

Petition opposing RM-11769

Although proficiency in Morse telegraphy is no longer required of amateur radio operators, telegraphy (CW) is still used extensively on the amateur bands. I oppose the expansion of the CW-only portions of the amateur bands to other modes for the following reasons:

1. Some of the highly efficient digital modes that can achieve reliable communications in the presence of negative signal-to-noise ratios use highly structured formats that are not useful for conveying unstructured communications during emergencies;
2. The most useful digital modes require computer support and are not simple to set up or operate. Understanding the software, firmware, and hardware required to build an efficient digital radio system is beyond many amateurs and they must rely on commercial equipment to achieve communication using such modes;
3. CW is a highly flexible, simple mode that can be implemented using primitive equipment where required. A CW system can be set up quickly and used immediately to communicate information in almost any format required during an emergency;
4. The simplicity of CW encourages amateurs to build and experiment with their own equipment. This leads to an improvement of knowledge within the community of amateur radio operators, increasing their value as a national resource, especially in times of emergency.

Maynard A. Wright
6930 Enright Drive
Citrus Heights, CA 95621-2837
m-wright@eski mo. com