

# LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE ANNUAL MEETING ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS JANUARY 19-20, 2024

# **2023 Legislative Efforts**

The 2023 Legislative Program was primarily focused on the following efforts:

- Elimination of private land use restrictions affecting Amateur Radio a/k/a the PLUS Legislation [H.R. 4006];
- Elimination of the symbol rate limit [H.R. 3241];
- Prevention or elimination of the proposed \$1,400 annual fee on Amateur Radio installations in National Forests [2023 Farm Bill & Sen. Risch (ID)];
- Preservation of Amateur Radio's secondary use status in the 3 GHz band;
- Establishment of April 18<sup>th</sup> as National Amateur Radio Operators' Day [H.Res.305].

# **2024 Legislative Efforts**

The 2024 Legislative Program continues to have as its major focus elimination of private land use restrictions, but otherwise has a slightly smaller focus due to success on eliminating the symbol rate limit:

- Elimination of private land use restrictions affecting Amateur Radio a/k/a the PLUS Legislation [H.R. 4006];
- Prevention or elimination of the proposed \$1,400 annual fee on Amateur Radio installations in National Forests [2023 Farm Bill & Sen. Risch (R-ID)];
- Preservation of Amateur Radio's secondary use status in the 3 GHz band;
- Establishment of April 18<sup>th</sup> as National Amateur Radio Operators' Day [H.Res.305].

# ELIMINATION OF PRIVATE LAND USE RESTRICTIONS AFFECTING AMATEUR RADIO H.R. 4006 — THE PLUS LEGISLATION

# **Background**

Introduced in Congress on December 22, 2022 as H.R. 9670 by Cong. Bill Johnson (R-OH-08) as its sole sponsor, the bill to remove residential private land use restrictions on Amateur Radio Operators was reintroduced on June 12, 2023 jointly by Cong. Bill Johnson and Cong. Joe Courtney (D-CT-2).

Both Congressman Johnson and we expected the re-introduction of the legislation to occur shortly after Speaker McCarthy finished appointing the Chairmen and Members of the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress House committees. But, the U.S. House Legislative Counsel, as it had in December 2022, raised questions regarding a "must-have" provision — §346(g) — that guarantees a Ham the right to seek the intervention of Federal Courts to enforce the rights granted by H.R. 4006. The issue was primarily based on a misunderstanding of the legal foundation and necessity for the provision. It took until May to resolve the issue in our favor.

Cong. Johnson and Cong. Courtney expected to re-introduce the bill by Dayton Hamvention, but Congressional procedural issues and Cong. Johnson's focus on the February 3, 2023 Ohio Norfolk Southern derailment disaster in East Palestine, Ohio — which is in his district — delayed the re-introduction to June 12, 2023.

# **Congressional Delays**

The late filing combined with the August Congressional recess and the unexpected ouster of Speaker McCarthy and the resulting stalemate within the Republican caucus to select a new Speaker that wasn't resolved until October 25, 2023 reset the original schedule.

Part of the original plan was to have obtained Senate sponsors and to have introduced a Senate version of H.R.4006 by September, but the Congressional gridlock prevented that from occurring.

Initial procedural steps to obtain approval from the three Committees of jurisdiction — Energy & Commerce, Armed Services, and Appropriations — to obtain consent to attach H.R.4006 to the NDAA were taken in February and followed up in June.

# **Important Meetings**

# Sen. Cruz

However, we were able to meet in person with Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX), Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Senate committee of jurisdiction through which the Senate version of the private land use bill must move. The meeting occurred in Sen. Cruz's hometown of Houston in the conference room of a donor to Sen. Cruz's campaign. Full disclosure: the donor is the CEO of an international oil and gas exploration company and one of my clients.

Because of Sen. Cruz's influence in Congress, we had been requesting since December 2022 a personal face-to-face meeting with Cruz. It is unusual for a non-donor organization of our size to warrant a personal meeting with a Senator of Cruz's stature. But there were several motivating reasons: we shared that in a tough election year that we had 55,000 licensees in Texas who are potential voters; that our issue not only had State support, but that State and local elected emergency responder commissioners would be present; and, that we had convincing evidence of substantial local constituent support.

The meeting with Sen. Cruz went very well. At meeting's end he directed his staff aide to arrange a meeting between "his" Commerce Committee staff and the FCC staff representative for the purpose of "seeing how we can help these folks."

The meeting lasted slightly over an hour. Our representatives present in the meeting were:

Ms. Karla Jurrens (KB5KJ), Texas Department of Public Safety Stateside Interoperability Coordinator ("SWIC") (her husband, Greg Jurrens (K5GJ) previously was Sales Director for Flex Radio);

Mike Pate (K5MAP), Commissioner Harris County Emergency Services District #16;

Mike Hardwick (N5VCX), Texas Department of Transportation Houston District Radio Coordinator, President of Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (largest paid membership Houston club), Head Organizer of the Greater Houston Hamfest, Founder/President of the Houston Area Amateur Radio Clubs (the HARC members are all of the Houston/Harris County clubs):

Jimmy Vance (W5ZTX), Systems Support Engineer, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Former President of Katy Amateur Radio Society (second largest paid membership Houston club);

Matt Keelen, The Vogel Group.

The meeting occurred on a Friday. How well the meeting went is underscored by the fact Sen. Cruz arranged for us to meeting in D.C. with the Chief Counsel of his Commerce Committee staff and the staff's FCC representative. They indicated they saw no problems with the legislation, believed it could be supported, but advised that a final decision would take some time due to the necessity of coordinating with our two previous sponsors, Sen. Blumenthal and Sen. Wicker.

The Committee discussed with Sierra Haddrop whether the Cruz meeting should be publicized. Based on the lack of a final, firm commitment from Sen. Cruz or his Committee, we were advised that prudence warranted delaying publication until we had a firm commitment or knew we would not obtain one.

To further advance the introduction of a Senate version, we have also met with Senators Blumenthal, Wicker, Mullen, and McConnell. To highlight that the Senate does not move rapidly, we did not receive Sen. Blumenthal's confirmation that he would again co-sponsor our Senate legislation for several months. We are still waiting on Sen. Wicker to decide whether he wishes to serve as Senate co-sponsor or Senate lead. Until he does, due to Senate protocol, Sen. Cruz, and other Senators, will refrain from committing.

Collaborating with our lobbying firms, DLA Piper and The Vogel Group, we have developed early in 2023 a "target list" of House Energy & Commerce subcommittee members to be approached for co-sponsorship. To date, H.R. 4006 has the following sponsors:

Rep. Bill Johnson	$(R-OH-6)^*$
Rep. Joe Courtney	(D-CT-2)
Rep. John B. Larson	(D-CT-1)
Rep. Rosa L. DeLauro	(D-CT-3)
Rep. Mike Bost	(R-IL-12)
Rep. Jimmy Panetta	(D-CA-19)
Rep. August Pfluger	(R-TX-11)
Rep. Brett Guthrie	(R-KY-2)*
Rep. Keith Self	(R-TX-3)

We are currently in talks with: John Curtis (R-UT)\*, Randy Weber (R-TX)•, Bob Latta (R-OH)\*, Russ Fulcher (R-ID)\*, Marc Veasey (D-TX\*, Lizzie Fletcher (D-TX)\*, Debbie Lesko (R-AZ)\*, Nat Moran (R-TX), Ronny Jackson (R-TX), Brad Finstad (R-MN), Henry Cuellar (D-TX), Tony Gonzales (R-TX), Don Bacon (R-NB), and John Carter (R-TX) to serve as additional co-sponsors.

The membership of the House Sub-Committee on Communications & Technology, the subcommittee of jurisdiction, through which H.R. 4006 must pass and the membership of the full House Energy & Commerce Committee that will have final approval appear in Exhibit 1.

A potential delay may be experienced by the decision of Cong. Bill Johnson to accelerate his retirement from the end of this Congressional Session to January 21, 2024. Cong. Johnson accepted an offer to become the head of Youngstown State University.

With Cong. Bill Johnson's recommendation and full support, we are in discussions with Cong. August Pfluger (R-TX) and Bob Latta (R-OH), Communications & Technology Subcommittee Chairman, for Cong. Pfluger to assume lead on H.R. 4006 with the blessing of Chairman Latta. We are advised that we should have Cong. Pfluger and Chairman Latta's decision within a week.

<sup>\*</sup> Member of the House Sub-Committee — Communications & Technology

# **Grassroots support**

Until we have exhausted our House "target lists", determined our lead Senate sponsors, and solidified our support within the committees of jurisdiction our lobbyists have recommended we not initiate a nation-wide grass roots Congressional contact campaign as they believe it will be of little effect until, we have laid the necessary groundwork with key Representatives, Senators and Committees. However, we have reserved an internet domain to facilitate the receipt and delivery of emailed letters from the Members in order to be prepared when the campaign starts

We have initiated the solicitation of key Clubs (Ohio, Arizona, Michigan, and Texas) to send letters to targeted Congressmen establishing that constituent support exists within their district. The requests have been met with enthusiastic support and are proving effective.

# The Future of H.R.4006

Our lobbyists, DLA Piper and The Vogel Group are confident we have a high probability of passage of H.R. 4006. See Exhibit 2.

Thursday evening, after dinner, we plan for Liz Albertine of DLA Piper, to be on Zoom with us to discuss moving legislation through Congress, DLA Piper's opinions of our chances of success, and to answer questions.

# ELIMINATION OF THE SYMBOL RATE LIMIT — H.R. 3241

WE WON!

# **Background and Status**

Due to the FCC's 9-year failure to render a decision on the ARRL's symbol rate petition, in 2022 the Executive Committee authorized the Committee to solicit a sponsor and to file legislation that would, if passed, compel the FCC to grant the ARRL's petition.

Congresswoman Debbie Lesko (R-AZ-06) enthusiastically introduced the legislation as H.R. 9640 on December 21, 2022 and re-introduced it on May 12, 2023, with minor updates suggested by the ARRL, as H.R.3241.

Our intent was to use the prospect of Congress ordering the FCC to act to persuade the FCC to release its decision on the symbol rate petition.

# Impact of June 21, 2023 Energy & Commerce Committee Meeting

The opportunity occurred on June 21, 2023 when the Energy and Commerce Committee held a hearing to consider "Oversight of the Federal Communications Commission." H.R. 3241 was not before the E&C at that time for consideration, but the hearing afforded Cong. Lesko, a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, the opportunity to directly require the FCC Chairwoman and Commissioners in attendance to account for its failure to address the ARRL's pending symbol rate petition. When Cong. Lesko's had the floor, she made a statement and asked a pointed question drafted, at her request, by LAC Members K3ZJ and N5AUS.

The hearing and interchange between Cong. Lesko, Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Commissioner Nathan Simington proved to be outcome determinative as the exchange opened the door to discussions within the FCC that previously had been moribund. The exchange also permitted FCC Counsel David Siddall to re-approach each Commissioner's office to discuss allegations of "staleness" and that the proceeding needed "updates."

As a result, of the re-engagement the FCC unanimously voted on November 13, 2023 to amend the Amateur Radio Service rules to replace the baud rate limit on the amateur HF bands with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit to permit greater flexibility in data communications.

A solid win for the ARRL's Congressional legislative program — and it is recognized as such by Congressional observers and the FCC.

# PREVENTION OR ELIMINATION OF THE PROPOSED \$1,400 ANNUAL FEE ON AMATEUR RADIO INSTALLATIONS IN NATIONAL FORESTS

The Forest Service's Notice of December 2021 proposing to impose a \$1,400 annual fee on non-Federal government communications facilities in National Forests was opposed by the ARRL. The Notice spawned broad based and passionate opposition. Despite statements that it would render its decision in the early months of 2022, the Forest Service has taken no action.

Unwilling to risk reliance on a favorable ruling from the Forest Service, the Committee initiated efforts in the previous Congressional Session to obtain sponsors to introduce a bill to prohibit the Forest Service from applying the proposed fee to any Amateur Radio installation. Sen. Risch (R-ID) and the entire Idaho delegation sent a letter on behalf of Amateur Radio to the Forest Service requesting it exclude Amateur Radio from the proposed fees. Sen. Lujan and the rest of the New Mexico by letter tendered the same request. Sen. Stabenow of Michigan, Chairwoman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, also opposed the threatened fees on Amateur Radio. None obtained any positive response from the Forest Service.

In the current Session, Sen. Risch has adopted a different tack. Rather than introducing a stand-alone bill, he has been negotiating to insert language into the new Farm Bill that would achieve the same goal — prevent the Forest Service from assessing the proposed fee on Amateur Radio installations. We now have six Senators supporting this effort: Stabenow (D-MI) (AG), Risch (R-ID) (AG), Lujan (D-NM) (AG), Boozman (R-AR) (AG), Heinrich (D-NM), and Crapo (R-ID). Note that four of the Senators are on the Senate Agriculture Committee, which is the committee with jurisdiction over the U.S. Forest Service and responsible for what will be included in the new Farm Bill. Action is expected by September, when an extension to the current Farm Bill provisions expires.

If the planned insertion of favorable language does not bear fruit, it is the LAC's intent to seek introduction of a stand-alone bill.

# PRESERVATION OF AMATEUR RADIO'S SECONDARY USE STATUS IN THE 3 GHZ BAND

The FCC rescinded the Amateur secondary allocation at 3.300-3.500 GHz, but allowed Amateurs temporarily to continue operating on a secondary status in the 3.300-3.450 GHz portion until that spectrum is reallocated to commercial interests.

In the autumn of 2022, Congress was considering legislation to re-authorize the FCC's spectrum auction authority. In this context a bill was introduced and appeared to be on its way to passage that would have included provisions directing the FCC to auction the remaining spectrum available at 3 GHz for commercial use on an exclusive basis by a specific date. The bill also directed disposition of the funds so obtained.

At this time the LAC was in the process of discussing Amateur Radio interests on Capitol Hill focused on what became H.R. 4006. We added a short presentation explaining the Amateur uses of the 3.3 GHz secondary spectrum, what secondary status is, and why the FCC's action should be changed and Amateurs continue to have access to the 3 GHz spectrum on a secondary, non-interference basis rather than needlessly lose the spectrum capacity not used by the commercial interests.

In particular, this includes Alaska, Hawaii, and the other offshore areas where the FCC made the affirmative decision to not auction the spectrum until further proceedings, but nevertheless prohibited continued Amateur secondary use of the 3.450-3.500 GHz subband.

Our request was to direct the FCC to restore the Amateur secondary allocation. Our back-up request was to approve Report language directing the FCC to consider the needs and requirements of the Amateur Service — essentially, to reconsider their action removing the secondary allocation.

However, since out last report on this matter, it appears less likely that Congress will address 3 GHz matters in a bill to re-authorize spectrum auction authority (which lapsed ten months ago). The reason is that the Department of Defense delivered a report on its need for this spectrum that, while parts are classified, seems to have at least delayed Congressional action while an additional study and consideration is conducted. Despite the Defense Department's need for the spectrum for national security purposes — purposes with which Radio Amateurs have co-existed for multiple decades — commercial interests are maintaining a full-court press to obtain at least the 3.3-3.45 GHz subband that is the spectrum of interest to us.

Nevertheless, the commercial interests obtained a victory at the WRC-2023 when the 3.3-3.4 GHz band was allocated on a primary basis for wireless services. There now is a 500 MHz contiguous band, from 3.3-3.8 GHz, internationally allocated in this Region for wireless services. Amateur operations were not addressed. But although the secondary allocation for Radio Amateur use in this Region technically remains, as noted above, the FCC removed it on the domestic level and only allows temporary operation until re-allocated to commercial use.

While this issue is still in play, it is appearing more and more likely that a new auction authority bill will not address 3 GHz. If that is the case, and Congress does not address 3 GHz in another bill, the final decisions will remain with the FCC. It is most likely that eventually the FCC will allocate the 3.3-3.45 GHz band to commercial interests, and the focus of our battle will shift back to the FCC. As with the symbol rate decision, we will need to muster Congressional support — especially since we are asking the FCC to revisit an adverse decision already rendered.

# ESTABLISHMENT OF APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup> AS NATIONAL AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS' DAY

Congresswoman Lesko introduced this bill at the request of a young Arizona Ham. The future of the bill is uncertain as Cong. Lesko has announced her intention to retire at the end of this Session. We have meetings scheduled to determine whether and how to proceed with this initiative.

The good news is that Cong. Lesko has six cosponsors for H.Res. 305:

Rep. Neal Dunn (R-FL-2)

Rep. Daniel Webster (R-FL-11)

Rep. Mike Kelly (R-PA-16)

Re. Julia Brownley (D-CA-26)

Rep. Glen Gotham (R-WI-6)

Rep. Claudia Tenney (R-NY-24).

Since these co-sponsors have declared their support for Amateur Radio, they are viewed as prime candidates for co-sponsorship of H.R. 4006, regardless of the future of H.Res. 305.

# 2024 OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE

At the request of President Roderick and a number of interested Board Members, the Committee will institute a different reporting schedule for 2024. For 2023 the Committee provided timely updates on matters of significance as those matters unfolded.

This year, the Committee will provide more operational details in addition to timely updates on matters of significance. 2023's operational plan set planned goals on a monthly basis. 2024 will, at the request of members of the LAC, be established on a quarterly basis, with sixty day rolling updates on progress, roadblocks, changes in tactics, changes in the next quarter's goals, and recommendations on the overall strategy, if needed. The Committee will provide these reports to the Board at the end of each sixty-day period. Questions regarding these reports may be directed to the Committee.

The Committee will continue to provide a full review of the legislative program at each Board meeting.

### **2024 BUDGET**

2023 efforts were under budget by \$69,575.47.

Cash savings in terms of "new money" were actually greater as \$67,000 of the monies spent were covered by the existing funds in the Legislative Advocacy Fund.

Due to CEO David Minster's discovery that Personify possessed the ability to identify Congressional Districts by 9-digit zip codes we were able to avoid the expenditure of \$4,800-\$10,000 for a third party service to modify our Membership database to permit the use of 9-digit zip codes.

Membership outreach expenses, budgeted for \$25,000, were not needed due to our lobbyists' recommendation that we both secure broad Energy & Commerce member support and we secure the filing of a companion Senate version of H.R.4006, before we commenced broad based grass roots support.

Travel expenses were \$39,775.471 less than budgeted.

This was due both to the turmoil roiling Congressional availability and the diligent efforts of the Committee and the lobbyists to use travel for impact and not just presence. Due to the stepped up schedule resulting from the expected introduction of the Senate version of H.R. 4006, and the push to move H.R. 4006 through the Committee before the end of the current Session, increased meetings with Congressional supporters, existing and prospective, plus allies will be necessary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This number is based on the actual expense reimbursement forms submitted by the Committee. It excludes any charges to the Budget by Rick Roderick or David Siddall.

Thanks are in order to Fred Hopengarten as one component of savings arose from his choosing to room at his daughter's DC residence when he could. Also, no additional expense was incurred for the advice and support of our FCC attorney, David Siddall, whose two-plus decades of experience working for, and later lobbying, legislators early in his career has proven invaluable.

# **CONCLUSION**

Although the unpredictable Congressional dysfunction has delayed our legislative program, our prospects remain positive.

From a budget standpoint, the Committee's 2023 efforts came in under budget. Due to the intensity of the efforts necessitated by the 2023 delays, it is expected that a greater percentage of the proposed budget will be used this year.

To offset that expense, we are recommending a fundraising campaign for the Legislative Activity Fund, similar to the successful campaign conducted in 2016. As the details are ironed out, the Committee, the President, and CEO Minster will update the Board. It is to be noted that the Temple Amateur Radio Club, with merely a verbal request, donated \$4,000 to the Legislative Advocacy Fund in January 2023. There are other Clubs as well as individuals who have expressed an interest in support the ARRL's legislative efforts. A copy of a 2016 fundraising mailer for the Legislative Advocacy Fund is attached as Exhibit 3.

Due to success of the YouTube fundraising effort for the Teacher's Institute that raised in excess of \$20,000, we are also considering another such effort, but one targeted at raising funds for the Legislative campaign.

If anyone has any questions, please direct them to the Committee, so that we may ensure they are timely and fully addressed.

# RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

John Robert Stratton, N5AUS Chairman West Gulf Division, Director

David Norris, K5UZ Delta Division, Director

Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA Central Division, Director

Marty Pittinger, KB3MXM Atlantic Division, Vice Director

Rod Stafford, W6ROD International Affairs, Vice President

Rick Roderick, K5UR President

Fred Hopengarten, K1VR
Past Director, New England Division

David Siddall, K3ZJ Washington FCC Counsel

# EXHIBIT 1 U.S. HOUSE ENERGY & COMMERCE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

# SUB-COMMITTEE — COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY US. HOUSE ENERGY & COMMERCE COMMITTEE

# Members, 118th Congress [edit]

Majority	Minority			
<ul> <li>Bob Latta, Ohio, Chair</li> <li>Buddy Carter, Georgia, Vice Chair</li> <li>Neal Dunn, Florida</li> <li>Gus Bilirakis, Florida</li> <li>Tim Walberg, Michigan</li> <li>John Curtis, Utah</li> <li>John Joyce, Pennsylvania</li> <li>Randy Weber, Texas</li> <li>Rick Allen, Georgia</li> <li>Troy Balderson, Ohio</li> <li>Russ Fulcher, Idaho</li> <li>August Pfluger, Texas</li> <li>Diana Harshbarger, Tennessee</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Doris Matsui, California, Ranking Member</li> <li>Yvette Clarke, New York</li> <li>Marc Veasey, Texas</li> <li>Darren Soto, Florida</li> <li>Anna Eshoo, California</li> <li>Tony Cárdenas, California</li> <li>Angie Craig, Minnesota</li> <li>Lizzie Fletcher, Texas</li> <li>Debbie Dingell, Michigan</li> <li>Ann Kuster, New Hampshire</li> <li>Robin Kelly, Illinois</li> </ul>			
<ul><li>Kat Cammack, Florida</li><li>Jay Obernolte, California</li></ul>				
Ex officio				
Frank Pallone, New Jersey	Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Washington			

# FULL MEMBERSHIP OF US. HOUSE ENERGY & COMMERCE COMMITTEE

# Members, 118th Congress [edit]

Majority	Minority
Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Washington, Chair	• Frank Pallone, New Jersey, Ranking Member
Michael C. Burgess, Texas	Anna Eshoo, California
Bob Latta, Ohio	Diana DeGette, Colorado
Brett Guthrie, Kentucky	Jan Schakowsky, Illinois
Morgan Griffith, Virginia	Doris Matsui, California
Gus Bilirakis, Florida	Kathy Castor, Florida
Bill Johnson, Ohio	John Sarbanes, Maryland
Larry Bucshon, Indiana	Paul Tonko, New York
Richard Hudson, North Carolina	Yvette Clarke, New York
Tim Walberg, Michigan	Tony Cárdenas, California
Buddy Carter, Georgia	Raul Ruiz, California
Jeff Duncan, South Carolina	Scott Peters, California
Gary Palmer, Alabama	Debbie Dingell, Michigan
Neal Dunn, Florida	Marc Veasey, Texas
John Curtis, Utah	Annie Kuster, New Hampshire
Debbie Lesko, Arizona	Robin Kelly, Illinois
Greg Pence, Indiana	Nanette Barragán, California
Dan Crenshaw, Texas	Lisa Blunt Rochester, Delaware
John Joyce, Pennsylvania	Darren Soto, Florida
Kelly Armstrong, North Dakota, Vice Chair	Angie Craig, Minnesota
Randy Weber, Texas	• Kim Schrier, Washington, Vice Ranking Member
Rick Allen, Georgia	Lori Trahan, Massachusetts
Troy Balderson, Ohio	Lizzie Fletcher, Texas
Russ Fulcher, Idaho	
August Pfluger, Texas	
Diana Harshbarger, Tennessee	
Mariannette Miller-Meeks, Iowa	
Kat Cammack, Florida	
Jay Obernolte, California	

# **DOCUMENT 24**

EXHIBIT 2

**LOBBYISTS** 

# Matt Keelen

WASHINGTON, D.C.

# Matt Keelen is a Managing Principal at the Vogel Group.

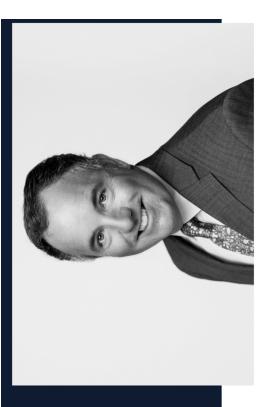
Prior to joining Vogel Group in July, Matt Keelen was the Founder and President of The Keelen Group (TKG). He is a widely known and highly regarded lobbyist & political strategist with over twenty years of experience. He excels in building relationships with key figures while earning a reputation for consistently delivering hard-earned victories. Bloomberg Government Affairs rated The Keelen Group fourth in their 2015 rating of top-performing lobbying firms in the nation.

Matt's ability to effectively navigate the landscape between legislative policy and political reality has made him a respected, sought-after voice, not only in Washington D.C. but around the country. Acknowledged for his innate ability to establish and develop long-lasting political relationships. Matt Keelen has dozens of time-tested relationships with Members of Congress, including many who are in positions of considerable influence today. Throughout his career, Matt has been recognized by peers and outside observers for his outstanding networking ability and real-world political acumen. He was named a "Rising Star of Politics" and was profiled as a "Mover and Shaker" by Campaigns and Elections magazine. The Hill newspaper has also named Keelen one of the Top 50 Lobbyists in Washington, D.C. the last ten years in a row and 12 of the previous 14 years.

Before moving into government affairs, Matt spent ten years as a political fundraiser and operative. His political skills and performance have been sought after by national political committees and have secured him high-level consulting roles at the RNC, NRCC, NRSC, NGA, and the Rudy Giuliani and Rick Perry's Presidential campaign.

Matt Keelen received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Loyola College in Maryland and a Master's Degree in Political Management from George Washington University. He also served as an adjunct professor at George Washington University, where he taught a graduate-level course for GWU's School of Political Management (GSPM).

A native of Ocean Township, N.J., he resides in Apollo Beach, F.L., with his wife Jennifer and daughters Riley and Madison, working both in state and in our nation's Capital.



Areas of Expertise

Defense

Energy

66.5

Federal Appropriations

Financial Services

Government Contracting and Procurement

International

# DLA PIPER

# Nat Bell



Nat served as the Senior Legislative Aide for Congressman Robert E. Andrews, a long-standing member of the House Armed Services Committee and House Education and Workforce Committee. His practice focuses on the representation of corporations, associations, and foreign governments before Congress, the administration, and federal agencies with a concentration on defense, intelligence, space, homeland security, education, budget, health care, financial services, and energy. He also advises on congressional strategies, the legislative process, and the regulatory process. Nat has been ranked as a "top lobbyist" by the Washington, D.C. publication, *The Hill*.

# Liz Albertine



Liz has 12 years of experience on Capitol Hill, most recently as Chief of Staff to Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut, Chair of the House Appropriations Committee and Chair of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations Subcommittee. Liz's concentration has been on issues related to appropriations, budget, defense, space, homeland security, infrastructure, and labor. She has worked closely with the defense and aerospace industry with a history of securing funding increases in these areas.

# Steve Phillips



Steven Phillips focuses his practice on the representation of corporations, associations and foreign governments before Congress, the Administration, and federal agencies, with a concentration on issues related to technology, defense, homeland security, health care, artificial intelligence, environment and energy. He has also advised clients that face Congressional investigations and helps them to navigate thru Congressional hearings and the potential impacts of such investigations. He spent 10 years working in the Senate including as a Legislative Director. Steven has regularly been ranked as a "top lobbyist" by the Washington, D.C. publication, *The Hill.* 

# EXHIBIT 3 2016 LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY MAILER





March 2016

Dear Valued Member:

**Did you know** that there are three licensed radio amateurs in the Congress of the United States? It's true. Greg Walden, W7EQI, of Oregon; Dr. Dan Benishek, KB8TOW, of Michigan, and Steve Pearce, KG5KIQ, of New Mexico are all elected members of the House of Representatives. Greg Walden holds a key position as Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.

With friends like this, we have nothing to worry about on Capitol Hill, right?

Wrong.

In addition to the hundreds of elected officials in the House and Senate, there are some 20,000 staff members in their offices, on committee staffs, and in support agencies. There are licensed amateurs among them, but only a few. On top of that, there is a lot of turnover as staffers move in and out of government to advance their careers.

In short, the job of educating the folks on Capitol Hill about Amateur Radio is never-ending. It is also difficult. There is intense competition for their time and attention.

There is only one organization devoted to this task: ARRL.

Right now, ARRL volunteers and staff are making a concerted effort to explain the need for the Amateur Radio Parity Act, H.R. 1301 in the House and S. 1685 in the Senate, and to get this important legislation passed before the 114th Congress comes to an end later this year. If we can achieve this, radio amateurs living under conditions, covenants, and restrictions (CC&Rs) will gain the right to negotiate with their homeowners' associations for an effective outdoor antenna rather than simply being told "no."

Continued on Side 2

Yes	I want to s	upport the ARI Capitol Hill.	RL Legislative	Advocacy Fund	and help fund	our educationa	
	□ \$250	□\$100	□ \$50	□ Other \$	1		
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www.a	rrl.org/legislativ	e-issues-advoca	cy-fund				
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### 1000246472 03/09/2016 DVADV0316A

John Rober Stratton N5AUS

PO Box 2232

Austin TX 78768-2232

# **Letter from Dave Sumner**

Continued from Side 1

Thanks to the help of many thousands of ARRL members who have contacted their legislators to ask for their support, we are closer than ever to victory. The House bill has 123 sponsors and co-sponsors and has moved through Rep. Walden's subcommittee and on to the full committee. The Senate bill is already out of committee and is awaiting action by the full Senate.

Success in Congress is never assured until the final vote. We must get to that point this year, or start all over next year. The push is on to get it done – and we need your help.

The ARRL Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund was created to help fund our educational efforts on Capitol Hill. Win or lose on the Amateur Radio Parity Act – and we intend to win – those efforts must continue. Antennas are not the only issue we face. Some in Congress and in the Executive Branch view the radio spectrum as a pool of "free money" from auctioning spectrum access to commercial interests. Someone must make the case for the benefits that come from a healthy Amateur Radio Service.

That someone is ARRL.

Please give as generously as you can to the Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund – and thank you for your support.

73.

David Sumner, K1ZZ Chief Executive Officer, ARRL Make your gift the easy way!

Go to www.ARRL.org and click the DONATE NOW button.



For more information on the ARRL Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund, please visit: www.arrl.org/legislative-issues-advocacy-fund

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Return this form to: **ARRL Development Office, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1494**OR go to **www.arrl.org/arrl-donation-form**.

Your contribution is tax-deductible as allowed by law.

THANK YOU for supporting the ARRL Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund!