

By the Committee on Community Affairs; and Senator Hooper

578-02372-21

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to fire prevention and control;
3 amending s. 633.202, F.S.; authorizing the use of
4 radio communication enhancement systems to comply with
5 minimum radio signal strength requirements;
6 prohibiting the authority having jurisdiction from
7 requiring certain radio communication enhancement
8 systems in apartments or buildings of a certain
9 height; revising the transitory period for compliance;
10 revising the date by which existing apartment
11 buildings that are not in compliance must initiate an
12 application for an appropriate permit; amending s.
13 843.16, F.S.; providing an exception to the
14 prohibition against installing or transporting certain
15 radio equipment using law enforcement or fire rescue
16 frequencies; providing an effective date.

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18 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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20 Section 1. Subsection (18) of section 633.202, Florida
21 Statutes, is amended to read:

22 633.202 Florida Fire Prevention Code.—

23 (18) The authority having jurisdiction shall determine the
24 minimum radio signal strength for fire department communications
25 in all new high-rise and existing high-rise buildings. Two-way
26 radio communication enhancement systems may be used to comply
27 with minimum radio signal strength requirements. However, two-
28 way radio communication enhancement systems and similar systems
29 may not be required in apartments or buildings that are four

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30 stories or less in height. Existing buildings are not required
31 to comply with minimum radio strength for fire department
32 communications and two-way radio system enhancement
33 communications as required by the Florida Fire Prevention Code
34 until January 1, 2027 ~~2022~~. However, by December 31, 2024 ~~2019~~,
35 an existing building that is not in compliance with the
36 requirements for minimum radio strength for fire department
37 communications must apply for an appropriate permit for the
38 required installation with the local government agency having
39 jurisdiction and must demonstrate that the building will become
40 compliant by January 1, 2027 ~~2022~~. Existing apartment buildings
41 are not required to comply until January 1, 2030 ~~2025~~. However,
42 existing apartment buildings are required to apply for the
43 appropriate permit for the required communications installation
44 by December 31, 2027 ~~2022~~.

45 Section 2. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (3) of
46 section 843.16, Florida Statutes, to read:

47 843.16 Unlawful to install or transport radio equipment
48 using assigned frequency of state or law enforcement officers;
49 definitions; exceptions; penalties.—

50 (3) This section does not apply to the following:

51 (f) The installation of a two-way radio communication
52 enhancement system to comply with the requirements of s.
53 633.202(18).

54 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.