

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to fire department communications;  
3           amending s. 633.202, F.S.; authorizing the use of  
4           radio communication enhancement systems to comply with  
5           minimum radio signal strength requirements;  
6           prohibiting the authority having jurisdiction from  
7           requiring certain radio communication enhancement  
8           systems or similar systems in apartments or buildings  
9           of a certain height; revising the transitory period  
10          for compliance; revising the date by which existing  
11          apartment buildings that are not in compliance must  
12          initiate an application for an appropriate permit;  
13          amending s. 843.16, F.S.; providing an exception to  
14          the prohibition against installing or transporting  
15          certain radio equipment using law enforcement or fire  
16          rescue frequencies; providing an effective date.

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

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20           Section 1. Subsection (18) of section 633.202, Florida  
21   Statutes, is amended to read:

22           633.202 Florida Fire Prevention Code.—

23           (18) The authority having jurisdiction shall determine the  
24   minimum radio signal strength for fire department communications  
25   in all new high-rise and existing high-rise buildings. Two-way

26 | radio communication enhancement systems may be used to comply  
 27 | with minimum radio signal strength requirements. However, two-  
 28 | way radio communication enhancement systems and similar systems  
 29 | shall not be required in apartments or buildings that are four  
 30 | stories or less in height. Existing buildings are not required  
 31 | to comply with minimum radio strength for fire department  
 32 | communications and two-way radio system enhancement  
 33 | communications as required by the Florida Fire Prevention Code  
 34 | until January 1, 2027 ~~2022~~. However, by December 31, 2024 ~~2019~~,  
 35 | an existing building that is not in compliance with the  
 36 | requirements for minimum radio strength for fire department  
 37 | communications must apply for an appropriate permit for the  
 38 | required installation with the local government agency having  
 39 | jurisdiction and must demonstrate that the building will become  
 40 | compliant by January 1, 2027 ~~2022~~. Existing apartment buildings  
 41 | are not required to comply until January 1, 2030 ~~2025~~. However,  
 42 | existing apartment buildings are required to apply for the  
 43 | appropriate permit for the required communications installation  
 44 | by December 31, 2027 ~~2022~~.

45 | Section 2. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (3) of  
 46 | section 843.16, Florida Statutes, to read:

47 | 843.16 Unlawful to install or transport radio equipment  
 48 | using assigned frequency of state or law enforcement officers;  
 49 | definitions; exceptions; penalties.—

50 | (3) This section does not apply to the following:

CS/HB 415

2021

51            (f) The installation of a two-way radio communication  
52 enhancement system to comply with the requirements of s.  
53 633.202(18).

54            Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.