

REGULATION OF DEVICES CAPABLE OF CAUSING RADIO INTERFERENCE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1968

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POWER,
COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met at 10 a.m., pursuant to notice, in room 2123, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Torbert H. Macdonald (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Mr. MACDONALD. The hearing will come to order.

We have before us for hearing today H.R. 14910, introduced by Mr. Staggers, chairman of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, and a related bill.

These bills would give the Federal Communications Commission authority to prescribe regulations with respect to devices capable of emitting radio energy which would interfere with radio communications; included would be such devices as diathermy machines, electronic garage-door openers, electronic heaters, and certain welding machines.

The regulations would apply to the manufacture, importation, sale, shipment, or use of these devices. Specific exemptions from the legislation are made for devices intended solely for export, for devices constructed by electric utilities for their own use, and for devices for the use of the Federal Government.

(The bill, H.R. 14910, and departmental reports follow:)

[H.R. 14910, 90th Cong., second sess.]

A BILL To amend the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, to give the Federal Communications Commission authority to prescribe regulations for the manufacture, import, sale, shipment, or use of devices which cause harmful interference to radio reception

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, is further amended by adding thereto a new section 302 to read as follows:

"DEVICES WHICH INTERFERE WITH RADIO RECEPTION

"Sec. 302. (a) The Commission may, consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity, make reasonable regulations governing the interference potential of devices which in their operation are capable of emitting radio frequency energy by radiation, conduction, or other means in sufficient degree to cause harmful interference to radio communications. Such regulations shall be applicable to the manufacture, import, sale, offer for sale, shipment or use of such devices.

"(b) No person shall manufacture, import, sell, offer for sale, ship, or use devices which fail to comply with regulations promulgated pursuant to this section.

"(c) The provisions of this section shall not be applicable to carriers transporting such devices without trading in them, to devices manufactured solely for export, to the manufacture, assembly, or installation of devices for its own use by a public utility engaged in providing electric service, or to devices for use by the Government of the United States or any agency thereof. Devices for use by the