

Dear Representative

I am writing to express my strong concern regarding proposed changes to Vermont's smart meter opt-out protections under S.213.

I believe that individuals should retain the right to opt out of smart meters without being charged a fee. The ability to decline this technology is a matter of personal choice, health autonomy, and privacy. Introducing a cost to opt out creates a barrier that disproportionately affects those with fewer financial resources, effectively turning a basic right into a privilege.

I am also concerned about the lack of transparency surrounding both the potential health implications and data privacy risks associated with smart meters. Many residents feel they have not been given clear, unbiased information to make fully informed decisions. Regardless of differing views on these risks, the right to opt out freely should remain protected.

No one should be required to pay in order to say no to a device installed on their home, particularly when concerns about RF exposure and data security remain subjects of ongoing public debate.

I urge you to oppose any amendments that would introduce fees for opting out and to preserve Vermont's existing no-cost opt-out policy. Maintaining this protection is essential to ensuring fairness, personal choice, and public trust.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ricky Ortiz

Burlington, Vermont