

I completely disagree with the premise of petition RM-10783. I do not support this petition.

As a Volunteer Examiner for over 10 years I gave the MORSE CODE test to hundreds of applicants including many handicapped individuals. Although passing 13wpm and 20 wpm was a challenge for many handicapped, I never found that Element 1 was unpassable. Most told me they learned it in a weekend wanted to prove that they be very much the equals to other hams. My testing group made many reasonable accommodations to handicap applicants. During my tenure all handicapped individuals who tested with me passed at least 5 wpm code and many passed 13wpm and 20 wpm.

MORSE CODE is the one mode of communicating that always propagates no matter the band conditions. In times of emergency it has proven indispensable and should be retained.

America is a world leader because of its uniqueness. There is no apparent need to do away with MORSE CODE. MORSE CODE can and should co-exist with other newer technology. That has always been the heart and soul of Amateur Radio.