

For Immediate Release
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H.R. 4006 Can Enable Residents living in an HOA to Benefit from the Availability of Life-Saving Emergency Communications

Fort Myers, Florida 4/3/2024 – H.R. 4006 aims to provide equivalent protections to modest Amateur Radio Antennas, similar to those enjoyed by other Over-the-Air Reception Devices. Sponsored by Ohio Representative Bill Johnson, the "Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act" seeks to address restrictions imposed by HOAs on amateur radio station antennas.

At its core, the bill endeavors to alleviate the constraints imposed on amateur radio operators, recognizing their indispensable role in post-disaster communications. When conventional channels falter in the wake of calamity, amateur radio emerges as a stalwart, ensuring connectivity when all else fails.

Contrary to misconceptions, the bill does not advocate for towering structures reminiscent of science fiction fantasies. Instead, its focus lies on facilitating the installation of modest antennas essential for effective radio communication during emergencies.

Moreover, the notion that amateur radio transmissions impede other electronic devices lacks substantiation. Licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), amateur radio operators possess the expertise to mitigate radio frequency interference, fostering collaborative efforts within communities to address any potential disruptions.

Enactment of H.R. 4006 heralds a boon for communities nationwide, underscoring the invaluable contributions of amateur radio operators in bolstering emergency preparedness. Fire departments and emergency managers alike recognize the pivotal role played by these volunteers, who selflessly dedicate their time, skills, and resources towards safeguarding communities without burdening taxpayers.

As the bill progresses, it promises to usher in a new era of collaboration and resilience, empowering amateur radio operators to continue their indispensable service in times of crisis.

Established in 1957, the Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc. has been dedicated to fostering camaraderie among individuals with a shared passion for Amateur Radio. With a commitment to facilitating the exchange of information, promoting electronics and amateur radio knowledge, advocating for good radio operating practices, and advancing the art of Amateur Radio, the club strives to create a vibrant community. Additionally, the club actively sponsors and promotes

various activities related to amateur radio, provides crucial public service during emergencies, and actively engages in other community initiatives. FMARC is affiliated with and sponsored by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), which is the national association for amateur radio, connecting hams around the U.S. with news, information, and resources. The club meets at 7 pm on the last Tuesday of the month at the Lee County Emergency Operations Center. Learn more about ham radio and the club at www.fmarc.net.

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