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I wish to express my opposition to extending the license period from the current 10 years to lifetime. Currently the license expiration provides for a means to clear out those who are no longer interested in the hobby. By extending the license to a lifetime format the Commission would create a database that may not be accurate. As with many other licenses, applications, etc a renewal is necessary to maintain accurate records and ensure that members stay interested in the hobby.

There is also the consideration of using renewal as a bargaining chip with radio operators who are found in violation of the FCC rules and regulations. As it is difficult and time consuming to enforce a monetary judgment against an individual the renewal requirement provides a slight bargaining chip.

I also am of the opinion that it is a privilege to obtain and hold a license. Should someone wish to drop out of the hobby that is fine and their call sign purged from the database. There should be an incentive to maintain good operating practices and procedures, as well as to stay on top of your license renewal. There should be effort on the part of the operator to maintain their qualifications.

Lastly it should be considered that an accurate measurement of the ebb and flow of the hobby would not be possible under the proposed changed. While it is easy to look at the number of new licenses issued, figuring out who has not renewed and in what numbers would be difficult without a periodic renewal requirement.

Respectfully
Adam Wde
KG4ERE