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4301 Confederate Point Rd. Apt. #219
Jacksonville, FL 32210

November 21, 2002

Subject: Proposal of Docket FAA 2002- 11666 - 40

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DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this in response to the proposed regulation of issuing photo I.D. 's for general aviation pilots. According to the press release, this new regulation would require pilots to present a photo I.D. such as a driver's license, a passport, a government I.D., or a driver's license from a U.S. territory or possession.

I think this proposed regulation should be amended. While it may be a cost-effective solution to the current threat of hijacking, I don't believe it will be as effective or strengthen airline security by only using a photo I.D.. Everyone has some type of photo I.D. It is easy to obtain or duplicate a photo I.D. For example, teenagers are able to get fake I.D.s, to drive, buy alcoholic beverages, and get into night clubs. With today's technology, this is an easy task as well as cloning someone's looks, a little hair dye, some colored contacts, and you are another person.

Enforcement of security should start at the beginning. There should be a more detailed background check on pilots before they receive their license. Other means of amending this petition would be to use fingerprints or a laser scanner. The laser scanner would be used to scan cards imbedded with an identifying chip. They could use it similar to a library card except you are checking out airplanes by logging in and out with your card. Fingerprints might be a more costly method, but security is expensive and there are not so many pilots that cost would be extraordinarily high.

This amendment should be considered because we have to remember the pilot or person in the cockpit is not driving a car, but is in control of a massive airplane, an airplane that is capable of killing and wounding thousands and destroying a nation's largest buildings. Airplanes are much different than cars; a driver's license should not be enough proof of identification or enough security check to guard against potential hijacking.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Cassata". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Michael A. Cassata