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DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

202-452-1805

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August 3, 2004 6:59 PM

Administrator Marion Blakey
U.S. Department of Transportation
Room Plaza 401400 Seventh Street, SW.,
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Subject: Docket Number: FAA-2004-18596 - 367

Dear Administrator Blakey:

I am a 72 year old man who has been a world traveler until developing severe COPD and emphysema. I am unable to fly now as I cannot take the risk of a lay-over or unforeseen landings. My inability to fly makes it impossible for me and my family and/or friends to include me in their vacation plans. I find this heartbreaking. I urge you to finalize the proposed rule to permit the use of certain portable oxygen concentrator devices on aircraft.

Over one million Americans have medical conditions that require the use of supplemental oxygen to engage in activities of daily living. With appropriate supplemental oxygen, patients can lead full, productive lives. Many patients enjoy all the travel and leisure activities - except airline travel.

This proposed rule is a step in the right direction to help passengers that require supplemental oxygen travel easier. However the proposed rule should be strengthened by having the FAA require all airlines to permit the use of FAA-approved portable oxygen concentrators. Please ensure the final rule requires FAA-approved portable oxygen concentrators be allowed on board all civilian air travel.

Sincerely,

Hal G. Webster