



Comments on RM-10869

Submitted to: Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

The petition filed by Ronald Lowrance, RM-10869, deserves your consideration in retaining the 5 wpm Morse code requirements to the General Class license. I fully agree with his assessment that code is the most reliable mode of communication now widely used on the ham bands. However, his recommendation to set a 13 wpm requirement at the Amateur Extra level is inappropriate. First, it is clearly counter to the current trend in licensing and the de-emphasis of code requirements across the world. Also, the 5 wpm requirement at the General level provides the basis for all General Class amateur and above to pursue code if it is of value to the type of communications they pursue.

I strongly encourage the Commission to keep the Morse code as a requirement in amateur radio for General Class licensees to retain this valuable mode of communications in the mainstream. However, there is nothing magic about an increase from 5 wpm to 13 wpm from the General to the Amateur Extra. If a higher code speed is desired on the Amateur Extra, it should not exceed 10 wpm.

Respectfully submitted by:

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