

Subject: RM-11760

Gentlemen:

I wish to add my support for the petition to make amateur radio operator licenses good for the life of the licensee.

However, I do wonder about the station license, including the station call sign, becoming lifetime as well. I was under the impression that federal law prohibited station license terms from exceeding a period of a maximum of 10-years. If such is the case, then what provision will be made for the station license?

In previous years, each station license had to have a permanent location which was indicated on the license form. Usually, but not universally, the station license location was the same as the mailing address. Then, this permanent location requirement was removed and the station was assumed as being located wherever the licensee was at the time. Separating the station license from the operator's license will again require a specific location for the station.

The present vanity licensing program allows the harvesting of call signs from the deceased as well as from those licenses not renewed or call signs that are released by other licensees by gaining other vanity call signs. If the station license is made lifetime as well as the operator's license, then there would be no indication of the death of a licensee unless such is reported by some individual and that call sign would not become available for reissue through the vanity program.

If the station license is not made lifetime but requires renewal on a periodic basis, will there be a charge, for each station license, payable upon renewal? That question definitely has to be answered.