

In the matter of RM-11708:

From:

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Amateur Radio has, for over a century, been a place of experimentation with different forms of communication. Over the past decade, or perhaps longer, the United States and the hams that live herein have been held back by the antiquated regulations concerning RF bandwidth and symbol rate of the data on the HF frequency bands designated for our use. Many of these same bands, which are a shared commodity with other nations whose Amateur Radio Operators we communicate with, have been successfully used with only the emission bandwidth as the defining attribute, rather than symbol rate, which even our own Federal Government communications have not retained. It is time that the US hams were once again allowed to utilize technology that is in common use in other parts of the world, as well as in other HF services used by our own Government. The proposal from the ARRL, while not entirely to my liking in that it does not, to my way of thinking promote a fully satisfactory bandwidth allocation, is a compromise that will allow us to prove to those that currently oppose it entirely that the proposed system will not be significantly different than what is currently in operation, and will in no way impact them in the way that they fear. Technology is advancing, and many systems could be designed that would more efficiently utilize the spectrum and be open in the way that some commentators would prefer.