

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)
)
Amendment of Part 97 of the Commission's)
Amateur Radio Service Rules to Eliminate) RM - 10786
Morse Code Proficiency Testing Requirements)
For All Classes of Amateur Licenses)
)
To: The Commission)

Comments Of John C Naudus – N2ZXO

Over the year the reasons for requiring Morse proficiency have all but disappeared. Technology has changed to the point that it is no longer needed. The government and commercial radio services no longer need Morse telegraphy in current applications. Thus, the historical need of the government, commercial, and maritime services for a “pool of (Morse) trained operators” has ceased to exist. Morse Skill is no longer required for effective emergency communications by amateur operators. The maintenance of Morse proficiency tests as a requirement for any amateur radio license is no longer in accord with the purpose of the amateur radio Service and serves no legitimate regulatory purpose. It is not in the public interest for the Commission to impose more onerous and unnecessary burdens on those seeking a Commission-issued amateur radio license, as this will unnecessarily limit the pool of operators available for emergency communications. As it is the amateur radio hobby is in decline. Most of my friends do not have and want an amateur radio license and the number one reason quoted to me is the Morse requirements. I’m not saying that dropping the Morse requirement like drive them all to amateur radio but in my option it is a step in the right direction to get people back in to amateur radio. After all the more people involved in this even if they don’t know Morse code the more people there will be to help in an emergency.

Respectfully submitted,

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