Digital data utilized for control link (DDL) and or model craft radio control is data that is encoded and thus not operated or controlled by voice commands – two different modes – two entirely different types of radio communications and thus is a moot point.

Being an amateur radio operator, whom volunteers their service to support agencies in need of communications, does not necessary require communications to be secure during an emergency or training. I don't believe fire, police, and or medical agencies could even legally solicit amateur radio operators - non paid or otherwise.

During the Greensburg, Kansas, Tornado of May the 4th, 2007 I believe amateur radio operators were first on scene and provided emergency communications (unsecured – unencrypted) with no adverse reactions or legal issues.

Any impediment that may occur, from an amateur radio operator not having secured-unencrypted communications during an emergency or training could be easily mitigated by the agency in need. The agency in need could provide the amateur with a radio that has voice encryption. Most; if not all support agencies, ie: fire, police, and medical already have the ability to operate their frequencies in the clear. (No encryption). In Sedgwick County Kansas all public service agencies normally operate without voice encryption. The FBI, DEA, and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation seldom operate with secure communications here at this location.

Here are some fact centered answers to concerns issued surrounding the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPPA).

HIPPA does not prohibit legal dispatch centers and certified medical personnel from radio communications with ambulance services or personnel which are necessary for the response and treatment of patients. Communications of this nature are categorized as "incidental disclosures". They are unavoidable and are permissible under HIPPA. Ambulance, Emergency Medical Service Personnel, etc, are freely permitted to give patient information to hospitals over their assigned radio frequencies for medical treatment purposes. Unless patient names are truly needed by the hospital they are usually not given out over an unsecure frequency.

Further information regarding HIPPA compliance concerning radio communications can be readily viewable at http://psc.apcointl.org/2010/08/26/hipaa-radio-emd/

In closing I believe that granting this rule change would NOT be in the best interest of our Nations Security. This would have unaccountable civilians with the easy capability of encoding or encrypting their voice communications. The Public service, Federal, and State communications radio systems, would be rendered insecure by allowing any civilian with an amateur radio with these capabilities to decode their secure communications. I further believe that if the FCC grants this rule change that they do so by mandating that any amateur radio operator wanting, not needing, this additional privilege must pass an "Encrypted Secure Communications" endorsement test at least every four years. This test should at the minimum require the same certifications, scrutiny, and security background checks that are needed by any Federal, State, or Public Service agency personnel that requires encrypted secure communications.