

Comments on RM -10786

I strongly want the Morse code test requirements to remain. I would also request the 13 and 20 wpm tests to be re-instated.

I also support the comments of Don Calbick, W7GB.

In addition to his comments, I would like to offer the following comments:

1. If the code test requirement is dropped, there is no CW testing for the CW sub-bands. Therefore, no new licensees should be allowed to operate within these sub-bands. Likewise, the grandfather licensees can continue to operate in the SSB/Phone portion of the bands. Since CW is a mode that is alive and well during contests, DX chasing and NTS activities, it would not be fair to permit the non-CW proficient licensees to operate in these sub-bands without being qualified by passing the appropriate proficiency tests.

2. I would submit that since the code proficiency is the only test of operating ability, if the code requirement is dropped, it should be replaced with a 50 wpm typing test for digital operations. If not that, than other tests of operating skills should be added. Consider these: A speaking test, preferably English (however, any other language could be used); a contest speed exchange with background QRM; a station setup, with computer and software, a tun up test; a cross band operation test; a mode recognition test.

Respectfully,
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