

Dear House Energy & Digital Infrastructure Committee members,

Please pass the amendment to sunset Section 248a in a year. Another three years amounts to kicking the can down the road and leaving your constituents to deal with a very uneven playing field. I can't believe the case here in Manchester with Verizon's proposed tower at Hunter Park remains active, despite overwhelming opposition from our community, the Select Board and Planning Commission. In fact, the Planning Commission went the extra mile and hired an outside propagation expert to determine alternative sites. We simply want towers to be situated in allowed zones and concurrent ordinances according to our Town Plan.

These tower projects, in many cases, damage viewsheds that impact our communities; we cherish our natural landscapes and scenic views, so important to residents and tourists alike. The other unmentionable issue is the FCC's outdated 1996 telecom statute which exempts communities from arguing on the grounds of health effects from RFR. We are supposed to abide by obsolete standards and ignore decades of research showing harm, especially frustrating at a time when we are on the cusp of a sea change regarding unsafe RFR exposure levels. (I believe Alison Despathy has included Children's Health Defense (CHD) and other parties' submission to compel the FCC to respond to the DC Circuit Court's 2021 findings.)

Please support your constituents by passing the amendment to sunset 248a in a year.

Martine Victor  
Manchester