



TELECOM BILL THREATENS COMMUNITIES, LOCAL AUTHORITY

Florida's communities embrace the latest technological innovations – but big telecommunications companies are pushing to override the authority of local officials to decide what their communities should look like.

SB 596/HB 687 will hand the telecoms wide-open access to municipal rights-of-way. This bad idea could litter Florida's picturesque cityscapes with unsightly equipment and towers soaring up to 60 feet high.



THREATENS SAFETY

- Allows new poles and equipment, even in hurricane-prone areas
- Unfamiliar equipment puts municipal work crews at risk
- Hijacks space that should be reserved for public safety purposes



COSTS TAXPAYERS

- Corporate handout allows private equipment on publicly owned structures at almost no cost
- Taxpayers would have to pay to assure code compliance
- City crews would have to clean up and remove abandoned equipment



DIMINISHES COMMUNITIES

- Interferes with community's ability to maintain unique local character
- Nullifies cities' wisdom to bury utility lines, adding invasive eyesores of 60' towers and refrigerator-sized equipment on existing structures/sidewalks



IGNORES DECISION-MAKERS

- Strips decision-making from local community's elected officials
- Disregards local permitting process – lets telecoms “cut in line”

OPPOSE SB 596 & HB 687

