

I support the FISTS petition as it ensures that Radio Amateurs will be at least able to understand a morse signal. I've been in numerous situations where "the word had to get through" - on SSB (voice) and FM (voice) where either A1, A2 or F2 emissions by Morse Code enabled me to get the needed information through. I've used a Touch-Tone(TM) pad to send a frequency change so I could continue in contact with a station, I recently was passing third party messages with a station out of the United States when conditions failed for SSB, but I switched to Morse and continued handling the traffic for about 45 minutes. Even if the other station can copy just one frequency or a "missing word" of a formal message, knowing Morse is now, and has been a powerful resource in the Amateur Radio Service. Our country deserves the best: Keep Morse testing in Amateur Radio.