

“In the matter of 1998 biennial Regulatory Review--Amendment of Part 97 of the Commion’s Amateur Service Rules, FCC WT Docket 98-143.”

**RECEIVED**

NOV 30 1998

**FCC MAIL ROOM**

FCC Secretary  
Magalie Roman Salas  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 “M” Street N. W.  
Room 222  
Washington, D. C. 20554

To Magalie Roman Salas,

This letter is in regards to the Morse code requirements for Amateur Radio Licensing. I first explored two -way radio in the early 1980's. I was having a good time with Citizen Band. In those days, there was a number of good people on the air that treated others with common courtesy and respect. You did not have to worry too much about obscene language, and good conversation was not difficult to find.

In today’s C.B. Radio, the exact opposite is in effect. Common courtesy, respect, and good conversation is more seldom and becoming a thing of the past. Obscene language is common place. Citizen Band Radio’s fate could possibly be the future of Amateur Radio.

Today’s world of Amateur Radio is not perfect. There are some operators that contribute to these social ills, but they seem to be few and easy to avoid. However, I feel that if the code requirements are lowered, or are removed, then the social ills that plague C.B. Radio will increasingly corrupt Amateur Radio in the years to come. I feel that the code requirements must be preserved as a procedure for obtaining an Amateur Radio License.

Although Morse code is not the most popular mode of communication on the HF Bands, it is still an integral part of Amateur Radio and has useful Applications. I feel that Morse code serves as somewhat of a deterrent to those individuals who are less serious about maintain the rules, standards, and common courtesy of the radio art. Hence, it helps to keep the air waves more clear for long distance and emergency Morse code contacts, an advantage of tremendous value in cases of adverse atmospheric conditions.

In closing, I want to say that one of the reasons why I got into Amateur Radio was to escape the social ills of C.B. Radio, not to have them follow me there. So far, Amateur Radio serves as a good refuge.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rex A. Badger".

Rex A. Badger KB9JAU

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