

MD 94-19

PRIVATE BAG DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
SPECIFIC

11/15/93

Secretary of the FCC
1919 M Street
Washington, DC 20554

Nov 22 10 30 AM '93

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MAR 29 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

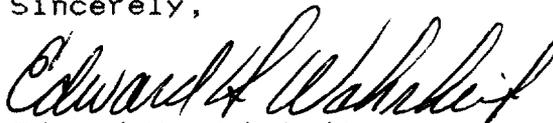
Dear Mr. Secretary:

After reading an article in the BOAT/ U.S. referring to a "users fee" on holders of VHF marine radio licenses of \$7 per year, doubling the cost of the VHF licence, I have decided to express my opinion on the subject. It seems to me that doubling the cost of the license will have a very detrimental effect on safety.

I, for one, will not keep my VHF radio if it is going to be so expensive just to have a license. I am sure there are many others who share my feelings. That would reduce the chances of a boater in trouble reaching some one who would come to their rescue. I realize that not having a radio may also keep me from being able to call for help, but, that is the chance I will take to keep from being ripped off by the government. It's a case of always trying to get another dollar from the boater without doing anything for the dollar.

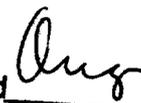
You'll have to come up with another scheme to get my dollar this time. I am sure you will try.

Sincerely,



Edward H. Wahrheit
6100 Edlynne Rd
Balto, MD 21239-1926

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1905 Brady Avenue
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

December 14, 1993

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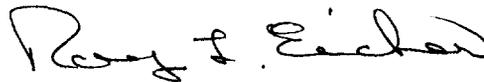
Secretary of the FCC
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Secretary:

I strongly object to the proposed rate increase for the 5 year VHF radio license. If anything, the rate should be decreased to encourage the purchase and use of this very essential piece of safety equipment. Higher fees will only discourage the average boater from buying a radio.

Please rethink any efforts to increase the fee and submit a proposal to lower the fee or at least keep the same fee, and I would estimate the response would be overwhelming.

A 22 year boater with a radio,



Ray L. Elcher

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MD 94-19



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

(AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS 1939)

THE CIVILIAN COMPONENT OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD

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January 05, 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

In regards to ship station license fee increase;

It is no secret that ship station license fees were imposed to raise revenues for the Federal Government. The FCC has not taken on the job of teaching the general boating public on the proper use of the marine radio they have installed in their boats. As a boater in the Detroit area I know first hand the mess there exists on channel 16 during the boating season. The larger part of VHF-FM radio users are not aware of basic FCC rules and propagation. When vessels call on coast stations, including United States Coast Guard and marine telephone operators, they are not asked for radio call signs. I truly believe that the boating public thinks that they really don't have to have a license to operate their radios if no one is asking for call signs.

For almost three years I have been licensed as an amateur radio operator, N8NYP, and have for a long time before getting my ticket have admired the hams for their dedication and discipline.

The FCC has to get a handle on educating the boating public and not just search and destroy tactics by hitting violators with heavy fines. This method will only send more radio users "underground" and make matters even worse. Therefore, until law and order can be brought to the airways the FCC should not increase fees.

Terrence G. Kolton
334 Bondie
Wyandotte, MI 48192-2613

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66. W 56 01 07 100

PRIVATE MAIL

J.C. Porcell
54 HIGH STREET
MONTROSE NY 10950



Secretary of the FCC
c/o Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW
Washington, DC, 20554

5114

FCC - MAIL ROOM

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Secretary of the FCC
c/o Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW
Washington, DC, 20554

Dear Sir,

* This letter is in reference to your proposal to install a "user fee" on holders of VHF Marine Licenses. I feel that the primary reason for having this radio on the boat is for BOATING SAFETY for myself, family and other boaters.

I believe that by you doubling the cost of this marine VHF license it will have a negative impact on BOATING SAFETY causing some boaters not to have one on board their vessel. As a result this could cost a life.

The VHF Marine radio was designed to be a instrument to make boating a safe pastime not a tool to raise revenues.

PLEASE STOP THE " USER FEE" !!!

Yours truly,

JAMES C PURCELL
54 HIGH STREET
MONROE N.Y. 10950

James C Purcell
(Signature)

November 22 1993
(Date)

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Nov 24 4 46 PM '93

BRIAN J. HUGHES
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW
300 MERCER STREET, SUITE 16M
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10003
TELEPHONE (212) 254-2515

PRIVATE RADIO BUREAU
SPECIAL SERVICES

Nov 30 11 22 AM '93

JAMES H. QUELLO

November 22, 1993

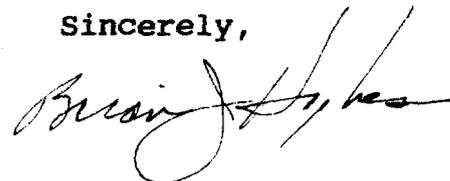
Mr. James H. Quello,
Acting Chairman,
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Sir:

"Boat/U.S." recently reported that the Federal Communications Commission is considering raising the user fees associated with VHF marine radio licenses. As a concerned recreational boater, I feel that such an increase would certainly have an adverse impact on boating safety.

Therefore, I am opposed to any increase in the VHF marine radio license fees.

Sincerely,



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Secretary of the FCC
Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20554

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OFFICE OF SECRETARY

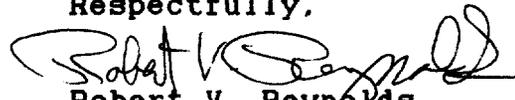
Mr. Secretary:

It has come to my attention your office is about to propose a new "user" fee on holders of VHF marine radios in the amount of Seven dollars (\$7) per year, in addition to the existing thirty five dollars (\$35) for five (5) year license already imposed.

It has not been too long since the licenses were "FREE", and then a fee was imposed to cover "administrative" costs; what this new fee is for, I do not know. It appears that boaters are being unfairly targeted, luxury tax, registration fees, exorbitant slip fees, and a radio license (not required by CB'ers or cellular telephone users). I would add that a VHF radio is one of the most important items on a boat any place in the world. Here on Lake Mead, I serve as a volunteer with the National Park Service Boat Patrol, and finding people in trouble on the lake is nearly impossible without the use of the VHF radio.

As a member of the United States Power Squadrons, I teach a free public Safe Boating course, wherein, we promote the use of VHF marine radios as a necessary element of boat equipment. A marine radio already costs a minimum of \$150, plus the \$35 license fee, and I believe the new proposal, (which doubles the fee) will reduce the number of boaters that will purchase a VHF radio, and, therefore reduce the safety of the boating public. Ownership of a boat does not necessarily equate to wealth. I urge you to reconsider this matter and not impose any additional costs to the boating public, especially where it impacts safety.

Respectfully,



Robert V. Reynolds
973 Marigold Court
Henderson, NV 89015

NOTE: THIS LETTER IS WRITTEN BY ME - ON MY WORD PROCESSOR - AS MY HANDWRITING IS LESS THAN PERFECT.



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PRIVATE RADIO
SPECIAL SERVICE
VISIT

SEP 1 9 28 AM

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MAR 29 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
14956 Terrace DEPT. OF SECRETARY
Midlothian, IL. 60445
Nov. 26, 1993

Secretary of the FCC
1919 M ST. NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Sir:

I see that your dept. is considering an additional "user fee" of \$7.00 per year for holders of a marine VHF license. Why? What are you doing extra that would justify this additional TAX? As it stands all your group does is register VHF radio owners and charge \$35.00.

Get off our backs! This is just another governmental rip off.....
We have had enough taxation.



Frank E. Zoll

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1/23/94

Managing Director
FCC
Washington DC

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Sir —

The only reason I have a VHF marine radio for my little 18' runabout is because I volunteer its use as an Auxiliaryist for the Coast Guard.

I've used it on SAR missions and C. G. Training sessions.

I'm told I'll have to pay a bunch of new "fees" (taxes) each year if I want to keep my radio.

If this is true, I'll quit the Auxiliary and chuck the radio.

Please advise
E A Donze

Mr. E. A. Donze
54 10th St.
Shalimar, FL 32579

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Quig

MD 94-19

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Jim Hillery
RT 2 Box 658
Raymond, WA 98577

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

January 27, 1993

FCC
Office of Managing Director
1919 M St. N.W.
Washington D. C. 20554

Dear Director:

I am writing to protest the recently announced proposal to double the cost of a FCC license for VHF radios in use within the boating industry. The raising of the fees from \$35 to \$70 are totally unacceptable. Such cost increases will certainly result in a reduced amount of licenses being purchased and will result in more unlicensed users of the VHF system.

I live in a coastal area of Washington and use my boat fairly often. In the past four years I have never used my radio for transmittal with the exception of an occasional radio check. However, I have it for emergency situations for myself or others.

There are alternative communication devices that are not yet licensed. What will you dream up next? Perhaps you are considering the CB radio. I to would like to double my income but please lets live within our means and consider the result of your actions.

Sincerely,



cc
Unsoeld
Gorton

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MD 94-19



Joseph H. Pierre, Jr.
UNITED STATES NAVY (RETIRED)

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Wednesday, January 26, 1994

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Managing Director
1919 "M" Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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MAR 29 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Re: Raising VHF marine radio license renewal fees

Sir:

It is my understanding that the FCC intends to raise marine VHF license renewal fees from \$35 to \$70, in an attempt to raise additional revenue; an amount nearly equal in many cases to the cost of the equipment itself.

This is a rotten idea. The predictable result will be a failure to renew licenses by vast numbers of sport boaters, and thus the failure to raise the additional revenue sought. A collateral result, equally easy to foresee, but far more serious, will be fewer sport vessels outfitting with VHF -- and subsequent loss of life resulting from lack of this important boating safety feature.

Lifesaving equipment should be encouraged on our waterways by government agencies, not discouraged in the never-ending attempt to milk more money from the public. I strongly urge you to re-ject this egregious proposal.

Joseph Pierre

- c: Senator Mark Hatfield
- Senator Bob Packwood
- Representative Mike Kopetski
- Representative Bob Smith
- Representative Elizabeth Furse
- Representative Peter DeFazio
- Representative Ron Wyden

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4822 Oak Park Drive, NE • Salem, Oregon 97305-2931 • (503) 585-1561

Member: National Rifle Association of America • The Naval Institute • Association of Naval Aviation • The Tailhook Association • United States Power Squadrons • The Fleet Reserve • China Post 1, The American Legion • Oregon Correctional Officers Association • Law Enforcement Alliance of America • Academy of Model Aeronautics
Biographed: Who's Who in American Art-1962 • Who's Who in the United States-1975 • Who's Who in the West-1965-66, 1993-94

MD 94-19

West Tech MICROWAVE INC.

MANUFACTURERS REPRESENTATIVES

TELETYPE FILE COPY ORIGINAL

December 7, 1993

FCC, c/o Office of Managing Director
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

DEC 13 1 16 AM '93

PUBLIC SERVICE DIV.
DMD-PHKS

Dear : Sir

I saw a brief note in BOATS/U.S. last week about the FCC raising user fees for VHF marine radio licenses. I spoke with a number of my boat owner friends about this new proposed fee and their first reaction was "Why is the U.S. government constantly picking on the boat owners? Most of us are not wealthy. We just love boating and being out on the ocean. We all agree with BOATS/U.S. that the new fees will not have a negative impact on boat safety. This is because we will not PAY the new fees! Most of my boating associates also have a hand held radio and the fees for 2 radios already costing \$70 each five years.

We feel that the FCC is killing the goose laying the golden eggs and the FCC may end up on the loosing end similar to when the government put a 10% luxury tax on new boats. Perhaps you remember what happened to the Citizens Band Radio licenseing which was \$5 for five years. Most users did not even pay that fee and the FCC eventually gave up licensing users all together.

Do you really want that to happen again?

Sincerely,

David B. Rive

DAVID B. RIVE PH: 805-373-0033 FAX: 805-373-6901
President

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- 3609 Thousand Oaks Blvd. • Suite 221 • Westlake Village, CA 91362 • (805) 373-0033 • FAX (805) 373-6901
- 24631 Via San Fernando • Mission Viejo, CA • (714) 770-2067 • FAX (714) 454-2910

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19153 Walmer Lane
Beverly Hills, Michigan 48025
December 2, 1993

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MAR 29 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Secretary of the FCC
c/o Office of the Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D. C. 20554

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to state my absolute opposition to the proposed user's fee for marine radio operators. My opposition is based on the following points:

1. This fee imposed on top of the already outrageous \$35.00 per five year license fee is the type of action that is going to push many owners of small boats in particular to use CB radios or no radio at all. Either of these scenarios will seriously lower the safety level of the boating public.
2. There was no evidence of any valid reason for the recent change in the licensing fees, and there is even less evidence of any valid reason for the so called user's fee that is being proposed for the non-commercial use of the public air waves. What service will be rendered that has not been there for the last forty years? Indeed, what service is now being rendered that justifies a users fee?? This fee is in reality nothing more than a discriminatory tax levied against people who own boats with marine radios and as such will probably meet the same fate as the so called boat users tax that is now being phased out after court battles over its legality.

Contrary to the notion that anyone who owns a boat is rich, my wife and I both work and sacrifice a lot of things to own our boat as do the vast majority of our boating friends. We do not have a bottomless money pit, and deeply resent the recent trend in government to add new taxes and fees at every turn in the road. It is money grubbing proposals like this that help breed the increasing contempt that the American people have for the government.

If you can provide one shred of evidence of what the boating public is going to receive from the FCC from this users fee, I am willing to reconsider my position. Based on the FCC's established history of non-contribution to boating safety in the past I doubt that I will be hearing from you. In the interim, I remain...

Yours truly,

Irving G. Usner

Irving G. Usner

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1709 Wampler Place
Chesapeake, Virginia 23321
November 26, 1993

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Secretary of the FCC
c/o Office of Managing Director,
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Subject: VHF "User Fees"

Dear Sir or Madam:

Your proposal to increase fees on holders of VHF Marine Radio licenses will have a very negative impact on safety for boaters.

I know what I'm talking about when it comes to this issue. More and more people have already begun switching to cellular telephones because they can be used in their automobiles and their boats. Your continuous search for more revenue via so called "user fees" only accelerates this dangerous trend. Why is this trend dangerous? When using a VHF marine radio to broadcast a plea for help, other boaters with VHF radios in the general vicinity of the boater may hear the call for help and respond. With cellular calls for help, this will never happen. In fact, loss of boats (and perhaps, boaters) could happen practically in view of other boaters unaware of the emergency.

It is shortsighted on your part to even consider a proposal where revenue takes precedence over common sense and the safety of the citizens you are supposed to serve. In addition, you need to remember a basic law of economics; total revenue = quantity times unit price. Increase the unit price - volume will go down - and total revenue will decrease, not increase! Cellular phones bring into play market forces - something government bureaucrats don't seem to understand.

Very truly yours,

Joseph H. Armstrong
Joseph H. Armstrong

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Aug

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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

C. Michael Cowan
1239 McMakin-McMullan Rd.
Shelbyville Ky., 40065-9314

1 December, 1993

Secretary of the F.C.C.
c/o Office of the Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission,
1919 M St. NW
Washington D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Sir:

I just received some very upsetting news from members of my local boat club. I am told the F.C.C. is considering adding a \$7.00 a year "user fee" to the license fee for VHF marine radio. I can recall it was just recently the license was raised to \$35.00 per five years which is \$7.00 a year now. Also whenever a license holder needs to change their address, the name of their boat, or even get a copy of their license another \$35.00 is charged. Aren't these rates already way out of proportion to user costs to the government?

Remember a VHF marine radio license is not a hobby or "small business" radio license such as HAM or CB. It is a license to use a proven lifesaver, a radio that every boater should have aboard when boating on navigable waterways as well as at sea.

These marine radios are fairly common on larger yachts and license cost isn't a big issue with many of these boaters. But with the advent of smaller mountable units and hand helds. The needed safety radios are just now becoming popular on smaller fishing and runabout type boats. Accident statistics show these are the very people who are most likely to need assistance and also the ones most likely to be put off by the higher costs of a license.

As a member of the United States Power Squadron and a E.M.T.. I urge the F.C.C. not to impose another impractical and regressive "user fee" on our licenses. Should that happen I see two new problems. The first and most important is the guy trying to decide whether or not to buy a needed Marine VHF will often be put off by the \$70.00 per five years in fees and never get a radio. The other is we will see a proliferation of unlicensed radio operators similar to what happened on CB when the speed limits dropped to 55.

We both know there is no way the F.C.C. can patrol the country for unlicensed operators of marine VHF any more successfully than you did unlicensed CBers. Be realistic and help those of us who are trying to encourage people to do the safe and legal thing. Learn a lesson from the federal boat "user fee". Don't shoot us down with another regressive fee.

Sincerely:



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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
(AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS 1939)
THE CIVILIAN COMPONENT OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD

November 18, 1993

Secretary of the FCC
c/o Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commissions
1919 M St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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MAR 29 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Secretary:

This note is in reference to the proposed increase in "user fees" on the VHF marine radio license.

As a proud member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary who dedicates hundreds of hours promoting Safe Boating through my office of Division Public Education Officer, I am appalled at the prospect of the fee increase.

Consider the following very real possibility: *this fee increase could at least discourage a handful of boaters from installing a marine radio. What if one of those few boaters, now without a marine radio, were not able to hear a Mayday Distress call and offer assistance and prevent the needless death of a fellow boater.*

Would you feel comfortable that you may contributed to the death of even one boater because someone was discouraged from installing a radio and being there to offer assistance?

Sincerely,

SO/PE Len Schulte, Jr.
United States Coast Guard Auxillary
844-A Westbrooke Village Drive
Ballwin, MO 63021

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PRIVATE RADIO BUREAU
SPECIAL SERVICES

Dec 6 9 21 AM '93

2201 N. Wolfsnare Drive
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454
December 1, 1993

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Secretary of the FCC
C/O Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

I understand that there is a proposed new "user fee" planned for holders of VHF marine radios of \$7.00 per year, or an extra \$35.00 for a 5 year license. This new fee on top of the existing \$35.00 will, in my opinion, have a negative impact on boating safety. Having a VHF radio is not a luxury, but a vital necessity. I am afraid that you will be pricing many boaters out of having a radio on board.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this fee. To impose this additional fee will be unjust and put many persons at risk.

Sincerely,



David M. Miller

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Mrs. Scott Jackson
216 Colvin Place
Mt. Vernon, Wa. 98273-9118

November 29, 1993

Secretary of the FCC
c/o Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Sir:

I recently read that there is going to be a user fee of \$7.00 per year for marine VHF radios. I am writing to express my views on this fee.

My husband was forced to retire at 60 years old due to a health problem. We were unable to get disability. We had to take a lower Social Security at 62 than he could have had if he had been able to work for another five years as planned.

We own an older boat and still are able financially to hang on to it and enjoy a little boating and fishing. At the rate living costs have been rising we are finding it harder and harder to make ends meet on our \$10,000 yearly income. We will probably have to sell our home in the next five years.

I was disheartened to see that they have added yet another cost to owning a boat. We have never even used our VHF radio and would remove it but we put it in there a couple of years ago for our peace of mind in case we should have some emergency. I know \$7.00 doesn't sound like much but with everything else, and at our income, it does make a difference. And will it stop there? Boating is a good clean recreation but because it is a recreation it seems like it is always targeted when they increase fees and taxes. Not all boating people are rich.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Scott (Jeanne) Jackson

Mrs. Scott (Jeanne) Jackson

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One

MD 94-19

W. Penster

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

November 16, 1993

Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Re: The planned FCC Regulatory Increase In The
Ship Station License Fee, From \$35 to \$70.

Dear Sir:

I do not favor the increased license fee since it will discourage small craft operators from obtaining new or renewing old licenses for their VHF and other marine radios. These are vital to their operational safety!

About 80% are less than 17' in length and with their greater accident frequency, the great preponderance of reportable accidents and deaths. Such craft are more easily overwhelmed by adverse weather conditions and rely on radio communications, including weather reports. These are vital to their safety.

I feel that the proposed increase is unjustified and counter-productive to other ongoing safety efforts by many organizations.

yours truly,

Lloyd B. Ryland
Lloyd B. Ryland
8 San Carlos Ave
El Cerrito, CA 94530

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Nov 24 6 00 AM '93

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Robert H. McCullough, Jr., Commodore
Catalina 36 National Association
2199 Old Skippack Road
Woxall, PA 19879
(215) 234-4491

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December 10, 1993

MAR 29 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Secretary of the FCC
c/o Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street
Washington, DC 20544

Sir:

I am appalled that the FCC would even consider imposing an additional "user fee" on the holders of VHF marine radiotelephone licenses. In view of the fact that neither citizens band radio or amateur radio has a fee for their licenses I think that the present \$35 five year fee is sufficient. In fact, I don't believe there should be any fee for this license.

Boaters like myself whose use of marine VHF radio is purely voluntary will be tempted to do without this very important piece of safety gear. To add an additional \$7 per year fee, in effect doubling the cost of the license, will no doubt cause many boaters to either operate illegally or do without. I think to impose this "user fee" would be like cutting off your nose to spite your face.

There are already enough people on the water who do not have or use marine radios. This additional fee would practically ensure that more boaters will not use VHF radio. This will produce a serious problem of safety on the water. I urge you not to impose this additional fee.

Very truly yours,

Robert H. McCullough, Jr.
Robert H. McCullough, Jr.

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PRIVATE RADIO BUREAU
SPECIAL AGENT

Mr. Dana Ross
683 Yuma Dr.
Livermore, CA 94550
DEC 5 6 21 AM '93

Secretary of the FCC
c/o Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW
Washington, DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

To Whom It May Concern

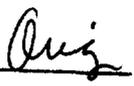
A brief comment on the proposed "user fees" on holders of VHF marine radio licenses. Although insignificant in itself, the addition of a \$7 per year fee will only put affordable safe boating further out of reach for many individuals. The constant barrage fees and surcharges placed on a select group has made many of my friends and myself rethink the enjoyment of boating. Most individuals that I know sacrifice many things to enjoy boating. I can only believe that the percentage of boaters who can really "afford" to own a boat is small. What the imposition of this fee will eventually do is force many boaters to operate boats either illegally, without a license, or with no radio at all.

Operation of a boat on major waterways without a radio will present an extremely unsafe condition should problems arise. Most boating fatalities that I have been aware have been related to small boats in rough water. I can only assume that had these people had a VHF radio they would have been aware of impending weather conditions or would have been able to call for help. As more and more boats begin operation without an essential piece of safety equipment, more lives will be lost. The increase in revenue to the FCC will be far outweighed by the added cost of search and rescue of distressed boaters with an unknown location. Many rescue missions may in fact only be because a boat is overdue in port without problems, however with no method of notifying people.

Please use common sense when contemplating any increase in fees for revenue. There would be no benefit to anyone from these fees except for revenue and the cost of such action could be astronomical.

Regards


Dana Ross

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MAR 29 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Nov. 30, 1993

Secretary of the Federal Communications Commission
c/o The Office of the Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Sir:

It was with great chagrin that I received, a year or so ago, a notice that I had to pay a \$35 fee to renew my 5-year marine VHF station license. Obviously, this is another ploy to make the recreational boater pay more than his or her fair share of "revenue enhancement" taxes. I paid it, rather than remove my VHF radio from my boat, because I consider it as an essential element in my personnel boat safety program.

However, with the prospect of this amount doubling under new FCC "user fee" plans, I must vehemently protest. This additional fee will, no doubt, have a negative impact on boating safety. It also, I am sure, has nothing to do with providing better services for the recreational boater.

The original \$35 fee was anti boat safety. The additional \$35 tax will make a bad situation even worse.

Darel W. Shafer

Darel W. Shafer
958 Buckingham
Lincoln Park, MI
48146-3639

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

December 8, 1993

Secretary of the FCC
c/o Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

I understand that the fees for the VHF marine radios are to be doubled.

As a safety precaution I would like to continue using my VHF but feel in the wake of our poor economy it would be prohibitive for me to keep my radio.

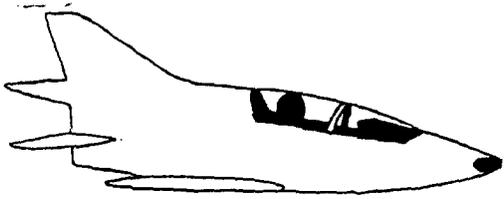
Sincerely,

George W. Enlow

George W. Enlow
P. O. Box 32
Sutherlin, Or
Ph # 503-459-3534

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

FCC EYES NEW FEES ON RECREATIONAL BOATERS.

I HAVE A 1957 30' CHRIS CRAFT THAT HAS RESTED ON ITS TRAILER, IN MY YARD SINCE OUR IDIOTIC CONGRESS SAW FIT TO HIT ME WITH A "USER TAX". CONGRESS COLLECTED NO MONEY FROM ME, PERIOD. THE TAX WAS REPEALED AND MY BOAT WILL GO BACK INTO LAKE SUPERIOR NEXT SUMMER. I HAVE RENEWED MY RADIO-RADAR LICENSE EVERY FIVE YEARS EVEN THOUGH I THINK THE \$35.00 IS RATHER HIGH.

IF YOU SHOULD DECIDE TO DOUBLE THIS TAX, OR EVEN RAISE IT, I WILL REMOVE THE RADIO- DISCONNECT THE RADAR AND OPERATE MY BOAT WITHOUT EITHER EVEN IF I KNOW THIS IS A COMPLETELY UNSAFE PRACTICE. THIS WILL BE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON BOATING SAFETY? MY RADAR HAS SAVED MY LIFE ON LAKE SUPERIOR. OR- IF I SHOULD DECIDE TO OPERATE MY RADIO AND RADAR WITH MY CURRENT LICENSE WILL YOU THROW ME IN PRISON? IT WOULD BE CHEAPER TO ELIMINATE THE FCC AS UNNEEDED.

COPY TO BOAT/US.

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12/29/93

Secretary of the F.C.C.I.

90 Office of Managing Director Federal Communications Comm.

1919 M. Street

Washington, D.C. 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL PRIVATE RADIO BUREAU SPECIAL SERVICE

JAN 4 1994 RECEIVED

MAR 29 1994

Dear Sir:

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

I read an article in our local Henderson, Nevada newspaper whereby the F.C.C. wants to increase the V.H.F. license fee to \$70.00.

In my opinion this is a terrible and outrageous charge. What benefits will be received for this increase??

Small boat owners who enjoy fishing and boating (mostly on week-ends) buy and carry a radio for emergency purposes and to help those in distress. By having a radio and helping those in distress, reduces the work-load for the Park Rangers and their patrol boats. Even the current charge of \$30.00 is too high!! A \$10.00 fee should be sufficient to cover costs for recording and issuing licenses.

If the \$70.00 fee is passed, many boaters will not renew their license because they can't afford it and will find other means of communication!!

Your reply will be most welcomed.

Very truly yours,
Herbert J. Warren
854 Sherwood Dr
Henderson, NV 89015

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