

Well here is our chance as "HAMS" to speak up for what "WE AMATEURS WANT", not what the FCC or ARRL think it should be. Sky Command is a very cool concept. **It's all within simplex range anyway.** My experience with it is only around a 200-yard range!

I have been around and listened to 2-meter repeaters, and 2-meter simplex, and the frequencies are VERY quite in a very busy city. I.e.: **Michigan** - Detroit, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Muskegon **Illinois** - Chicago, Gurnee **Ohio** - Cleveland, Akron, Cincinnati **Texas** - Huston **Mississippi** - Jackson **Tennessee** - Nashville, **Kentucky** - Louisville

We need to keep interest in ham radio before we lose it one day. Just 5 years ago everything was very busy, and congested. NOT so anymore, people are losing interest, and going to cellular phones, and the Internet. If we don't keep it fun **WE WILL LOSE IT!!!**

As a ham for 6 years, I fully support the Kenwood request for a relaxation of the rules to permit remote control response systems on the 2-meter band. In my opinion, the **Kenwood SKY COMMAND is legal in the first place since it does all REMOTE CONTROL and COMMANDING on the 70 cm band where it is fully legal. It is only the audio-link-back that is on the 2-meter band** and this is fully in the spirit of the original rule. But since the FCC and the ARRL very narrowly read the rules and declared this Kenwood innovation to be "illegal" then it is time to change the "rules" to match what should be legal in the first place.

We all want to protect our bands from inappropriate usage, but narrowly defining some systems to be illegal while the ARRL fully supports other remote control devices are being arbitrary and capricious.

The Kenwood control system is well engineered and contains multiple levels of security and fail safe operation so that the frequencies used will not be subject to lockup or key down conditions. If it takes a rule change for the FCC and the ARRL to accept such innovation, then I am all for it. But by the same token, I think the original system was legal in the first place and no rule change is needed if common sense were applied in interpreting the existing rule.

I support the petition.

Ron Karger AB8DT