

HB 656 -- UNIFORM WIRELESS COMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE DEPLOYMENT  
ACT

SPONSOR: Rhoads

This bill adds small wireless facilities to the "Uniform Wireless Communication Infrastructure Deployment Act." Authorities may not require an application for routine maintenance on previously permitted small wireless facility collocations, or the replacement of small wireless facilities with substantially smaller ones. An authority shall accept applications for new small wireless facility collocations on wireless support structures not located within public right-of-ways, and shall evaluate applications on a nondiscriminatory basis. After approval, an applicant may maintain a small wireless facility collocation for 10 years, with an optional extension of three five-year terms. An authority shall not issue any moratoriums, either direct or implicitly, on small wireless facilities.

The bill provides that authorities may not charge any fee, tax, or other charge on small wireless facilities that collocate on property not owned by the authority in question. An authority may charge an annual recurring rate for collocation on authority owned utility poles, but such rate shall not exceed the Federal Communication Commission's formula for telecommunication pole attachments. The repayment costs for work necessary to prepare authority utility poles for small wireless facility collocation is also limited.