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From: James Broughton <ab7ti@earthlink.net>
To: A7.A7 (WKENNARD)
Date: 8/13/98 3:09am
Subject: FCC WT Docket 98-143 nprm flaw

98-143

Mr. Kennard,

After reading the nprm WT Docket 98-143. I found a serious flaw that should be corrected before proceeding. On page 3, item 12 under section "IV. DISCUSSION", I found the statement that "Novice Class operators would be eligible for examination credit for the telegraphy requirement for any license class.". In item 13 which addresses the Technician Plus class, I found the following statement "Other Technician Plus Class operators could qualify for a General Class operator license by passing written examination Element 3(B) which consists of thirty questions on the additional privileges of a General Class operator license and the 13 or 20 wpm telegraphy examination." This would be a direct conflict since the Technician Plus license contains the exact test as the current Novice class. If Novice class were to be allowed credit for the telegraphy elements of higher class licenses, all of the Technician Plus class licenses would need to be given credit too so as not to allow for discrimination. I would propose that the current Novice class only be given the privilege of a higher class by passing either the 13 or 20 wpm telegraphy. This would prevent any discrimination suits. Please route this information as fast as possible so that an appropriate action might be taken.
Thank You.

James H. Broughton Jr.
Amateur Extra class call sign AB7TI
Volunteer Examiner accredited by both ARRL and W5YI.
General Radiotelephone Operator License PG-GB-010987

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AUG 13 1998

98-143

From: Sharon Jenkins
To: FCCMAIL.SMTPNLM("ka7rrb@sprintmail.com")
Date: 8/13/98 9:45am
Subject: Comments to the Chairman -Reply

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In response to your inquiry, Rulemaking numbers 9148, 9150 and 9196 have all been combined under Docket 98-143. You may access the NPRM FCC-98-143 to review the actual order by using the digital search mechanism accessible from our homepage. If you require assistance in using the electronic comment filing system, please contact Ms. Nguyen.

>>> Clark Mankin <ka7rrb@sprintmail.com> 08/09/98 10:53pm >>>
Clark Mankin (ka7rrb@sprintmail.com) writes:

Mr. Chairman,

Your electronic comments system still makes it a bit difficult to send in comments where they concern an item with no RM number.

I am writing on behalf of Independent Radio Alliance to comment on Amateur Radio license changes now under consideration by the Commission.

I would like to say that the IRA wishes to concur with the comments you have received from NCI (No Code International), with the exception that we at IRA believe that amateur license holders should be permitted to renew their existing license class until their death.

I am an Extra Class and put forth a significant amount of effort to obtain that license. I would like to renew as an Extra Class as long as I live.

I believe others who have earned this ticket will feel the same way.

FCC will save money by renewing existing classes and therefore the public interest is served.

This should not, however, deter you from initiating a three tier license structure for new licensees.

Like No Code International, we believe that a 5 word per minute code exam puts the US in full compliance with international agreements. No higher speed testing is required to comply.

We also agree that you should have a "sunset" clause on any code requirement such that when the International community eventually agrees to drop Morse, the USA is automatically a "code free" radio community.

The elimination of Morse Code will invigorate analog radio and save it from certain oblivion at the hands of the Internet.

Thanks for your time and please forward this message to the other members of the Commission and to the Wireless Bureau team currently working on the matter.

Clark R Mankin
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President,
Independent Radio Alliance

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Chairman of the Board
NWPMS Repeater Association

Chairman, Technical Committee
NWPMS Repeater Assn.

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AUG 18 1998

From: "ka7rrb" <ka7rrb@sprintmail.com>
To: "Sharon Jenkins" <SJENKINS@fcc.gov>
Date: 8/17/98 2:59pm
Subject: Re: Comments to the Chairman -Reply

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Note taken, Ms. Jenkins. I was not able to locate a RM number for this and was not really aware that it had one. We have known for quite some time that FCC was busily engaged in the process of license class reform, but the details weren't known.

I do hope you have forwarded these comments on for me so that I don't have to send a duplicate?

Thanks in advance.

I will have to contact someone for assistance on how to use the comment system. I'm an old paper based person and work very efficiently in the paper format. Electronics are wonderful if you can get it to work!