

I do not support the petition.

If this petition were passed, I would want there to be some kind of new policing of the bands, and prevention of the bands being used for illegal purposes.

1) Prevention can be enhanced by background checks of all Amateur Operators wanting to encrypt radio traffic. For example, each amateur radio operator must have fingerprints on file with local and state, as well as FBI. Not be on a sex offender list, convicted of a felony, or be involved currently in a court proceeding of any kind. Must be a citizen of the USA.

These Amateurs would have a special FCC callsign issued to them, and must have this license posted on their operating station when operating encrypted radio links, or passing third-party encrypted data.

I believe the FCC should take-over all monitoring of the Amateur bands, either themselves or through contractors. No volunteers could be used in this activity. Amateurs should no longer police themselves, if secrecy is allowed. It would be a conflict of public interest.

I believe the license fees should be increased to pay for this new expanded service if this is what the U.S. government desires.

2) Alternatively, we should throw out this petition and save ourselves the aggravation, and the aggravation of hundreds of other Amateur Radio Countries which allow their citizens the free use of unencrypted radio spectrum.

I choose option 2.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Sampson, K5OKC