

Greetings,

I am an amateur radio operator, AB7NV, Amateur Extra class. Following are my brief comments regarding 98-143. I am also an ARRL Volunteer Examiner.

I support the proposed 4-class license system. Morse code requirement should be none for Technician, 5 WPM for General, no additional for Advanced, and 10 WPM for Extra. This represents a step midway between the current requirements, and the inevitable day when the international CW requirement is eliminated.

I support the elimination of power restrictions in the current Novice bands, and the extension of General CW privileges to all current Novices. Novices should need to pass the General written exam to gain full HF privileges beyond CW.

Additional written questions on HF digital modes is an appropriate trade-off for the reduction in CW speed requirements.

I approve of the current CW testing procedure which allows a passing grade for either a 10-question fill-in-the-blank, or for 1 minute of error-free copy. I do not approve of use of a 10-question multiple-choice test. In addition, the lingering question of whether a sending test is required should be addressed. No VEC I am aware of actually administers a sending test, yet the rules state that one can be required. A firm position should be adopted, to delete the sending test requirement.

In regard to the testing process and question pools, I believe the current method of reviewing and updating the question pools is a successful one. Individual VEs and VECs should not be allowed to develop their own separate testing standards.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments. The Amateur Service is long overdue for a regulatory clean-up.

Best Regards,

Tom Mosher

AB7NV

6840 Lemongrass Loop SE

Salem, OR 97306