

HOUSE BILL 331

L6
HB 663/21 – ENT

2lr0785

By: **Delegates Boteler and Buckel**

Introduced and read first time: January 19, 2022

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 9, 2022

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

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

3 FOR the purpose of establishing certain requirements that apply to a county or municipal
4 ordinance regulating amateur radio station antenna structures; and generally
5 relating to county or municipal regulation of amateur radio station antenna
6 structures.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Local Government

9 Section 1–1317

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2013 Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Local Government**

15 **1–1317.**

16 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “AMATEUR RADIO” MEANS THE USE OF A RADIO**
17 **FREQUENCY SPECTRUM FOR PURPOSES OF NONCOMMERCIAL EXCHANGE OF**
18 **MESSAGES, WIRELESS EXPERIMENTATION, SELF–TRAINING, PRIVATE RECREATION,**
19 **RADIOSPORT, CONTESTING, OR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION BY A DULY**

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 AUTHORIZED PERSON INTERESTED IN RADIOELECTRIC PRACTICE WITH A PURELY
2 PERSONAL AIM AND WITHOUT PECUNIARY INTEREST.

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

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

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

10 (1) MAY NOT PRECLUDE AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS;

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

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

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
16 October 1, 2022.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.