

As the Medical Director of the West Palm Beach, Florida Fire Department I fully support the changes contained in the Aviation Medical Assistance Act. To not approve these advancements would leave the aviation industry at risk for not keeping up with the current state of medical care. The presence of AED's and the other items is absolutely mandatory if a successful outcome is to occur in an in-flight medical emergency.

My only other suggestion is that the addition of a definitive airway device such as a laryngoscope and endotracheal tube would be of benefit. Airway emergencies are also life threatening and probably more common, however the know-how of proper placement may make this item on the optional list.

Please feel free to contact me regarding this important issue.

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