House



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate Comm: RCS 04/19/2017

The Committee on Rules (Hutson) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 337.401, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

337.401 Use of right-of-way for utilities subject to regulation; permit; fees.-

10 (1) (a) The department and local governmental entities, 11 referred to in this section and in ss. 337.402, 337.403, and

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12 337.404 as the "authority," that have jurisdiction and control 13 of public roads or publicly owned rail corridors are authorized 14 to prescribe and enforce reasonable rules or regulations with 15 reference to the placing and maintaining across, on, or within the right-of-way limits of any road or publicly owned rail 16 17 corridors under their respective jurisdictions any electric transmission, voice telephone, telegraph, data, or other 18 19 communications services lines or wireless facilities; pole 20 lines; poles; railways; ditches; sewers; water, heat, or gas 21 mains; pipelines; fences; gasoline tanks and pumps; or other 22 structures referred to in this section and in ss. 337.402, 23 337.403, and 337.404 as the "utility." The department may enter 24 into a permit-delegation agreement with a governmental entity if 25 issuance of a permit is based on requirements that the 26 department finds will ensure the safety and integrity of 27 facilities of the Department of Transportation; however, the 28 permit-delegation agreement does not apply to facilities of electric utilities as defined in s. 366.02(2). 29 30

(7)(a) This subsection may be cited as the "Advanced Wireless Infrastructure Deployment Act."

(b) As used in this subsection, the term:

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38 recognized national code organization or local amendments to

electrical, plumbing, or mechanical codes adopted by a

39 those codes enacted solely to address threats of destruction of

or receives electromagnetic radio frequency signals used in

2. "Applicable codes" means uniform building, fire,

40 property or injury to persons, or local codes or ordinances

1. "Antenna" means communications equipment that transmits

providing wireless services.

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41	adopted to implement this subsection. The term includes
42	objective design standards adopted by ordinance which may
43	require that a new utility pole replacing an existing utility
44	pole be of substantially similar design, material, and color, or
45	that ground-mounted equipment meet reasonable spacing
46	requirements. The term includes objective design standards
47	adopted by ordinance which may require a small wireless facility
48	to meet reasonable location context, color, stealth, and
49	concealment requirements; however, the authority may waive the
50	design standards upon a showing that the design standards are
51	not reasonably compatible for the particular location of a small
52	wireless facility or that the design standards impose an
53	excessive expense. The waiver must be granted or denied within
54	45 days after the date of the waiver request or it is deemed
55	granted.
56	3. "Applicant" means a person who submits an application
57	and is a wireless provider.
58	4. "Application" means a request submitted by an applicant
59	to an authority for a permit to collocate small wireless
60	facilities.
61	5. "Authority" means a county or municipality having
62	jurisdiction and control of the rights-of-way of any public
63	roads. The term does not include the Florida Department of
64	Transportation. The Florida Department of Transportation rights-
65	of-way are excluded from this subsection.
66	6. "Authority utility pole" means a utility pole owned by
67	an authority in the right-of-way. The term does not include a
68	utility pole owned by a municipal electric utility or any
69	utility pole used to support municipally owned or operated

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70	electric distribution facilities, or a utility pole located in
71	the right-of-way within:
72	a. A retirement community that:
73	(I) Is deed-restricted as housing for older persons as
74	defined in s. 760.29(4)(b);
75	(II) Has more than 5,000 residents; and
76	(III) Has underground utilities for electric transmission
77	or distribution.
78	b. A municipality that:
79	(I) Is located on a coastal barrier island as defined in s.
80	<u>161.053(1)(b)(3);</u>
81	(II) Has a land area of less than 5 square miles;
82	(III) Has fewer than 10,000 residents; and
83	(IV) Which has, before the adoption of this act, received
84	referendum approval to issue debt to finance municipality-wide
85	underground utilities for electric transmission or distribution.
86	7. "Collocate" or "collocation" means to install, mount,
87	maintain, modify, operate, or replace one or more wireless
88	facilities on, under, within, or adjacent to a wireless support
89	structure or utility pole. The term does not include the
90	installation of a utility pole or wireless support structure in
91	the public rights-of-way.
92	8. "FCC" means the Federal Communications Commission.
93	9. "Micro wireless facility" means a small wireless
94	facility having dimensions no larger than 24 inches in length,
95	15 inches in width, and 12 inches in height and an exterior
96	antenna, if any, no longer than 11 inches.
97	10. "Small wireless facility" means a wireless facility
98	that meets the following qualifications:

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99	a. Each antenna associated with the facility is located
100	inside an enclosure of no more than 6 cubic feet in volume or,
101	in the case of antennas that have exposed elements, each antenna
102	and all of its exposed elements could fit within an enclosure of
103	no more than 6 cubic feet in volume; and
104	b. All other wireless equipment associated with the
105	facility is cumulatively no more than 28 cubic feet in volume.
106	The following types of associated ancillary equipment are not
107	included in the calculation of equipment volume: electric
108	meters, concealment elements, telecommunications demarcation
109	boxes, ground-based enclosures, grounding equipment, power
110	transfer switches, cutoff switches, vertical cable runs for the
111	connection of power and other services, and utility poles or
112	other support structures.
113	11. "Utility pole" means a pole or similar structure used
114	in whole or in part to provide communications services or for
115	electric distribution, lighting, traffic control, signage, or a
116	similar function. The term includes the vertical support
117	structure for traffic lights, but does not include any
118	horizontal structures upon which are attached signal lights or
119	other traffic control devices and does not include any pole or
120	similar structure 15 feet in height or less unless an authority
121	grants a waiver for the pole.
122	12. "Wireless facility" means equipment at a fixed location
123	which enables wireless communications between user equipment and
124	a communications network, including radio transceivers,
125	antennas, wires, coaxial or fiber-optic cable or other cables,
126	regular and backup power supplies, and comparable equipment,
127	regardless of technological configuration, and equipment

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128	associated with wireless communications. The term includes small
129	wireless facilities. The term does not include:
130	a. The structure or improvements on, under, within, or
131	adjacent to the structure on which the equipment is collocated;
132	b. Wireline backhaul facilities; or
133	c. Coaxial or fiber-optic cable that is between wireless
134	structures or utility poles or that is otherwise not immediately
135	adjacent to or directly associated with a particular antenna.
136	13. "Wireless infrastructure provider" means a person who
137	is certificated to provide telecommunications service in the
138	state and who builds or installs wireless communication
139	transmission equipment, wireless facilities, or wireless support
140	structures, but is not a wireless services provider.
141	14. "Wireless provider" means a wireless infrastructure
142	provider or a wireless services provider.
143	15. "Wireless services" means any services provided using
144	licensed or unlicensed spectrum, whether at a fixed location or
145	mobile, using wireless facilities.
146	16. "Wireless services provider" means a person who
147	provides wireless services.
148	17. "Wireless support structure" means a freestanding
149	structure, such as a monopole, a guyed or self-supporting tower
150	or another existing or proposed structure designed to support or
151	capable of supporting wireless facilities. The term does not
152	include a utility pole.
153	(c) Except as provided in this subsection, an authority may
154	not prohibit, regulate, or charge for the collocation of small
155	wireless facilities in the public rights-of-way.
156	(d) An authority may require a registration process and
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157	permit fees in accordance with subsection (3). An authority
158	shall accept applications for permits and shall process and
159	issue permits subject to the following requirements:
160	1. An authority may not directly or indirectly require an
161	applicant to perform services unrelated to the collocation for
162	which approval is sought, such as in-kind contributions to the
163	authority, including reserving fiber, conduit, or pole space for
164	the authority.
165	2. An applicant may not be required to provide more
166	information to obtain a permit than is necessary to demonstrate
167	the applicant's compliance with applicable codes for the
168	placement of small wireless facilities in the locations
169	identified in the application.
170	3. An authority may not require the placement of small
171	wireless facilities on any specific utility pole or category of
172	poles or require multiple antenna systems on a single utility
173	pole.
174	4. An authority may not limit the placement of small
175	wireless facilities by minimum separation distances; however,
176	within 14 days from the date of filing the application, an
177	authority may request that the proposed location of a small
178	wireless facility be moved to another location in the right-of-
179	way and placed upon an alternative authority utility pole or
180	support structure or placed upon a new utility pole. The
181	authority and applicant may negotiate the alternate location,
182	including any objective design standards, for 30 days from the
183	date of the request. At the conclusion of the negotiation
184	period, if the applicant accepts the alternative location, the
185	applicant must notify the authority and the application shall be
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186	deemed granted for any new location for which there is agreement
187	and all other locations in the application. If no agreement is
188	reached, the applicant must notify the authority and the
189	authority must grant or deny the original application within 90
190	days from the date the application was filed. A request for an
191	alternative location, an acceptance of an alternate location, or
192	any rejection of an alternative location must be in writing and
193	provided by electronic mail.
194	5. An authority may limit the height of a small wireless
195	facility to no more than 10 feet above the utility pole or
196	structure upon which the small wireless facility is to be
197	collocated. Unless waived by an authority, the height for a new
198	utility pole may be limited to the tallest existing utility pole
199	located in the right-of-way, measured from grade in place within
200	500 feet of the proposed location of the small wireless
201	facility. If there is no utility pole within 500 feet, the
202	authority may limit the height of the utility pole to no more
203	than 50 feet.
204	6. Except as provided in subparagraphs 4. and 5., the
205	installation of a utility pole in the public rights-of-way
206	designed to support a small wireless facility is subject to
207	authority rules or regulations governing the placement of
208	utility poles in the public rights-of-way and is subject to the
209	application review timeframes in in this subsection.
210	7. Within 14 days after receiving an application, an
211	authority must determine and notify the applicant by electronic
212	mail as to whether the application is complete. If an
213	application is deemed incomplete, the authority must
214	specifically identify the missing information. An application is

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215	deemed complete if the authority fails to provide notification
216	to the applicant within 14 days or when all documents,
217	information, and fees specifically enumerated in the authority's
218	permit application form are submitted by the applicant to the
219	authority.
220	8. An application must be processed on a nondiscriminatory
221	basis. A complete application is deemed approved if an authority
222	fails to approve or deny the application within 60 days after
223	receipt of the application. If an authority does not use the 30-
224	day negotiation period provided in subparagraph 4., the parties
225	may mutually agree to extend the 60-day application review
226	period. The authority must grant or deny the application at the
227	end of the extended period. A permit issued pursuant to an
228	approved application remains effective for 1 year unless
229	extended by the authority.
230	9. An authority must notify the applicant of approval or
231	denial by electronic mail. An authority must approve a complete
232	application unless it does not meet the authority's applicable
233	codes. If the application is denied, the authority must specify
234	in writing the basis for denial, including the specific code
235	provisions on which the denial was based, and send the
236	documentation to the applicant by electronic mail on the day the
237	authority denies the application. The applicant may cure the
238	deficiencies identified by the authority and resubmit the
239	application within 30 days after notice of the denial is sent to
240	the applicant. The authority must approve or deny the revised
241	application within 30 days after receipt or the application is
242	deemed approved. Any subsequent review shall be limited to the
243	deficiencies cited in the denial.

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244	10. An applicant seeking to collocate small wireless
245	facilities within the jurisdiction of a single authority may, at
246	the applicant's discretion, file a consolidated application and
247	receive a single permit for the collocation of no more than 30
248	small wireless facilities. If the application includes multiple
249	small wireless facilities, an authority may remove small
250	wireless facility collocations from the application and treat
251	separately small wireless facility collocations for which
252	incomplete information has been received or which are denied.
253	11. An authority may deny a proposed collocation of a small
254	wireless facility in the public rights-of-way if the proposed
255	collocation:
256	a. Materially interferes with the safe operation of traffic
257	control equipment.
258	b. Materially interferes with sight lines or clear zones
259	for transportation, pedestrians, or public safety purposes.
260	c. Materially interferes with compliance with the Americans
261	with Disabilities Act or similar federal or state standards
262	regarding pedestrian access or movement.
263	d. Materially fails to comply with the 2010 edition of the
264	Florida Department of Transportation Utility Accommodation
265	Manual.
266	e. Materially fails to comply with applicable codes.
267	12. An authority may adopt by ordinance provisions for
268	registration, permitting, insurance coverage, indemnification,
269	performance bonds, security funds, force majeure, abandonment,
270	authority liability, or authority warranties. Such provisions
271	must be reasonable and nondiscriminatory.
272	13. Collocation of a small wireless facility on an

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273	authority utility pole may not provide the basis for the
274	imposition of an ad valorem tax on the authority utility pole.
275	14. An authority may reserve space on authority utility
276	poles for future public safety uses. However, a reservation of
277	space may not preclude collocation of a small wireless facility.
278	If replacement of the authority utility pole is necessary to
279	accommodate the collocation of the small wireless facility and
280	the future public safety use, the pole replacement is subject to
281	make-ready provisions and the replaced pole shall accommodate
282	the future public safety use.
283	15. Any structure granted a permit and installed pursuant
284	to this subsection must comply with chapter 333 and federal
285	regulations pertaining to airport airspace protections.
286	(e) An authority may not require approval of or impose fees
287	or other charges for:
288	1. Routine maintenance;
289	2. Replacement of existing wireless facilities with
290	wireless facilities that are substantially similar or of the
291	same or smaller size; or
292	3. Installation, placement, maintenance, or replacement of
293	micro wireless facilities suspended on cables strung between
294	existing utility poles in compliance with applicable codes by a
295	communications service provider authorized to occupy the rights-
296	of-way and who is remitting taxes under chapter 202.
297	
298	However, notwithstanding this paragraph, an authority may
299	require a right-of-way permit for work that involves excavation,
300	closing a sidewalk, or closing a vehicular lane.
301	(f) Collocation of small wireless facilities on authority

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302	utility poles is subject to the following requirements:
303	1. An authority may not enter into an exclusive arrangement
304	with any person for the right to attach equipment to authority
305	utility poles.
306	2. The rates and fees for collocations on authority utility
307	poles must be nondiscriminatory, regardless of the services
308	provided by the collocating person.
309	3. The rate to collocate small wireless facilities on
310	authority utility poles may not exceed \$100 per year.
311	4. Agreements between authorities and wireless providers
312	which are in effect on July 1, 2017, and which relate to the
313	collocation of small wireless facilities in the right-of-way,
314	including the collocation of small wireless facilities on
315	authority utility poles, remain in effect, subject to applicable
316	termination provisions. The wireless provider may accept the
317	rates, fees, and terms established under this subsection for
318	small wireless facilities and utility poles that are the subject
319	of an application submitted after the rates, fees, and terms
320	become effective.
321	5. A person owning or controlling an authority utility pole
322	shall offer rates, fees, and other terms that comply with this
323	subsection. By the later of January 1, 2018, or 3 months after
324	receiving a request to collocate its first small wireless
325	facility on a utility pole owned or controlled by an authority,
326	the person owning or controlling the authority utility pole
327	shall make available, through ordinance or otherwise, rates,
328	fees, and terms for the collocation of small wireless facilities
329	on the authority utility pole which comply with this subsection.
330	a. The rates, fees, and terms must be nondiscriminatory,

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331	competitively neutral, and must comply with this subsection.
332	b. For an authority utility pole that supports an aerial
333	facility used to provide communications services or electric
334	service, the parties shall comply with the process for make-
335	ready work under 47 U.S.C. s. 224 and implementing regulations.
336	The good faith estimate of the person owning or controlling the
337	pole for any make-ready work necessary to enable the pole to
338	support the requested collocation must include pole replacement
339	if necessary.
340	c. For an authority utility pole that does not support an
341	aerial facility used to provide communications services or
342	electric service, the authority shall provide a good faith
343	estimate for any make-ready work necessary to enable the pole to
344	support the requested collocation, including necessary pole
345	replacement, within 60 days after receipt of a complete
346	application. Make-ready work, including any pole replacement,
347	must be completed within 60 days after written acceptance of the
348	good faith estimate by the applicant. Alternatively, an
349	authority may require the applicant seeking to collocate a small
350	wireless facility to provide a make-ready estimate at the
351	applicant's expense for the work necessary to support the small
352	wireless facility, including pole replacement, and to perform
353	the make-ready work. If pole replacement is required, the scope
354	of the make-ready estimate is limited to the design,
355	fabrication, and installation of a utility pole that is
356	substantially similar in color and composition. The authority
357	may not impose conditions on or restrict the manner in which the
358	applicant obtains, develops, or provides the estimate or
359	conducts the make-ready work subject to usual construction

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360 restoration standards for work in the right-of-way. The replaced 361 or altered utility pole shall remain the property of the 362 authority. 363 d. An authority may not require more make-ready work than 364 is required to meet applicable codes or industry standards. Fees 365 for make-ready work may not include costs related to preexisting 366 damage or prior noncompliance. Fees for make-ready work, 367 including any pole replacement, may not exceed actual costs or 368 the amount charged to communications service providers other 369 than wireless services providers for similar work and may not 370 include any consultant fee or expense. 371 (g) For any applications filed before the effective dates 372 of ordinances implementing this subsection, an authority may 373 apply current ordinances regulating the placement of 374 communications facilities in the right-of-way, including 375 registration, permitting, insurance coverage, indemnification, 376 performance bonds, security funds, force majeure, abandonment, authority liability, or authority warranties. Permit application 377 378 requirements and small wireless facility placement requirements, 379 including utility pole height limits, which conflict with this 380 subsection shall be waived by the authority. 381 (h) Except as provided in this section or specifically 382 required by state law, an authority may not adopt or enforce any 383 regulation on the placement or operation of communications 384 facilities in the rights-of-way by a provider authorized by 385 state law to operate in the rights-of-way and may not regulate 386 any communications services or impose or collect any tax, fee, 387 or charge not specifically authorized under state law. 388 (i) A wireless provider shall, in relation to a small

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389 wireless facility, utility pole, or wireless support structure in the public rights-of-way, comply with nondiscriminatory 390 391 undergrounding requirements of the authority which prohibit 392 above-ground structures in public rights-of-way. Any such 393 requirements may be waived by the relevant authority. 394 (j) A wireless infrastructure provider may apply to an 395 authority to place utility poles in the public rights-of-way to 396 support the collocation of small wireless facilities. The 397 application must include an attestation that small wireless 398 facilities will be collocated on the utility pole or structure 399 and small wireless facilities will be used by a wireless 400 services provider to provide service within 9 months from the 401 date the application is granted. An authority shall accept and 402 process the application in accordance with subparagraph (7)(d)6. 403 and any applicable codes and other local codes governing the 404 placement of utility poles in the public rights-of-way. 405 (k) This subsection does not limit a local government's 406 authority to enforce historic preservation zoning regulations 407 consistent with the preservation of local zoning authority under 408 47 U.S.C s. 332(c)(7), the requirements for facility 409 modifications under 47 U.S.C. s. 1455(a), or the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the 410 411 regulations adopted to implement these laws. An authority may 412 enforce local codes adopted by ordinance in effect on April 1, 413 2017, which are applicable to a historic area designated by the 414 state or authority and subject to waiver by the authority. 415 (1) This subsection does not authorize a person to 416 collocate or attach wireless facilities, including any antenna, 417 micro wireless facility, or small wireless facility, on a

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418	privately owned utility pole, a utility pole owned by an
419	electric cooperative or a municipal electric utility, a
420	privately owned wireless support structure, or other private
421	property without the consent of the property owner.
422	(m) The approval of the installation, placement,
423	maintenance, or operation of a small wireless facility pursuant
424	to this subsection may not be construed to authorize the
425	provision of any voice, data, or video communications services
426	or the installation, placement, maintenance, or operation of any
427	communications facilities other than small wireless facilities
428	in the right-of-way.
429	(n) This subsection does not affect the provisions of
430	subsection (6) relating to pass-through providers.
431	(o) This subsection does not authorize a person to
432	collocate or attach small wireless facilities or micro wireless
433	facilities on a utility pole unless otherwise permitted by
434	federal law, or to erect a wireless support structure in the
435	right-of-way located within a retirement community that:
436	1. Is deed-restricted as housing for older persons as
437	defined in s. 760.29(4)(b);
438	2. Has more than 5,000 residents; and
439	3. Has underground utilities for electric transmission or
440	distribution.
441	
442	Nothing in this paragraph applies to the installation of micro
443	wireless facilities on any existing and duly authorized aerial
444	communications facilities, provided that once aerial facilities
445	are converted to underground, any such collocation or
446	construction shall be only as provided by the municipality's

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447	underground utilities ordinance.
448	(p) This subsection does not authorize a person to
449	collocate or attach small wireless facilities or micro wireless
450	facilities on a utility pole unless otherwise permitted by
451	federal law, or to erect a wireless support structure in the
452	right-of-way located within a municipality that:
453	1. Is located on a coastal barrier island as defined in s.
454	<u>161.053(1)(b)3.;</u>
455	2. Has a land area of less than 5 square miles;
456	3. Has fewer than 10,000 residents; and
457	4. Which has, before the adoption of this act, received
458	referendum approval to issue debt to finance municipality-wide
459	undergrounding of its utilities for electric transmission or
460	distribution.
461	
462	Nothing in this paragraph applies to the installation of micro
463	wireless facilities on any existing and duly authorized aerial
464	communications facilities, provided that once aerial facilities
465	are converted to underground, any such collocation or
466	construction shall be only as provided by the municipality's
467	underground utilities ordinance.
468	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.
469	
470	======================================
471	And the title is amended as follows:
472	Delete everything before the enacting clause
473	and insert:
474	A bill to be entitled
475	An act relating to utilities; amending s. 337.401,

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476 F.S.; authorizing the Department of Transportation and 477 certain local governmental entities to prescribe and enforce reasonable rules or regulations with reference 478 479 to the placing and maintaining across, on, or within 480 the right-of-way limits of any road or publicly owned 481 rail corridors under their respective jurisdictions 482 any voice or data communications services lines or 483 wireless facilities; providing a short title; defining 484 terms; prohibiting a county or municipality having 485 jurisdiction and control of the rights-of-way of any 486 public road, referred to as the "authority," from 487 prohibiting, regulating, or charging for the 488 collocation of small wireless facilities in public 489 rights-of-way under certain circumstances; authorizing 490 an authority to require a registration process and 491 permit fees only under certain circumstances; 492 requiring an authority to receive and process 493 applications for permits and to issue such permits, 494 subject to specified requirements; prohibiting an 495 authority from requiring approval of or imposing fees 496 or other charges for routine maintenance, the 497 replacement of certain wireless facilities, or the 498 installation, placement, maintenance, or replacement of certain micro wireless facilities; providing an 499 500 exception; providing requirements for the collocation 501 of small wireless facilities on authority utility 502 poles; providing requirements for rates, fees, and 503 other terms related to authority utility poles; 504 authorizing an authority to apply current ordinances

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505 regulating placement of communications facilities in 506 the right-of-way, including registration, permitting, 507 insurance coverage, indemnification, performance 508 bonds, security funds, force majeure, abandonment, 509 authority liability, or authority warranties for 510 certain applications; providing that certain permit application requirements and small wireless facility 511 512 placement requirements shall be waived by the 513 authority; prohibiting an authority from adopting or 514 enforcing any regulation on the placement or operation 515 of certain communications facilities, from regulating 516 any communications services, or from imposing or 517 collecting any tax, fee, or charge not specifically 518 authorized under state law; requiring a wireless 519 provider to comply with certain nondiscriminatory 520 undergrounding requirements of the authority; 521 authorizing the authority to waive any such 522 requirements; authorizing a wireless infrastructure 523 provider to apply to an authority to place utility 524 poles in the public rights-of-way to support the 525 collocation of small wireless facilities; providing 526 requirements for such application; requiring the 527 authority to accept and process the application, subject to certain requirements; providing 528 529 construction; authorizing an authority to enforce 530 local codes adopted by ordinance in effect on a 531 specified date which are applicable to a historic area 532 designated by the state or authority and subject to waiver by the authority; providing an effective date. 533

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