

The Honorable Representative Jane Harman
United States House of Representatives
2400 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Fax: 202 226 7290

Dear Representative Harman,

I understand our Washington, D.C. ARRL representative met with your staff regarding the introduction of antenna legislation. On behalf of nearly 90,649 federally licensed amateur radio operators living in California, **I respectfully request that you introduce legislation to permit the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), through regulations, to propose a consistent antenna preemption policy, based on previously passed public law.** Permitting reasonable placement of amateur radio antennas helps our communities, states and nation maintain dependable communication networks, which is vital for our homeland security.

Organized amateur radio operators, frequently provide emergency communication support when regular channels are disrupted by disaster. Such communication occurs relying solely using radios, battery backs and antennas. Unfortunately, restrictive covenants oftentimes used by homeowner's associations to prevent property owners from installing antennas are challenging radio operators' ability to communicate. With the growth of developed communities, amateur radio operators have begun to fall under an array of inconsistent regulations and state laws. Security for our neighborhoods, local communities, states and nation should be a national goal, and consistent regulation of antenna placement will help further this.

The proposed legislation is based on a provision in the 1996 Telecommunications Act, which prohibits restrictions that impair the installation, maintenance or use of antennas to receive video programming. While allowing for the placement of satellite antennas to improve consumer choice is important, antenna placement for ham radio operators to communicate, especially in times of emergency, is equally important.

We would be grateful if you could sponsor this important legislation. Please contact our Washington representative, Samantha DeBee (samantha.debee@chwato.com) should you need additional information.

Thank you for your consideration.