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9 January 1999

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
The Portals
445 Twelfth St. S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Reply to Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Amateur Radio Service.

The ARRL does not speak for me. If CW requirements are reduced or eliminated the FCC will be subsidizing the pecuniary interest of the ARRL and equipment manufactures by having to increase its budget to police and administer the influx of new licensees. The FCC's test questions, answers, both incorrect and correct, are available to all. The only barrier to a CB like free for all is the CW requirement.

Morse code transmissions are far more efficient under marginal conditions than other modes. Maintaining a pool of CW capable operators may prove valuable in the future for both civil and national defense.

It is therefor essential to maintain the CW requirement at the present levels or the amateur Radio Service will be a degraded national asset.

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