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2 An act relating to unauthorized transmissions
3 on telecommunications frequencies; amending s.
4 843.165, F.S.; prohibiting an unauthorized
5 person from transmitting over a radio frequency
6 assigned to a governmental agency or an
7 emergency medical services provider; providing
8 penalties; providing exceptions; providing an
9 effective date.

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

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13 Section 1. Section 843.165, Florida Statutes, is
14 amended to read:15 843.165 Unauthorized transmissions and interference to
16 governmental and associated ~~on police or fire~~ radio
17 frequencies prohibited; penalties; exceptions.--18 (1) A ~~No~~ person may not ~~shall~~ transmit, or cause to be
19 transmitted, over any radio frequency with knowledge that such
20 frequency is assigned by the Federal Communications Commission
21 to a state, county, or municipal governmental ~~fire or police~~
22 agency or water management district, including, but not
23 limited to, a law enforcement, fire, government
24 administration, or emergency management agency or any public
25 or private emergency medical services provider, any sounds,
26 jamming device, jamming transmissions, ~~or~~ speech, or radio
27 frequency carrier wave except: those persons who are ~~unless~~
28 authorized in writing to do so by the agency's chief
29 administrator; employees of the agency who are authorized to
30 transmit by virtue of their duties with the agency; and those
31 persons holding a valid station license assigned by the

1 Federal Communications Commission to transmit on such
2 frequencies head of such agency.

3 (2) A person may not knowingly obstruct, jam, or
4 interfere with radio transmissions made by volunteer
5 communications personnel of any state, county, or municipal
6 governmental agency, water management district, volunteers of
7 any public or private emergency medical services provider, or
8 volunteers in any established Skywarn program when the
9 volunteers are providing communications support upon request
10 of the governmental agency during tests, drills, field
11 operations, or emergency events.

12 (3)~~(2)~~ Any person who violates this section commits
13 ~~subsection (1) is guilty of~~ a misdemeanor of the first degree,
14 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

15 (4)~~(3)~~ It is lawful ~~not unlawful~~ for any person to
16 transmit, or cause to be transmitted, speech or sounds over
17 any authorized transmitter operating on assigned to police or
18 ~~fire~~ frequencies specified in subsection (1) when the person:

19 (a) ~~Such person~~ Has been commanded to do so by an
20 authorized operator of the transmitter; ~~or~~

21 (b) ~~Such person~~ Is acting to summon assistance for the
22 authorized operator who, for any reason, is unable to make the
23 transmission; ~~or~~

24 (c) Is a radio technician or installer who is testing,
25 repairing, or installing radio equipment at the request of a
26 state, county, or municipal governmental agency, water
27 management district or licensed public or private emergency
28 medical services provider.

29 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.
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