

As an Extra Class licensed radio amateur, I object to the proposed rule to allow encryption of amateur radio communications.

This is unnecessary. Any communication of HIPAA-protected and other sensitive information via amateur radio can be avoided. Such details are not needed in disaster situations.

Encryption would limit the self-policing nature of amateur radio. Official Observers and other operators would no longer be able to determine the legality of amateur radio transmission content.

Transmissions in other radio services currently may be encrypted. Those services can be used when radio transmission of sensitive information is required.