

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 2373

By Mr. Rush of Boston, petition of Michael F. Rush and Thomas M. Menino relative to emergency radio systems in buildings for public safety personnel. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO FIREFIGHTER COMMUNICATION IN BUILDINGS.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 148 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as appearing in  
2 the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the  
3 following new section:—

4 Chapter 148: Section 26B½ Emergency radio systems in certain  
5 buildings.

6 Any building of more than 120 feet in height shall install a bi-  
7 directional amplifier system to provide adequate radio coverage in  
8 building for emergency radio systems including but not limited to  
9 fire, police and emergency medical services radio systems. Plans for  
10 installation of the bi-directional system must be submitted within 6  
11 months of approval of this section to the head of the local fire  
12 department for approval, who shall be responsible for enforcing the  
13 provisions of this section. The bi-directional amplifier system shall  
14 be installed within six months after approval of the local fire depart-  
15 ment.

16 For purpose of this section, adequate radio coverage shall include  
17 all of the following:—

18 (1) A minimum signal strength of one microvolt (-95dBm) avail-  
19 able in 95% of the area of each floor when transmitted from the  
20 Public Safety Agency.

21 (2) A minimum signal strength of one microvolt (-95dBm)  
22 received at the Public Safety Agency from 95% of the area of each  
23 floor of the building.

24 (3) The frequency range must support the emergency radio sys-  
25 tems including but not limited to fire, police and emergency medical  
26 services radio systems and have a 95% reliability factor.

27 Buildings and structures which cannot support the required level  
28 of radio coverage shall be equipped with any of the following in  
29 order to achieve the required adequate radio coverage:—

30 a radiating cable system or an internal multiple antenna system  
31 with or without FCC type accepted bi-directional UHF amplifiers as  
32 needed. If any part of the installed system or systems contains an  
33 electrically powered component, the system shall be capable of oper-  
34 ating on an independent battery and/or generator system for a period  
35 of at least twelve (12) hours without external power input. The bat-  
36 tery system shall automatically charge in the presence of an external  
37 power input.