

Before the

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of) WT Docket No. 98-143
)
1998 Biennial Regulatory Review --) RM-9148
Amendment of Part 97 of the Commission's) RM-9150
Amateur Service Rules.) RM-9196
)

Personal Comments of Robert E. Taylor [KC7DJE],

[Please note: I have requested that Mr Robert Squire forward these comments to you.]

To whom it may concern;

I have reviewed the WT Docket No. 98-143 and make the following comments and suggestions.

- 1 - I agree with the FCC's assessment [NPRM 98-143 Para. 19-20] as to the decreasing role of Morse code in contemporary communications.
- 2 - I believe the use of Morse code by amateurs is now totally within the confines of recreational purposes only.
- 3 - I believe that there is no longer any public/governmental interest served by requiring code testing.
- 4 - I believe, therefore, that ALL testing of the morse code should be ended.
- 5 - I also recognize the existence of the international Radio Regulations, Article S25.5, [NPRM Para. 22] and suggest an interim requirement of ONLY a single code test with only the minimum speed necessary to meet international treaty requirements, but in no case, more than five [5] WPM for all HF license classes until such time as Article S25.5 is deleted.
- 6 - A single minimum code speed examination would also eliminate the need to grant medical waivers to disabled amateurs for the higher speed telegraphy requirements. [NPRM Para. 25 and RM-9196]
- 7 - I suggest that any interim code requirement used to fulfill the international Radio Regulations, Article S25.5, be written to include language that would automatically end the interim code requirement within three [3] months or less of the ending /elimination of Article SHE.5.
- 8 - As a result of all Morse code testing being 5 WPM and considering the small difference in privileges between the Advanced and Amateur Extra Class, I believe only three license classes are needed. These classes would correspond to the current Technician, General and Amateur Extra Class.

Respectfully submitted by: Robert E. Taylor [KC7DJE]
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