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February 9, 2025

Senator Rick Scott

110 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington DC 20510

Senator Scott,

I am writing to you today about the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act of 2025 (H.R. 1094 and S. 459).

When Hurricane Helene affected North Carolina and took out much of the infrastructure, trained amateur radio operators, using their own gear, stepped up and provided emergency communications to those in the affected areas. These communications help coordinate search, rescue, and supplies to those in need.

When disaster strikes, amateur radio operators provide vital, often life-saving information, which shouldn’t be hindered by prohibitive rules or confusing approval processes. The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act eliminates obstacles for ham radio enthusiasts, allowing them to continue their communications and serve their communities in the face of emergencies.

In 2023, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed into law House Bill 919, known as the "Homeowners' Associations Bill of Rights.” These necessary changes were very much welcomed, but didn’t go far enough to provide those of us amateur radio operators who volunteer, reasonable accommodations for amateur radio antennas.

When HOAs think of amateur radio antennas, they think of large towers and huge antennas. This isn’t what we are asking for. Amateur radio operators who volunteer ask for just the ability to install “reasonable” antennas that do not detract from the beauty of our homes, or those nearby.

U.S. Senators Roger Wicker, R-Miss., and Richard Blumenthal, D- Conn., and Representatives August Pfluger, R-Tex., and Joe Courtney, D-Conn. announced their joint re-introduction of legislation in the Senate and House to restore the right to Amateur Radio operators to install the antennas necessary to serve their communities.

Homeowner association rules often prevent Amateur Radio operators from installing antennas at their homes even though Amateur Radio has proven to be essential in emergencies and natural disasters such as hurricanes when other means of communication fail.

Without taking up any more of your time, I’m asking that you please take a look at the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act of 2025 (H.R. 1094 and S. 459) would require homeowner associations to accommodate the needs of FCC-licensed Amateur Radio operators by prohibiting the enforcement of private land use restrictions that ban, prevent, or require the approval of the installation or use of Amateur Radio station antennas.

In our new administrative era of common sense, I am writing you today to ask for your support of this bill. We have many volunteers in Florida who just ask for the ability to use their communications equipment to assist when Floridians need them the most.

Thank you for your support and the fine work you are doing.

Respectfully Yours,

Your name here

Your city here, Florida