

# RM-8626

Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

April 12, 1995

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Dear Sirs,

I am ADAMANTLY OPPOSED to the proposed rule change RM-8626.

Besides eliminating the very useful code practice and timely bulletins transmitted by the ARRL, this rule would also eliminate propagation beacons on the HF bands. The propagation beacons reflect the real spirit of the amateur existence through experiment and research.

Mr. Maia believes code tapes and computer programs could replace the ARRL code practice sessions. However, only about half of today's amateurs have a computer. Most new hams don't start off with a computer and the younger ones would never enjoy the hobby if a computer was a requirement. The off-the-air reception of Morse code is second to none in building up one's code speed. Of course, let's don't forget the great value the ARRL brings with their bulletins and emergency messages.

Mr. Maia is obviously trying to build his personal business by eliminating the best source of Morse code practice so that more of his tapes may be sold. If Mr. Maia is trying to get rid of other groups broadcasting on the amateur service bands then this is the wrong method. The majority of the many amateurs using the ARRL services should not be made to suffer in this way. A re-thinking would be in order and not to include any personal business bias.

In summary, I am against any new rules that would:

1. Adversely affect the ARRL's ability to transmit on the HF bands those sessions that are intended to help an individual obtain or upgrade their Amateur Service license.
2. Adversely affect the ARRL's ability to transmit on the HF bands emergency, general and DX bulletins helpful to the Amateur community.
3. Adversely affect the ability of the Amateur Service to operate propagation beacons in support of the study of the HF bands.

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HOWEVER, I am STRONGLY in FAVOR of the ARRL being given a "Pioneer's Preference" as the ONLY group allowed to broadcast on the HF bands. The ARRL's 75 plus year history earns them this position. Other group's need to distribute information would be handled by the ARRL under this basis.

Sincerely,



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