Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1190

An act relating to two-way radio communication enhancement systems; amending s. 633.202, F.S.; requiring the authority having jurisdiction to determine certain minimum radio signal strength requirements for all new and existing buildings; authorizing the use of two-way radio communication enhancement systems to comply with certain radio signal strength requirements in the Florida Fire Prevention Code; specifying that such systems or equivalent systems are not required in certain apartment buildings; requiring that owners of such apartment buildings provide certain documentation to the applicable authority; exempting existing high-rise buildings and high-rise apartment buildings from certain radio signal strength requirements until a specified date; requiring noncompliant high-rise buildings and high-rise apartment buildings to apply for specified permits by specified dates; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (18) of section 633.202, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

633.202 Florida Fire Prevention Code.—

(18) The authority having jurisdiction shall determine the minimum radio signal strength for fire department communications in all new high-rise and existing high-rise buildings. Two-way radio communication enhancement systems or equivalent systems may be used to comply with the minimum radio signal strength requirements. However, two-way radio communication enhancement systems or equivalent systems are not required in apartment buildings 75 feet or less in height that are constructed using wood framing, provided that the building has less than 150 dwelling units and that all dwelling units discharge to the exterior or to a corridor that leads directly to an exit as defined by the Florida Building Code. Evidence of wood frame construction shall be shown by the owner providing building permit documentation which identifies the construction type as wood frame. Existing high-rise buildings as defined by the Florida Building Code are not required to comply with minimum radio strength for fire department communications and two-way radio communication enhancement systems as required by the Florida Fire Prevention Code until January 1, 2025. However, by January 1, 2024, an existing high-rise building that is not in compliance with the requirements for minimum radio strength for fire department communications must apply for an appropriate permit for the required installation with the local government agency having jurisdiction and must demonstrate that the building will become compliant by January 1, 2025. Existing high-rise apartment buildings are not required to comply until January 1, 2025. However, existing high-rise apartment buildings are required to apply for
the appropriate permit for the required communications installation by January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

Approved by the Governor June 24, 2022.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 24, 2022.