

SB3269



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

SB3269

Introduced 2/19/2016, by Sen. Wm. Sam McCann

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

430 ILCS 170/15

Amends the First Informer Broadcasters Act. Provides that the Illinois Emergency Management Agency may by rule establish protocols to facilitate first informer access to affected areas.

LRB099 19961 MJP 44360 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning safety.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The First Informer Broadcasters Act is amended
5 by changing Section 15 as follows:

6 (430 ILCS 170/15)

7 Sec. 15. First informer broadcasters; training and
8 certification.

9 (a) Any Statewide organization, or any member of a
10 Statewide organization, that represents broadcasters, cable
11 television communications, or any other provider that uses
12 emerging technologies may establish a program for training and
13 certifying broadcast engineers and technical personnel as
14 first informer broadcasters. Each program established pursuant
15 to this subsection must:

16 (i) be consistent with federal law and guidelines;

17 (ii) provide training and education concerning
18 restoring, repairing and resupplying any facilities and
19 equipment of a broadcaster in an area affected by an
20 emergency or disaster; and

21 (iii) provide training and education concerning the
22 personal safety of a first informer broadcaster in an area
23 affected by an emergency or disaster.

1 (b) To the extent practicable and consistent with not
2 endangering public safety or inhibiting recovery efforts,
3 State and local governmental agencies shall allow a first
4 informer broadcaster access to an area affected by an emergency
5 or disaster for the purpose of restoring, repairing, or
6 resupplying any facility or equipment critical to the ability
7 of a broadcaster to acquire, produce, and transmit essential
8 emergency or disaster-related public information programming,
9 including, without limitation, repairing and maintaining
10 transmitters and generators, and transporting fuel for
11 generators.

12 (c) The Illinois Emergency Management Agency may by rule
13 establish protocols to facilitate first informer access to
14 affected areas under this Section.

15 (Source: P.A. 97-1155, eff. 1-25-13.)