



New York City Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Service

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2 May 2, 2012

The Hon. Congressman Edolphus Towns
Member of the Subcommittee on
Communications and Technology
2232 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Towns,

We are writing you today to determine the current status of House Resolution 81, *The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2011* which was initially referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce in January of 2011 then referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology in February of 2011, of which you are a member.

This Resolution, aims at promote and encourage the valuable public service, disaster relief, and emergency communications provided on a volunteer basis by licensees of the Federal Communications Commission in the Amateur Radio Service, by undertaking a study of the uses of Amateur Radio for emergency and disaster relief communications, by identifying unnecessary or unreasonable impediments to the deployment of Amateur Radio emergency and disaster relief communications, and by making recommendations for relief of such unreasonable restrictions so as to expand the uses of Amateur Radio communications in Homeland Security planning and response.

As Amateur Radio emergency communicators, and as New Yorkers who live in work all five boroughs of the city, we have a vested interest in supporting this Resolution. Members of our team have been active in New York City based emergency communication support for over two decades. Charles Hargrove, our team co-founder and current President, was the City-Wide Radio Officer for New York City Amateur Radio operations on September 11, 2001--an event which saw the assistance of hundreds of Amateur Radio operators from around the country.

As New York City based licensees of the Federal Communications Commission who specialize in Amateur Radio emergency communications, we are eager to see the adoption of H.R.81, which has potential to formally enhance the use of and broaden inclusion of, federally licensed Amateur Radio communicators as part of any municipality's comprehensive disaster and emergency plans.

Would you be so kind as to update us on the current status and projected future of H.R.81.

Sincerely yours,

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Congressional Liason
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