The important feature the FCC should attempt to incorporate into any rule making, is a incentive plan for all license classes to encourage advancement to the higher levels of amateur radio. Making a new class license that allows the newcomer to stagnate at the 'beginners' intelligence level will do nothing to improve the Amateur Radio Service. The amateur needs quality incentives, not simply more licenses doled out.

As for RM-10868 by the RAF, I like what they have to say with minor changes

1 . I believe a new 'beginners' class license is in order. Call it anything you like, the name isn't important.
2. The new license class should include a time limit or 'Term Limit' of one or two years, non renewable. Just like the old novice did in the 1960's, this is an incentive to grow and become knowledgeable about amateur radio, not to stagnate and become the oldest living 'beginner' on the band.
3. leave the Technician(s) class license alone, it they want HF, let them apply for the new 'beginners' class.
4. leave the General Class intact, with the 5 WPM CW test, The idea that CW discourages the 'best of the best' from entering into amateur radio is nonsense.
5. leave the Extra class as is, but add the requirement, any extra class must have been a general class for two years, and be able to prove activity on the HF bands, via log books or QSL cards. Make the Extra something to work for, be proud of.
6. I am NOT in favor of upgrading the two Technician class licenses to general class WITHOUT them taking the general examination. The best road for the Technician class licenses, is to upgrade to the 'beginners' and then move through the ranks.
7. what to do with the present Novices, give them 365 days to get in and upgrade to General or they fall back to Technician. As for the Advanced Class, give then 360 days to upgrade to extra or they fall back to a General class. Force the issue, the FCC shouldn't carry (forever) on the database, license classes that no longer exist.
8. otherwise I am in general agreement with the rest of RM-10868.

Regards,
Mike Williams