

I am an "old" Amateur Radio Operator, Novice License o/a 1965-66, WN5RQQ, additionally, I am of the older generation. I had let my License lapse for several reasons, a member of the US Army, residency training and funding. In 1999 I once again obtained a License, Tech, No Code. Although not very active in Club Affairs, On The Air Activities, etc. I have continuously followed legislative activities dealing with Licensing Requirements. I am very much in favor of dropping the 5 Words/minute code requirement for an entry HF Amateur License. A requirement to maintain code proficiency could be included for an individual who desires to step to a higher level of privileges, whatever they might be. The argument that a lack of code proficiency for the General Class License would lead to a "dumbing down" is totally wrong and goes against everything that has evolved from a more simple to a more advanced status. We have to recognize that the world is not standing still, it is a continuum of evolution and to state that "it always has been done this way", is as untenable as saying, "if God wanted us to fly, He would have given us wings".

Please adopt and adapt a "No Code" requirement for the General Class Amateur Licensing requirement.

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