

Urban Village by the Bay

ALBANY CALIFORNIA



CITY OF ALBANY
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE
ALBANY, CA 94706
www.AlbanyCA.org

Senator Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Opposition to the STREAMLINE Small Cell Deployment Act (S3157)

July 16, 2018

Dear Senator Feinstein,

On behalf of the City of Albany I am writing to voice my opposition to the "Streamlining The Rapid Evolution And Modernization of Leading-edge Infrastructure Necessary to Enhance (STREAMLINE) Small Cell Deployment Act" (S. 3157). This bill represents a direct affront to traditionally-held local authority and will complicate, rather than simplify, national efforts to expedite infrastructure deployment by prolonging state and local processes. Albany shares Congress's goal of ensuring efficient, safe, and appropriate deployment of new broadband technology. However, this bill is not the best way to achieve that shared goal.

Just last year, the wireless industry's attempt to pursue similar legislation in California, with SB 649 (Hueso), failed when it was met with overwhelming opposition from over 325 cities.


This bill would shift authority away from residents, businesses, and communities over to private industry whose interest in shareholder returns outweigh their considerations for the health, safety, aesthetic, and public benefits of the communities we serve.

The bill imposes unfair and inappropriate timelines on local governments. The shot clock time limits for local governments to process potentially unlimited wireless facility applications proposed by S. 3157 would be considerably reduced. Applications for facilities when local governments are unable to meet the stringent time limits would be “deemed granted” which is unacceptable.

Limiting fees and rates to direct and actual costs is an extreme overreach by the federal government. Cities negotiate with providers to ensure appropriate compensation to taxpayers for private, profit-generating use of public property and to incentivize development that benefits community residents. When cities are prohibited from controlling these rates, they are forced to subsidize private development, at the cost of other critical local services such as road maintenance and public safety.

For these reasons, I am opposed to S. 3157 and urge you not to support it. Local governments should have the time and flexibility to ensure that small cell wireless infrastructure is deployed not just quickly, but safely and correctly, in communities throughout the nation.

Sincerely,


Peggy McQuaid
Albany Mayor

cc. Sam Caygill, League of CA Cities, scaygill@cacities.org

ALBANY CALIFORNIA



CITY OF ALBANY
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE
ALBANY, CA 94706
www.AlbanyCA.org

Senator Kamala Harris
United States Senate
112 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Opposition to the STREAMLINE Small Cell Deployment Act (S3157)

July 16, 2018

Dear Senator Harris,

On behalf of the City of Albany I am writing to voice my opposition to the "Streamlining The Rapid Evolution And Modernization of Leading-edge Infrastructure Necessary to Enhance (STREAMLINE) Small Cell Deployment Act" (S. 3157). This bill represents a direct affront to traditionally-held local authority and will complicate, rather than simplify, national efforts to expedite infrastructure deployment by prolonging state and local processes. Albany shares Congress's goal of ensuring efficient, safe, and appropriate deployment of new broadband technology. However, this bill is not the best way to achieve that shared goal.

Just last year, the wireless industry's attempt to pursue similar legislation in California, with SB 649 (Hueso), failed when it was met with overwhelming opposition from over 325 cities.

This bill would shift authority away from residents, businesses, and communities over to private industry whose interest in shareholder returns outweigh their considerations for the health, safety, aesthetic, and public benefits of the communities we serve.

The bill imposes unfair and inappropriate timelines on local governments. The shot clock time limits for local governments to process potentially unlimited wireless facility applications proposed by S. 3157 would be considerably reduced. Applications for facilities when local governments are unable to meet the stringent time limits would be “deemed granted” which is unacceptable.

Limiting fees and rates to direct and actual costs is an extreme overreach by the federal government. Cities negotiate with providers to ensure appropriate compensation to taxpayers for private, profit-generating use of public property and to incentivize development that benefits community residents. When cities are prohibited from controlling these rates, they are forced to subsidize private development, at the cost of other critical local services such as road maintenance and public safety.

For these reasons, I am opposed to S. 3157 and urge you not to support it. Local governments should have the time and flexibility to ensure that small cell wireless infrastructure is deployed not just quickly, but safely and correctly, in communities throughout the nation.

Sincerely,



Peggy McQuaid
Albany Mayor

cc. Sam Caygill, League of CA Cities, scaygill@cacities.org

ALBANY CALIFORNIA



CITY OF ALBANY
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE
ALBANY, CA 94706
www.AlbanyCA.org

Congresswoman Barbara Lee
1301 Clay Street, Ste. 1000-N
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Opposition to the STREAMLINE Small Cell Deployment Act (S3157)

July 16, 2018

Dear Congresswoman Lee,

On behalf of the City of Albany I am writing to voice my opposition to the "Streamlining The Rapid Evolution And Modernization of Leading-edge Infrastructure Necessary to Enhance (STREAMLINE) Small Cell Deployment Act" (S. 3157). This bill represents a direct affront to traditionally-held local authority and will complicate, rather than simplify, national efforts to expedite infrastructure deployment by prolonging state and local processes. Albany shares Congress's goal of ensuring efficient, safe, and appropriate deployment of new broadband technology. However, this bill is not the best way to achieve that shared goal.

Just last year, the wireless industry's attempt to pursue similar legislation in California, with SB 649 (Hueso), failed when it was met with overwhelming opposition from over 325 cities.

This bill would shift authority away from residents, businesses, and communities over to private industry whose interest in shareholder returns outweigh their considerations for the health, safety, aesthetic, and public benefits of the communities we serve.


The bill imposes unfair and inappropriate timelines on local governments. The shot clock time limits for local governments to process potentially unlimited wireless facility applications proposed by S. 3157 would be considerably reduced.

Applications for facilities when local governments are unable to meet the stringent time limits would be “deemed granted” which is unacceptable.

Limiting fees and rates to direct and actual costs is an extreme overreach by the federal government. Cities negotiate with providers to ensure appropriate compensation to taxpayers for private, profit-generating use of public property and to incentivize development that benefits community residents. When cities are prohibited from controlling these rates, they are forced to subsidize private development, at the cost of other critical local services such as road maintenance and public safety.

For these reasons, I am opposed to S. 3157 and urge you not to support it. Local governments should have the time and flexibility to ensure that small cell wireless infrastructure is deployed not just quickly, but safely and correctly, in communities throughout the nation.

Sincerely,


Peggy McQuaid
Albany Mayor

cc. Sam Caygill, League of CA Cities, scaygill@cacities.org