Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of	)
	)
BATTLESHIP IOWA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION	)
	)
Request for a Waiver of Section 97.111(a) of the Commission's Rules to Permit Demonstration of Amateur-Military Cross-Band Capabilities During Amateur-Military Commemoration of Pearl Harbor Day	)

ORDER

Adopted: October 14, 2026 **Released: October 14, 2026**

By the Chief, Broadband Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau:

1. *Introduction.* By this order, we grant the request filed by the Battleship IOWA Amateur Radio Association (BIARA) for a limited waiver of section 97.111(a) of the Commission's rules to permit licensed amateur stations to communicate with Federal stations over a three-day period. The waiver request is for the limited purpose of a short-term event commemorating National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day on December 5, 6 and 7, 2026.[1]

2. *Background.* Section 97.111(a) of the Commission's rules authorizes amateur stations to transmit specific types of two-way communications and limits communications with Federal stations to certain circumstances.[2] In particular, section 97.111(a)(5) of the rule grants specific authority to communicate with Federal stations for such communications during an Armed Forces Day Communications Test.[3] No other commemoration day is authorized in this section.

3. BIARA seeks this waiver for December 5, 6 and 7, 2026, for the purposes of a short-term event commemorating the Pearl Harbor attack.[4] BIARA states that the tests such as those proposed provide opportunities to train operators and test two-way communications capabilities between military communicators and radio stations in the Amateur Radio Service, which allows operators to demonstrate technical skills in a controlled scenario.[5] BIARA also represents that the frequencies and time periods selected will not impact any public, private, or government communications.[6]

[1] Request for Waiver of Section 97.111(a) of the Commission's Rules to Permit Demonstration of Amateur-Military Cross-Band Capabilities During Amateur-Military Commemoration of Pearl Harbor Day, at 1, (filed Aug. 8, 2026) https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/26110069972/1 (Waiver Request); *see* 47 CFR § 97.111(a).

[2] 47 CFR § 97.111(a).

[3] 47 CFR § 97.111(a)(5).

[4] Waiver Request at 1.

[5] *Id.* at 2.

[6] *Id.*

4. *Discussion.* To obtain a waiver of the Commission's rules, a petitioner must demonstrate either that the underlying purpose of the rule would not be served or would be frustrated by application to the present case, and that a grant of the waiver would be in the public interest; or, that in view of unique or unusual factual circumstances of the instant case, application of the rule would be inequitable, unduly burdensome, or contrary to the public interest, or the applicant has no reasonable alternative.[7] We conclude that granting the requested waiver, for the following reasons and with the following limitations, is in the public interest.

5. We find grant of the waiver meets the waiver standard because this event presents a unique opportunity for amateur operators to practice communications skills under the guidance of military officials, which may be useful in the future and serves the public interest.[8] We also find that the limitations proposed by BIARA are appropriate to prevent harmful interference and to serve the purpose of the commemorative event.[9] Further, the frequencies, conditions, and cross service communications have already been approved by the relevant Department of War spectrum managers.[10]

6. Specifically, this waiver is conditioned on participating amateur stations: 1) monitoring the following eight federal frequencies: 6.989 MHz, 14.375 MHz, 18.036 MHz, and 21.856 MHz, on which the military station NEPM on the Museum Battleship IOWA will transmit, and 3.347 MHz, 7.463 MHz, 14.7615 MHz and 18.060 MHz, on which the military station NEMW on the Museum Battleship Alabama will transmit; 2) responding solely on frequencies being monitored and announced by the military operators, all of which will be authorized for use by Amateur Radio operators during this event; 3) operating consistent with the privileges of their amateur licenses; and 4) limiting communications to the period beginning December 5 through December 7, 2026. Additionally, all other related Commission regulations that are applicable to amateur operators will continue to apply (e.g., mode, maximum power, and license class).

7. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that pursuant to section 4(i) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 154(i), and section 1.925 of the Commission’s rules, 47 CFR § 1.925, the Request for a Waiver of Section 97.111(a) of the Commission’s Rules IS GRANTED as set forth and conditioned above.

8. This action is taken under delegated authority pursuant to sections 0.131 and 0.331 of the Commission’s rules, 47 CFR §§ 0.131, 0.331.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Joshua Smith
Chief, Broadband Division
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

[7] 47 CFR § 1.925(b)(3).

[8] 47 CFR § 1.925(b)(3).

[9] Waiver Request at 2.

[10] *Id.* at 2 and attachment.