

I strongly disagree with the proposal to eliminate any Morse code requirement for the Amateur Extra Class license. Morse code is a valuable communications mode, the only mode currently unique to amateur radio. Eliminating any Morse requirement will generate pressure to reduce or eliminate those portions of the amateur bands facilitating Morse communications (despite current promises to the contrary), discourage technical advancement by constructing equipment (Morse-code transmitters, unlike those utilizing other modes, can be built by many current amateurs), and discourage spectrum efficiency. Morse communications succeed where other modes fail, and eliminating the Morse requirement entirely is a big step in the wrong direction for the amateur service.