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Commissioners:

I cannot support the request to issue lifetime Amateur Radio Service licenses.

Desireable vanity license are already difficult to get. If licenses from inactive Amateur Radio Operators who choose not to renew are not returned to the pool then the problem gets worse.

The GROL licenses and FAA certificates do not have the same personally desirable call sign associated with them as does an Amateur Radio License. The value of call signs is reflected in how they "sound" in CW and Phone. Additional value is assigned by some people based on personal initials or other meaningful letter combinations.

While I agree the petition may be beneficial to the FCC and reduce workload somewhat it is not beneficial to the Amateur Radio community. Renewals are quite easy on the licensee and VECs are good about reminders. Those who choose not to renew put their call sign back in the pool for the benefit of others.

Respectfully,
Kevin der Kinderen, K4VD