

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By _____

1 AMEND House Bill No. 1573, Page 1, Section A, Line 4, by inserting after all of said section and
2 lines the following:

3
4 "190.275. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "First Informer
5 Broadcasters Act".

6 2. As used in this section, the following terms shall mean:

7 (1) "Broadcaster", a radio broadcasting station or television broadcasting station licensed by
8 the Federal Communications Commission and subject to participation in the Emergency Alert
9 System (EAS), and is primarily engaged in and deriving income from the business of facilitating
10 speech via over-the-air-communications, both as pure speech and commercial speech;

11 (2) "Informer", a person who has been certified as a first informer broadcaster under this
12 section.

13 3. Broadcasters in this state may, in cooperation with the Missouri state emergency
14 management agency, the Missouri Police Chiefs Association, the Missouri Sheriffs' Association, and
15 the Missouri Broadcasters Association or its successor organization, develop comprehensive
16 coordinated plans for preparing for and responding appropriately to an emergency or disaster.

17 4. Any statewide organization or any member of a statewide organization that represents
18 broadcasters or any other provider that uses emerging technologies may establish a program for
19 training and certifying broadcast engineers, technical personnel, and news gathering personnel as
20 first informer broadcasters. Upon completion of the program, broadcasters shall receive statewide
21 recognized credentials to certify that such broadcasters are first informers. Each program established
22 under this section shall provide training and education concerning:

23 (1) Restoring, repairing, and resupplying any facilities and equipment of a broadcaster in an
24 area affected by an emergency or disaster;

25 (2) Coordinating between news gathering personnel and state and local governmental
26 agencies with respect to gathering and dissemination of news and public safety information,
27 warnings, and directions; and

28 (3) The personal safety of a first informer broadcaster in an area affected by an emergency or
29 disaster.

30 5. To the extent practicable and consistent with not endangering public safety or inhibiting
31 recovery efforts, state and local governmental agencies shall allow first informer broadcaster access
32 to areas affected by an emergency or disaster for the purposes of:

33 (1) Restoring, repairing, or resupplying any facility or equipment critical to the ability of a
34 broadcaster to acquire, produce, and transmit essential emergency or disaster-related public
35 information programming, including without limitation repairing and maintaining transmitters and
36 generators, and transporting fuel for generators;

Action Taken _____ Date _____

1 (2) Obtaining news, information, photographs, and public safety information, warnings, and
2 directions."; and
3
4 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references
5 accordingly.