**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Testimony in Support of:**

[**H.2030**](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/190/H2030/BillHistory)***An Act relative to best management practices for wireless in schools and public institutions of higher education***

[**S.2079**](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/190/S2079)***An Act reducing non-ionizing radiation exposure in schools***

Submitted By: Jose A. Martínez, Cartagena (Spain), on September 18th, 2017

Submitted To: [Joint Committee on Education](https://malegislature.gov/Committees/Detail/J14/190/BillHistory)

Committee Members, Sponsor, Co-Sponsors, MA Department of Public Health, MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, MA Attorney General’s Office and Governor Baker’s Office:

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Dear Esteemed Legislators and Public Servants,

Thank you for your careful consideration of H. 2030 and S. 2079 to ensure safe use of today’s technology in our schools. I am a multidisciplinary researcher from the Technical University of Cartagena (Spain) and I am submitting testimony because, as scientist, during the last years of my life I have reviewed hundreds of scientific research regarding adverse effects of non-ionizing electromagnetic fields (EMF) on human health.

As an Industrial Technical Engineer I am familiar with the physics of electromagnetic fields. In addition, I have a degree in market research and a Ph.D. in business and marketing, so I am familiar with the strategies employed by companies to persuade stakeholders, and how they lobby to manipulate opinions and regulations. Moreover, I have a master’s degree in environmental management, so that I am also familiar with the hazards surrounding us threatening the environment and the human life. Finally, as a multidisciplinary researcher I have published more than 75 papers in peer-reviewed journals of several disciplines, including statistics and health. Consequently, I believe I am credited to critically evaluate evidence regarding this topic, and I have done huge efforts to divulge that evidence in my country, Spain.

As a scientist I am astonished to see that a part of scientific community and the vast majority of policy makers around the world deny the evidence that non-ionizing electromagnetic fields yield adverse influence on human health beyond short-term thermal effects. The evidence showed across decades of published literature is so overwhelming that is totally irresponsible to continue that way without regulating with much more scientific fundament the increasing sources of EMF, specially radiofrequency.

**A known story**

I am not going to refer to the hundreds of published works showing this problem which can be easily got in the scientific journals, but I only want to remember that history says we lived this sequence of facts before. For example, regarding carbon disulfide, the medical investigator Alice Hamilton, from Harvard, published the book “Industrial Poisons in the United States”, in 1925. Her book was criticized because she mainly focused on research results coming from Europe yielded after 60 years of studies. And this was viewed as a limitation for its application to the United States. In a similar way, many scientist and policy makers do not consider the several hundreds of studies accomplished in the Soviet Union during the second half of the past century showing the serious threats of the radiofrequency radiation.

Alice Hamilton had to achieve her own studies and showed the same results appearing in Europe decades ago. In the same way numerous researchers have showed in the last decades that results coming from old soviet studies were right. Finally, Alice Hamilton proposed a maximum threshold level for carbon disulfide, but regulators in the United States chosen in 1941 to double the limit proposed by Hamilton. Now that limit is still valid for the OSHA in 2017, ignoring the huge evidence provided by the literature about adverse health effects at that level. Again in the same way, hundreds of scientists have claimed in the last years to lower the maximum exposure level of radiofrequency radiation in order to be consequent with the scientific evidence about health effects. However, and unfortunately, reality is showing us that not only regulation is deficient and is not changed, but the wireless devices and the electromagnetic pollution are exponentially growing without due control.

**An unequal struggle**

As a father XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX, I try to protect them from electromagnetic fields, and to educate them to use technology in a safe way. But it is so difficult to control their exposure when the leave home and go, for example, to the school (Wi-Fi devices), to a park (cell phones towers surrounding them), or to bus or train (several mobile phones emitting radiation). And when I try to educate other people regarding the need of limiting exposure (for example the schools’ principals or the politicians of my city council), they use to counter argue my proposal saying that emissions are below what Law indicates as dangerous, so there is nothing to do. This is one of the reasons that it is imperative to modify the laws and to step down the current limits of exposure, which are not updated according to the scientific evidence provided by independent researchers.

**Observation of growing cases of ill people**

Finally, I personally know persons who have developed electrohypersensibility in my country. Many of them are really sick, they can’t live a decent life, and society is turning its back on them. I know physicians, university professors and researchers who are sick because of wireless radiation. They are well-trained, they have a strong background in science but they are viewed as mad men and women by an important portion of the society.

I do not want to see my children lose their health because of a part of the scientific community and most policy makers deny a problem that science have shown evident. It is horrible to think that we, as society, will repeat the story we lived with tobacco, asbestos, some pesticides, lead, methylmercury and the commented case of carbon disulfide. Moreover, EMFs are in fact more threatening, because they are ubiquitous and affect everyone.

Massachusetts has an incredible opportunity to lead the nation in creating solutions for safe technology use in school. Please report out of committee favorably and promptly [H.2030](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/190/H2030/BillHistory) *An Act relative to best management practices for wireless in schools and public institutions of higher education* and[S.2079](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/190/S2079) *An Act reducing non-ionizing radiation exposure in schools.*

Thank you for your time and consideration, please don’t hesitate to contact me if I can provide additional information.

Respectfully,

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