

Testimony of Bart Aronoff requesting modifications to HB58

Chairman Herkes and members of the Committee, my name is Bart Aronoff and I am interested in this bill because I am a condominium owner, a member of the board of our association, and a licensed amateur radio operator who actively volunteers for public service communications support with the City Department of Emergency Management (RACES), the Red Cross, and the Healthcare Association. However, I am testifying as an individual, not representing any organization.

Despite prolonged effort I have been unable to understand the language in proposed subsection (c) (1), page 3 lines 11-15 (as well as p.9 line 21-- p.10 line 4), specifically,

*...the authority to permit owners to install antennas for amateur radios in their apartments or their limited common element without the consent of the owner or owners of the apartment or apartments for the use of which the limited common element is reserved;*

As written it seem to indicate that a board has authority to permit (or deny permission) to an owner to install antennas in the owner's apartment, without the consent of the owner (or is it other owners?). Is this intended to apply to limited common elements reserved for the use of more than one unit?

I respectfully request that the language of the bill be modified to clarify the confusing language and to clarify that a board or association does not have authority to permit or deny the installation of an amateur radio antenna within an owner's apartment in conformity with federal law and regulations.

To truly serve the public interest, however, in supporting preparedness for emergencies and disasters, when amateur radio may be a critical or sole means of communication to serve public safety and welfare, **the bill should be amended to provide that every association must reasonably accommodate installation of amateur radio antennas in conformity with federal law and reasonable aesthetic considerations.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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