

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to fire department communications;
 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 or similar systems in apartments or buildings
 9 of a certain height; revising the transitory period
 10 for compliance; revising the date by which existing
 11 apartment buildings that are not in compliance must
 12 initiate an application for an appropriate permit;
 13 amending s. 843.16, F.S.; providing an exception to
 14 the prohibition against installing or transporting
 15 certain radio equipment using law enforcement or fire
 16 rescue 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 | shall not be required in apartments or buildings that are four
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, 2025 ~~2022~~. However, by January 1, 2024 ~~December~~
35 | ~~31, 2019~~, an existing building that is not in compliance with
36 | the 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, 2025 ~~2022~~. Existing apartment buildings
41 | are not required to comply until January 1, 2025. However,
42 | existing apartment buildings are required to apply for the
43 | appropriate permit for the required communications installation
44 | by January 1, 2024 ~~December 31, 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:

CS/CS/HB 415

2021

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.