalf of our communities. During and in the aftermath of disasters and emergencies, when other forms of communications are unavailable, we provide communications for first responders and Federal, state and local governmental agencies and non-governmental agencies, including the Red Cross and Salvation Army; for the United States Military through the Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS); and to our neighbors when communications systems are overloaded or fail. Radio Amateurs contribute to the future of telecommunications as we participate in the development of innovative technology in this digital age. Amateur Radio is non-commercial, and we provide our services at no charge to anyone.

We cannot do any of these things, however, unless we can erect an outdoor antenna at our residences. Recently, a bi-partisan Bill, S 1685 - "The Amateur Radio Parity Act", was introduced by Senator Wicker (MS) and co-sponsored by Senator Blumenthal (CT). S 1685 directs the FCC to extend their existing PRB-1 regulations of "reasonable accommodation" of Amateur Radio communications to include private land use regulators. This would afford us the ability to negotiate with homeowner's associations in residential developments. Private land use regulations routinely include restrictions that completely preclude Amateur Radio communications operators from installing any type of outdoor antenna system. The "reasonable accommodation" policy has for almost 30 years applied to municipal zoning ordinances. This Bill would extend the policy to operators living under private land use restrictions. The FCC has asked Congress for guidance in this area and this Bill provides it.

As your constituent, I am asking that you support the bill by signing-on as a cosponsor. Please contact Senator Wicker's office to do so. If you have any questions, please contact ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio, attention Dan Henderson, at 860.594.0236. Thank you.

Sincerely,

<your signature>

<your name>

<your address>