

ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CAPITOL OFFICE:
284-S STRATTON BLDG.
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704
(217) 782-4179

DISTRICT OFFICE:
16151 WEBER ROAD, Ste 1
CREST HILL, IL 60403
(815) 372-0085

EMAIL: repconnor@gmail.com



JOHN CONNOR
State Representative • 85th District

COMMITTEES:

- APPROP – GENERAL SERVICES
- APPROP – HIGHER EDUCATION
- CYBERSECURITY - VICE CHAIR
- JUDICIARY - CRIMINAL
- LABOR & COMMERCE
- TRANSPORTATION: ROADS & BRIDGES

**Statement of Representative John Connor on the
Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act (SB 1451, 100th General Assembly)**

When I voted “no” on the Small Cell Wireless bill (SB 1451) in 2018, I was concerned that the telecommunications giants pushing the 5G rollout were rolling over local governments and health concerns in their effort to increase profits with the new capabilities from 5G. These companies are pushing a more profitable wireless option with little health data on this new technology at a speed driven by industry demand alone, instead of being tempered by local voices or by an independent and robust health and safety study.

As a member of the Governor's Broadband Advisory Council, I have been an advocate for faster broadband statewide, but I've focused on the expansion of landline fiber optic cabling. Expanding fiber optic broadband has no RF radiation concerns and far less security concerns in terms of equipment manufacture or unauthorized access. I will continue to fight for broadband expansion that makes our state less dependent on large telecom companies, not more dependent.

I was unhappy that SB 1451 took control away from local municipalities over small cell tower locations. Tower location decisions should be made in collaboration with the taxpayers who must live near the towers and their local elected officials, not the whims of multinational telecom giants. 5G also has the potential for more health effects than current cell tower technology due to its closer proximity to homes.

When SB 1451 sunsets on June 1, 2021, we need to insure that local control is restored, and we also need to ensure that local governments have a voice on the existing sites that went up after SB 1451 expedited the installation of small cell tower sites in Illinois in 2018. Until we know more, local control is the best course of action in ensuring that taxpayers have a say on cell sites in their own neighborhoods.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Connor".

John Connor
State Representative
85th District