

SB 649 News Clips

AT&T and Verizon want free rein to put new wireless transmitters in your neighborhood.

Here's why that's a bad idea

Los Angeles Times

There's a classic brawl raging in the California Legislature between a bankrolling private interest and several toothless local governments over wireless expansion. It's a fight being waged essentially under the radar. This subject isn't sexy like a gas-tax increase, universal healthcare or a so-called "sanctuary state" for immigrants here illegally. So it hasn't gotten much public attention. <http://www.latimes.com/politics/la-pol-sac-skelton-telecom-att-verizon-california-bill-20170710-story.html>

Long Beach among cities opposed to telecommunication bill

Long Beach Press Telegram

Long Beach and other Southern California cities are banding together to oppose a state bill that would strip down the process telecommunication companies face to install some wireless equipment in public rights of way. Senate Bill 649 would curtail the permits and other requirements cities can impose on companies putting up antenna, generators and other equipment, which would automatically be allowed. City regulations to determine where and when they can be installed would also be slashed.

<http://www.presstelegram.com/business/20170709/long-beach-among-cities-opposed-to-telecommunication-bill>

Cities fight bill to streamline cell antenna installations

Mercury News

Lawmakers in 179 California cities including San Jose, Oakland and San Francisco are fighting a bill to streamline permitting for wireless antennas on public buildings, streetlamps and traffic signal poles that they say would limit local control over where they go. Senate Bill 649, by Sen. Ben Hueso, D-San Diego, proposes scaling back permit processes for antennas and equipment in an effort to meet demand for wireless services. It would cap how much a local government could charge phone companies for leases to \$250 per year, though it does not prohibit them from "mutually agreeing" to a charge that's different.

<http://www.mercurynews.com/2017/07/05/san-jose-rallies-against-a-state-bill-that-reduces-local-control-over-cell-tower-installations/>

Possible New CA Law would Take Away LA's Right to Regulate Phone Towers

City Watch LA

Imagine if a company you never heard of showed up one day and placed an antenna on a street light near your house or even right next to your window, with several bulky cabinets, lead acid batteries, noisy cooling fans, and untidy cabling. (See photo above.)

<http://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/neighborhood-politics-hidden/327-nc-politics/13535-possible-new-ca-law-would-take-away-la-s-right-to-regulate-phone-towers>

American Canyon fights 'small cell' wireless legislation

Napa Valley Register

American Canyon is opposing legislation moving through the state Legislature that officials say would curb local control over wireless cell equipment on utility poles, putting the city at odds with a key representative in Sacramento. "It's outrageous," said American Canyon Planning Commissioner Bernie Zipay about Senate Bill 649, which seeks to establish statewide rules to govern the process for placing "small cell" wireless facilities throughout California.

http://napavalleyregister.com/news/local/american-canyon-fights-small-cell-wireless-legislation/article_744baab9-6c7c-5276-a160-7b53354dd4b2.html

Smart cities will move right along with 5G

Capitol Weekly

"Smart cities" refers to the concept of using technology to bring together physical aspects of cities, from cars and street lights to the buildings and residents, and integrating them through data, analytics, and communication. It has become such a significant topic that it will be a centerpiece of next year's world-renowned Consumer Electronics Show (CES). Smart cities will soon take a major leap forward — thanks to a groundbreaking technology, 5G, or the 5th generation wireless network. <http://capitolweekly.net/5g-wireless-cities-smart/>

Feds loom as small-cell battles rage on between states, local governments

Fierce Wireless

Battles between U.S. state governments and municipalities over small cells continue to break out as carriers move to densify their networks. And if recent events are any indication, the states—and wireless service providers—seem to be winning. "Late last week, Texas Governor Greg Abbott signed a law that streamlined the deployment of small cells—it standardizes the process and caps the fees that cities can charge," Robert Gutman of Guggenheim Equity Research wrote this week in a research note. <http://www.fiercewireless.com/wireless/feds-loom-as-small-cell-battles-rage-between-states-local-governments>

<http://www.fiercewireless.com/wireless/feds-loom-as-small-cell-battles-rage-between-states-local-governments>

Viewpoints: Concord monitoring state, federal legislation

East Bay Times

The City Council has been following and commenting on various proposed state and federal legislation that would impact Concord. State Senate Bill 649 would take away a city's ability to regulate wireless cell antenna sites and mandate that all utility poles and street light poles would be available to carriers without community input or local approval including aesthetic considerations. If a pole is on the street in front or near your home or in your rear or side yard, this bill would allow a 6 foot tall by 4 foot wide box to be placed on it for each carrier. There could be many units on one pole. <http://www.eastbaytimes.com/2017/06/23/viewpoints-concord-monitoring-state-federal-legislation/>

<http://www.eastbaytimes.com/2017/06/23/viewpoints-concord-monitoring-state-federal-legislation/>

SB649 would give telecoms 1 set of rules to bring 5G to California

San Francisco Chronicle

As Bay Area residents know better than most, our lives are more connected than ever. We increasingly rely on robust and reliable wireless technology to conduct secure business

transactions, stay informed, safeguard our health and safety, and enhance our quality of life. It's no surprise then that, over the past two years, data use has increased a remarkable 238 percent. <http://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/openforum/article/SB649-would-give-telecoms-1-set-of-rules-to-bring-11261791.php>

Local Governments Voice Concerns Over Rollout Of 5G Wireless Networks

Capital Public Radio

Wireless carriers eager to roll out faster 5G technology want the California Legislature to streamline the local approvals process. But local governments argue the proposal would take away their powers of oversight and negotiation. 5G could be fast enough to replace home Wi-Fi a few years from now. But carriers will need to add new antennas much more densely than the current system – building on existing utility poles and street lights.

<http://www.caprado.org/97601>

Editorial: An audacious 5G power (pole) grab

Los Angeles Times

Telecommunications companies are preparing to roll out the next generation of wireless networks, dubbed “5G,” which promise an enormous increase in capacity and connectivity. These networks not only will increase competition in broadband, they are a key enabling technology for a host of advanced products and services. They also represent a gateway to better economic opportunities in inner-city areas that are underserved by broadband today.

<http://www.latimes.com/opinion/editorials/la-ed-power-pole-grab-20170705-story.html>

Activists fired up over bill that would expand wireless

Point Reyes Light

A dozen or so people shuffled into the Bolinas Commons last week for a presentation from the Ecological Options Network, a Bolinas-based activist group that often focuses on electromagnetic radiation. Popcorn was passed around during a presentation led by Mary Beth Brangan, co-director of EON. The group of majority elders listened and jotted down notes about political affairs that tend to go unnoticed. The main issue on the agenda was Senate Bill 649, which would expand California's wireless network capacity.

<https://www.ptreyeslight.com/article/activists-fired-over-bill-would-expand-wireless>

Editorial: Wireless facility bill will circumvent local control

Pleasanton Weekly

Thank you, Sen. Steve Glazer (D-Orinda), for being the lone No vote on Senate Bill 649, which, in essence, usurps local government control of public right-of-ways and restricts their ability to collect rent for putting cell towers on public property. Glazer, our local state senator, told us that he voted No on the "Wireless Telecommunications Facilities" bill because, "Local communities, with the input of the public, are better positioned to approve or disapprove wireless permitting issues. This bill did not demonstrate a compelling need to circumvent local control." <https://www.pleasantonweekly.com/news/2017/07/06/editorial-wireless-facility-bill-will-circumvent-local-control>

Plan To Install 50,000 Cell Towers In California Faces Opposition

KPIX CBS – San Francisco

Up to 50,000 cell phone towers coming to cities across California. But will you get a say on where they pop up? California cities are now fighting back at a proposed law that is moving quickly through the legislature. They say it would allow phone companies to put up new antennas in your neighborhood, like it or not.

<http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2017/06/28/plan-install-50000-cell-towers-california-opposition/>

ABC 7 News at 5PM

KGO ABC – San Francisco

<https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#clip/view/28029624?token=e404b6fb-ac51-42e4-9816-41a5ddb9ef64>

KSEE 24 News at 5PM

KSEE NBC – Fresno

<https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#clip/view/28029623?token=e404b6fb-ac51-42e4-9816-41a5ddb9ef64>

FOX 40 News at 5PM

KTXL FOX – Sacramento

<https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#clip/view/28029622?token=e404b6fb-ac51-42e4-9816-41a5ddb9ef64>

Eyewitness News at 6PM

KGPE CBS – Fresno

<https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#clip/view/28029621?token=e404b6fb-ac51-42e4-9816-41a5ddb9ef64>

CBS 13 News on CW31 at 6PM

KMAX CW – Sacramento

<https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#clip/view/28029620?token=e404b6fb-ac51-42e4-9816-41a5ddb9ef64>

KCAL 9 News at 9PM

KCAL – Los Angeles

<https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#clip/view/28029619?token=e404b6fb-ac51-42e4-9816-41a5ddb9ef64>

Eyewitness News on KBFX at 10PM

KBFXCD FOX – Bakersfield

<https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#clip/view/28029618?token=e404b6fb-ac51-42e4-9816-41a5ddb9ef64>

Bill seeks to bypass city controls on where telecom equipment goes

San Francisco Chronicle

Lawmakers in Sacramento are quietly taking up a bill that would give a multimillion-dollar handout to the world's largest telecommunications companies while taking millions of dollars from San Francisco's budget. For years, the city has worked responsibly with AT&T, Verizon, Sprint, T-Mobile and other carriers to ensure that San Francisco residents receive their fair share of revenue for the use of public property by telecom companies.

<http://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/openforum/article/Bill-seeks-to-bypass-city-controls-on-where-11248473.php>

Why wireless industry bill is a triple rip-off for Californians

Sacramento Bee

Imagine if a private company decided to place a bunch of equipment on your house and offered you pennies on the dollar to "rent" your roof space. Now imagine that you didn't have the right to say "no." This is what the wireless industry is proposing for local governments in California with Senate Bill 649. The only difference is that this equipment will be attached to the streetlight in front of your home or business.

<http://www.sacbee.com/opinion/oped/soapbox/article158437039.html>

This Democrat's wireless industry bill rips off Californians

Fresno Bee

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<http://www.fresnobee.com/opinion/op-columns-blogs/article158457394.html>

Bill would shrink cities' powers over cell towers

Ventura County Star

Cities and counties across California are lobbying against a proposed state law that would accelerate approval of cell phone antennas by largely stripping local governments of their power to regulate installation of them. Telecommunications officials say streamlined approvals and lower fees would allow them to establish advanced wireless networks by installing thousands of smaller cellular antennas across the state.

<http://www.vcstar.com/story/money/business/2017/06/28/bill-would-shrink-cities-powers-over-cell-towers/434761001/>

Proposed California Law Would Lessen Cities' Control Over Cell Tower Installations

Government Technology/San Diego Union Tribune

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thousands of smaller cellular antennas across the state. <http://www.govtech.com/fs/Proposed-California-Law-Would-Lessen-Cities-Control-Over-Cell-Tower-Installations.html>

AT&T y Verizon quieren vía libre para instalar nuevos transmisores inalámbricos; una mala idea para los vecindarios.

Hoy Los Angeles , July 10, 2017

En la Legislatura de California hay una riña clásica acerca de la expansión inalámbrica, entre los intereses privados que financian y los varios gobiernos inoperantes. Es una lucha que se libra subrepticamente. El tema no es atractivo como el aumento de los impuestos sobre el gas, la atención sanitaria universal o la instauración del llamado 'estado santuario' para los inmigrantes ind

Morning Edition – July 11, 2017 at 8AM

KQED

<https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#clip/view/28235015?token=acb5f500-3080-4e00-b08b-8e0b4e00cba1>

KNX News – July 10, 2017 at 2PM

KNX

<https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#clip/view/28220153?token=89ac1f12-1026-418d-9a5c-2fe902463dd1>

Hearing Wednesday on Spread of High-Power Cell Towers

Public News Service

Health advocates worried about the impact of wireless radiation are planning a show of force at a hearing tomorrow in Sacramento - on a bill that would smooth the way for telecom companies to put 5G and other cellular technology in neighborhoods across the state. Senate Bill 649 would mean companies would no longer need a local permit for the boxes. Sandy Maurer, the director of the EMF Safety Network, says the technology requires a cell site every few hundred feet - with equipment the size of a refrigerator - on tens of thousands of utility poles and in street-side boxes. <http://www.publicnewsservice.org/2017-07-11/consumer-issues/hearing-wednesday-on-spread-of-high-power-cell-towers/a58470-1>

Editorial: Wireless facility bill will circumvent local control

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Coast to Coast AM – July 11, 2017 at 2AM

KFI Radio

<https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#clip/view/28235802?token=acb5f500-3080-4e00-b08b-8e0b4e00cba1>