

The Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Corporation

The Honorable Mr. Jim Himes
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: H.R. 1094

Dear Mr. Himes

The Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Corporation, headquartered in Norwalk, CT represents licensed Amateur Radio operators.

We strongly support, and we write to ask you to support and co-sponsor [H.R. 1094— legislation that is vital to the survival of Amateur Radio. Amateur Radio faces an existential threat as 80% of all new housing developments carry private land use restrictions that prohibit all Amateur Radio antennas, including many that are indistinguishable from satellite and broadcast antennas that are permitted by federal law as a matter of right.

[H.R. 1094 would provide Radio Amateurs the freedom to operate their stations from their homes, a right effectively denied by private land use restrictions. The bill would accomplish this by extending the same federal protections to Amateur Radio operators as those currently enjoyed by homeowners who install TV antennas, satellite TV dishes, wireless internet antennas, and free-standing flagpoles.

Amateur Radio operators have a 111+ year history of volunteer support to local governments, state governments and Federal agencies when communications and related expertise is needed in times of disasters and other emergencies. Amateur Radio also has, and continues to, serve as a gateway for the youth of America to enter the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math. It has been the foundation for the careers of a significant number of the leaders in American communications and technology. As an example, the first private satellite launched into space, Oscar 1, was designed and launched by Amateur Radio operators. Today almost every astronaut on the International Space Station (ISS) is licensed as an Amateur Radio operator. When in space they use some of their free time to talk with students across the world using Amateur Radios installed on the ISS to interest them in space, technology, and related fields.

We request your support for, and co-sponsorship of, [H.R. 1094 to eliminate the threat to Amateur Radio. We would be honored to meet with you within the District to discuss our concerns or to have our representatives meet with you in Washington.

Sincerely,

Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Corporation
Hugo W. Catta – President
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