

# HOUSE BILL 663

L6  
HB 1225/20 – ENT

1lr1890

---

By: **Delegate Boteler**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

---

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 23, 2021

---

## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Local Government – Regulation of Amateur Radio Station Antenna Structures**

3 FOR the purpose of declaring the intent of the General Assembly; establishing certain  
4 requirements that apply to a county or municipal ordinance regulating amateur  
5 radio station antenna structures; providing for the application of this Act; defining a  
6 certain term; and generally relating to county or municipal regulation of amateur  
7 radio station antenna structures.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Local Government

10 Section 1–1314

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2013 Volume and 2020 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Local Government**

16 **1–1314.**

17 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “AMATEUR RADIO” MEANS THE USE OF A RADIO  
18 FREQUENCY SPECTRUM FOR PURPOSES OF NONCOMMERCIAL EXCHANGE OF  
19 MESSAGES, WIRELESS EXPERIMENTATION, SELF–TRAINING, PRIVATE RECREATION,

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 **RADIOSPORT, CONTESTING, OR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION BY A DULY**  
2 **AUTHORIZED PERSON INTERESTED IN RADIOELECTRIC PRACTICE WITH A PURELY**  
3 **PERSONAL AIM AND WITHOUT PECUNIARY INTEREST.**

4 **(B) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO ALL COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES.**

5 **(C) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CODIFY THE**  
6 **PROVISIONS OF 47 C.F.R. § 97.15 CONCERNING THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS**  
7 **COMMISSION’S PREEMPTION OF LOCAL ORDINANCES REGULATING AMATEUR RADIO**  
8 **STATION ANTENNA STRUCTURES.**

9 **(D) A COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE REGULATING AMATEUR RADIO**  
10 **STATION ANTENNA STRUCTURES:**

11 **(1) MAY NOT PRECLUDE AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS;**

12 **(2) SHALL REASONABLY ACCOMMODATE AMATEUR RADIO**  
13 **COMMUNICATIONS; AND**

14 **(3) SHALL CONSTITUTE THE MINIMUM PRACTICABLE REGULATION**  
15 **TO ACCOMPLISH THE LEGITIMATE PURPOSE OF THE ORDINANCE.**

16 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**  
17 **October 1, 2021.**

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House of Delegates.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate.