

I am, Robert Matteucci, a licensed amateur radio operator and my views on restructuring the amateur service are as follows :

- 1 - In regards to NPRM 98-143 Para. 19-21 - I agree with the FCC's assessment as to the decreasing role of Morse Code in communications.
- 2 - Morse Code is is now only used by amateurs for recreational purposesly only.
- 3 - I also believe there is no public interest served by requiring code testing.
4. - As a result of the above I believe that all testing of morse code should be ended.
5. - I understand that the international radio regulations, article S25.5 requires code testing and suggest that in the interim a only a single code test with only the minimum necessary speed to meet international treaty agreements be required until such time Article S25.5 is deleted and in no case more that five (5) wpm for all HF licenses be required in the interim.
6. - With a single minimum code speed examination this would eliminate the need to grant medical waivers for higher speed telegraphy requirements.
7. - In regards to the interim code requirement (needed to forfill the international radio regulations, Article S25.5) I would suggest that any regulation be written with wording that would automatically end the interim code requirement within a specific time period of the ending of Article S25.5. This should be a period of 3 months or less.
8. - Considering that as a result all morse code testing will be 5 wpm and further considering that there are small differences between Advanced and Amateur Extra Class, I believe that only three license classes are needed. These classes should correspond with the current technician, General and Amateur Extra Class.

As a amateur radio operater for close to 6 years I believe that I have an understanding about the operation of Amateur Radio and submit these comments in the best interest of the amateur radio service.