

California SB 649

California SB 649 would strip local control of communities to determine wireless facility placement in their rights of way.

The State of California Department of Finance has made the recommendation [to oppose SB 649](#) stating, "this bill goes too far by usurping city and county zoning authority for infrastructure development, and it potentially imposes reimbursable, state-mandated costs on cities and counties."

The AARP, the Sierra Club and the Environmental Working Group oppose this Bill. Over 200 cities, and the League of California Cities are opposed to SB 649. 45 out of 58 California Counties are in opposition to this bill.

[Read SB 649: Wireless telecommunications facilities](#)

Factsheets

- [One-page flyer for parents and teachers re SB 649. Firefighters got an exemption for their stations; not kids.](#)
- [Read an 8 point FactSheet on SB649 by California Alliance for Safer Technology](#)
- [Read "The Firefighters Wake Up Call To Us All" By Susan Foster RE: SB 649 Opposing Cell Towers In Rights Of Way](#)
- [Read July 2017 League of California Cities Factsheet on SB649 which states SB649:](#)
 - Forces cities and counties to lease out their public property for wireless equipment;
 - Eliminates negotiated leases, and places a \$250 cap on what they call an attachment rate instead;
 - Eliminates public input, full local discretion, and ability to reduce equipment blight by using encroachment and building permits instead of discretionary permits;
 - Eliminates ability to remove equipment that is blighting neighborhoods.
- [Read June 28, 2017 League of California Cities Factsheet: Take Action: SB 649 up in Assembly Local Government Committee](#)
- [Read California Alliance For Safer Technology Briefing Book On Cellular Antennas and Health](#)
- [See more videos of the Senate Assembly testimony/discussion/vote on SB 649 at EHTs Youtube Playlist.](#)

The Editorial Boards of Four Major California newspapers Oppose SB 649

- ["A brazen cell phone power grab" Editorial Board, San Francisco Chronicle](#)
- ["An audacious 5G power \(pole\) grab" Editorial Board, Los Angeles Times](#)
- ["Democratic legislators take bold stands, except when they don't" Editorial Board, Sacramento Bee, July 9, 2017](#)

- [“California should butt out of cities’ deals with telecom companies” East Bay Times July 17, 2017](#)

Noteworthy News Coverage

- ["California: Bill to ease permits for cell phone towers could affect health" Mercury News August 31, 2017](#)
- Read the article by Susan Foster in Fearless Parent entitled ["Cell Tower hypocrisy: Rescuing firefighters and not kids."](#)
- ["Local leaders oppose state law that could turn utility poles into cell phone towers" Daily Breeze 8/30/2017](#)

[California Alliance For Safer Technology Briefing Book on RF and Health](#)

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- The analysis report defines that SB 649 is likely to create a million dollar unfunded mandate, fails to cure basic wireless digital divide issues; and is fails to address important issues of community aesthetics.
- [Read the CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS OF SB 649.](#)

The Environmental Working Group is in strong opposition to SB 649.

- Read the EWG post on SB649. ["Cellphone Safety: Industry Pushes to Strip Local Control of High-Speed Networks"](#) by Olga Naidenko Ph.D., Senior Science Advisor for Children's Environmental Health.
- [Letter from Environmental Working Group June 26, 2017](#)
- [Letter from Environmental Working Group July 26, 2017](#)

Letters sent to California State in Opposition To 649

- [Letter from the Sierra Club](#)
- [Letter from Greenlining Institute](#)
- [Letter from the American Association of Retired Persons \(AARP\), July 19, 2017](#) "This bill undermines the authority of local government.."
- [Law Office of Harry Lehmann“Mass casualties are likely in District 10 from passage of 648, July 6, 2017](#)
- [Law Office Of Harry Lehmann, Second Letter To The State Of California *Liability for Damage From Microwave Radiation Exposure Sustained by Senate Bill 649 Will Be Shifted to California State* , July 19, 2017](#)
- [Law Office of Harry Lehmann letter dated August 24, 2017, SB 649 will disproportionately effect the poor in California.](#)
- [Letter From EMF Safety Network and Ecological Options Network](#)
- [Radiation Research Trust Letter of Opposition](#)
- [Letter from the Marin California Council of Mayors and Council Members Opposing SB 649](#)

- *Scientists For Wired Technology*, 5/30/17: [front](#) and [back](#) *Scientists For Wired Technology* 5/31/17: [front](#) and [back](#)
- Letters from the City of Palos Verdes Estates [April 12, 2017](#), [July 20, 2017](#)
- [American Planning Association Opposes SB 649](#)
- [Berkeley City Council Opposition Letter](#)

Scientist Letters

- [Beatrice Alexandra Golomb, MD, PhD Letter in Opposition to SB649](#)
- [Letter from Dr. Martin Pall in Opposition to SB649](#)
- [Dr. Devra Davis Letter on SB 649](#)

Californians for Safe Technology have created a PSA video below.

[https://youtu.be/UO6q__qLM-4\[/embed](https://youtu.be/UO6q__qLM-4[/embed)

Read more letters from cities below.

- [Guest Blog: 'Health Exemption for Firefighters sends a Message to the World' by Susan Foster](#)
- [City of Azusa Letter of Opposition](#)
- [City of Humboldt Letter of Opposition](#)
- [City of San Bernardino Letter of Opposition](#)
- [City of Palos Verdes Estates Letter of Opposition](#)
- [California Contract Cities Association Letter of Opposition](#)
- [The City of Long Beach Letter of Opposition](#)
- [Westside Regional Alliance of Councils Letter of Opposition](#)

Groups Working To Halt SB649

[California Alliance for Safer Technology](#)

[Go Fund Me Californians Against SB 649](#)

Action Alert Documents

[City of Placerville ACTION ALERT!! SB 649 \(Hueso\) Small Cells](#)

[Memo From RCRC California Council of Rural Counties to Oppose SB 649](#)

[Factsheet OPPOSE SB 649 Let's Get Healthy California or Increase Harmful Radiation?](#)

News Stories

[Fox 5 La Jolla residents battle Crown Castle cell phone tower in yards.](#)

[The Union: Nevada City opposes state effort to control cell phone infrastructure](#), May 3, 2017

[San Francisco Gate: Antenna permitting bill sparks clash between state, local officials](#)

[Los Angeles Times Editorial on 5G Small Cell Streamlining Bills "An audacious 5G power \(pole\) grab"](#)

[CBS News Story "Cell Phone Towers Outside Your Window - Why You Don't Have The Right To Fight"](#)

[Cities fight bill to streamline cell antenna installations, July 5 2017, Mercury News](#)