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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Massachusetts Legislators Hear from Citizens Harmed by Wireless Radiation and Public Servants at a Loss to Help Them; Experts Sue the FCC

Mass Legislation Aims to Investigate the Impact of Today's Radiofrequency Radiation on Consumer Protection, Public Health and Technology

On Monday, October 4, citizens, municipal servants and legislators provided public comment to the Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, chaired by Senator Susan Moran and Representative Tackey Chan, on two technology safety bills:

- Resolve S. 186: Forms a commission to investigate the wireless radiation issue as a New Hampshire commission has already done.
- <u>S. 187</u>: Puts point of sale notices in place to especially protect children from the radiation emitted by electronic devices.

## **Citizen Statements**

- Pittsfield resident <u>Courtney Gilardi</u> conveys serious health effects that a close-range Verizon cell tower has had on her family and neighbors to the point where they have had to abandon their homes.
- <u>Ken Gartner</u> from Warren, <u>Dorothy Baker</u> from Northampton and <u>Alison</u>
   <u>McDonough</u> from Cambridge share their experiences with microwave illnesses too.
- <u>Patricia Burke</u> from Millis details utility smart meter harm and the fraud perpetrated by a paid industry expert in National Grid's Worcester Smart Grid Pilot Program.
- Residents from towns across the Commonwealth and the U.S. sent in additional written statements to the committee for public record.

#### **NGO Statements**

 Environmental Health Trust Executive Director Theodora Scarato reports on their recent successful lawsuit against the Federal Communications Commission for ignoring <u>11,000</u> <u>pages of scientific and other evidence of harm</u> and failing to protect children and the

- environment. Says Scarato, "... the scandal is not what is illegal, but what is legal in the United States."
- Massachusetts for Safe Technology Director Cece Doucette gave a live demonstration of these invisible wireless signals with a radiation detection meter and notes, "In our sleeping areas the science indicates we should be at 0.1 microwatts per meter squared of this radiation. I just measured 81,700 from my one cell phone. That's 817,000 times higher than what the science is telling us is a safe level." Doucette also shared the first-in-the-nation investigative commission report by New Hampshire legislators that recommends educating the public on safer technology practices and investing in hardwired technology to and through the premises instead of wireless.
- <u>Last Tree Laws Director Kirstin Beatty</u> raises potential conflicts of interest and states, "I
  am concerned with how politics could influence any commission bill... the technology
  industry is very powerful." She mentions several additional bills coming up for public
  hearing next week (see below).

### **Public Servant Statements**

- State Representative Tricia Farley-Bouvier of Pittsfield also testified, stating, "... specific
  to my neighborhood, we had at the very beginning of COVID a new tower being placed
  just a few hundred feet from my home without notification." She continues, "There's
  significant health issues happening in the neighborhood... as elected officials we have a
  very serious responsibility to ensure we get the answers to what the health effects of
  this are."
- Pittsfield City Councilors <u>Peter White</u> and <u>Anthony Maffuccio</u> have also sent in written statements indicating, "In Pittsfield, residents have reported to us they have been diagnosed with electromagnetic sensitivity after developing symptoms of headaches, nausea, dizziness, insomnia, skin rash, palpitations and tinnitus after a cell tower started transmitting adjacent to their neighborhood."
  - White and Maffuccio ask for support from the legislature, noting, "Other states have implemented protections, and it's time for Massachusetts to ensure safe and sustainable technology, as well. Our municipal leaders and volunteer boards should not have to navigate these issues alone."
- Connecticut State Representatives David Michel and Anne Hughes also sent in testimony. Michel asks, "There is enough peer reviewed science on radiation to raise major concerns and to talk about harm and cancer for any constituent, as there are thousands of peer reviewed studies on RFR/EMR. So why is the FCC and why are the telecoms continuing with disingenuous conversations?"
  - <u>Hughes adds</u>, "We may represent separate legislatures yet we share state borders, and we are facing the same safety and health threats, and I hope we can partner to restore the call to protect our common good and address the lack of accountability to mitigate the harmful impacts of EMF exposure BEFORE it's too late. We are the policymakers that must address the mess left by institutions who have failed."

Statements have also been sent in by citizens, scientists and technologists not only from New England but throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe. Please contact the Joint Committee on Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure (<u>jointcmte-consumerprotection@malegislature.gov</u>) or MA for Safe Technology Director Cece Doucette (MA4SafeTech@gmail.com) for more from the public record.

# More Wireless Radiation Bills on Wednesday, October 13

The newly formed Massachusetts <u>Joint Committee on Advanced Information Technology, the Internet and Cybersecurity</u>, co-chaired by Senator Barry Finegold and Representative Linda Dean Campbell, will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 13 from 1-5 p.m. on "Bills Related to Data Use, Data Privacy, the Internet, and Broadband Access".

Included are the following technology safety bills:

- Rep. Carolyn Dykema's H. 115 tasks the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education with addressing technology safety in schools. Her district includes the Fay School in Southborough which was <u>sued</u> under ADA over wireless harms. U.S. federal courts recognized for the first time there are biological effects from today's wireless technology at the non-thermal level. This is the third session for Rep. Dykema's bill to protect Massachusetts' children and educators, it was previously reported out favorably by the Joint Committee on Public Health.
- Kirstin Beatty, director of Last Tree Laws and a former school teacher disabled by man-made radiation in her classroom, has written ten new bills (H. 105-114) introduced by State Rep. Patricia Duffy.
- All bills can be accessed on the hearing agenda: https://malegislature.gov/Events/Hearings/Detail/4007
- The public is encouraged to sign up via the above link to offer a three-minute virtual testimony. Sign up by Monday, October 11 by 5 p.m. Eastern, testify on Wednesday, October 13 from 1-5 p.m.
- Written testimony can also be submitted by Friday, October 15, 5 p.m. Eastern to <u>justin.curtis@masenate.gov</u>, <u>christopher.smith@mahouse.gov</u>, MA4SafeTech@gmail.com.

Massachusetts for Safe Technology is a public interest group working to promote the use of biologically safe and fiscally responsible technology in our homes, schools, communities and workplaces. Massachusetts for Safe Technology educates citizens, public servants, lawmakers and health care professionals on the risks of wireless radiation exposures to children, adults and our environment. Learn more at:

https://www.ma4safetech.org

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