I oppose giving away the privileges so to increase participation in Amateur radio events.

Anyone who chooses to remain a Technician class operator likely does so because they are not interested in participating in the other aspects of Amateur radio. Like other comments, I studied hard to achieve my Amateur Extra class license because I wanted the extra privileges and I am proud of my accomplishments and value my license. Our society is changing where we have been making it too easy to attain by lowering standards to increase participation.

I respect all the Amateurs before me who worked harder for their class license because their standards were higher. The current Technician class license allowed me to participate in Amateur radio and the lower cost entry-level radios gave me that impetus. My desire to participate more with Amateur radio and Emergency communication was my drive to get my Amateur Extra license and be able to utilize all band and function.

By changing the privileges for the Technician class, you will not necessarily increase the participation. We have been acquiring more Technician class operators in the past few years in Hawaii, but not all of them are active on the air. One of the VHF/UHF nightly nets has less than 30 check-ins each evening and the growth has not be directly proportional to the amount of new Technician licenses issued.

I would prefer working with an Amateur in an EMCOMM situation that wanted to be there and got their license through their personal efforts. I hope that many will work toward the next privileges and not be handed to them on a silver platter. The Amateur radio license is what sets us apart from CB, FRS and GMRS radio services and we participate as allowed and desired.

Please vote against RM-11828.

Bernard Yuen, KH6MOI