

DOCKET FILE COPY (ORIGINAL)

94-19 1/27/94

Dear Secretary FCC

Please waive the VHF -  
Radar license fee for marine  
use. This requirement is an  
unnecessary tax and not  
in the public interest.

Thank you

Lawrence R. Purcell O.D.

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FCC - MAIL ROOM

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January 31, 1994

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

FCC MAIL ROOM

Re: Marine Radio Licenses

Dear Sir or Madam:

It has come to my attention that the U.S. Congress has directed the F.C.C. to increase the fee for a marine VHF radio license to \$70 for a five-year license and \$105 for a ten year license. Such fee increase could be suspended if not in the public interest.

I strongly oppose such increase as it is definitely not in the public interest to implement any measure that might discourage the acquisition and use of this most important item of marine safety. As the operator of a small boat in the Pacific Northwest I could cite many instances in which vessel-to-vessel communication has prevented potentially disasterous situations. A clear example is the ability to be informed of vessel traffic in restricted and often blind waterways such as Deception Pass, Swinomish Channel, and Pole Pass in Washington waters and Dodd Narrows, Active Pass, etc. in British Columbia waters. I can also think of instances where private craft have been able to relay messages between the Coast Guard and boaters in trouble when direct communication was impeded for some reason.

I would hope that every agency concerned with marine safety would encourage every vessel operator to be equipped with VHF and oppose this unreasonable fee which, only a few years ago, was just \$5.00, and is presently \$35 for five years.

Sincerely,

  
C. Jay Allison

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