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Dear FCC,

I am partial to dropping the morse code testing requirements and that is due to reading other comments for this partitioning, but I still lean towards keeping the morse code requirement. Here are some suggestions that could be done with the morse code requirement: I would like to have the morse code stay as far as testing for general and extra, but if another decision was made, instead of dropping the morse code requirement, would be to lighten up morse code testing and keep the morse code requirement for extra only. Then again another option would be to grant a grace period and drop morse code for 30 days or a few months and then reactivate it. My reasoning behind this is to get people who didn't pursue being a ham operator because they did not want to deal with the morse code test, this grace period would give them the opportunity to become an operator and it would raise the current numbers of ham operators.

I have been a ham operator since 1999 and have enjoyed it very much. Ham radio is vital to our country at any time and in any situation. My main concern is that if the morse code testing requirement was dropped then more individuals would see this as a gateway to broadening their "CB" privileges and abuse the ham bands (yes there are currently hams that abuse it already). Also there are many hams that do not use morse code at all, and hams think that this organization should get with modern times and drop morse code. Morse code is vital and should stay within the ham bands and should also stay as a testing requirement whether for general and extra or just extra.

Respectfully

R. Cook