RESOLUTION 01 - 3 GOOD SAMARITANS ON COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT

WHEREAS: An individual who volunteers to use his or her professional knowledge and expertise to assist a fellow individual suffering an acute medical event is referred to as a Good Samaritan; and,

WHEREAS: The training and/or expertise of the Good Samaritan may or may not be in the specialist field appropriate to the particular medical event; and,

WHEREAS: The Good Samaritan acts with good faith and within the bounds of his or her professional competence to alleviate suffering and minimize harm; and,

WHEREAS: The request or acceptance of a fee or remuneration for such an act changes the encounter from a Good Samaritan relationship to a formal doctor/patient encounter with acceptance of full clinical liability for the consequences of the actions; and,

WHEREAS: The Aerospace Medical Association previously approved a resolution supporting national legislation providing for a Good Samaritan Act; and,

WHEREAS: The Aerospace Medical Association believes that a Good Samaritan shall not be liable for damage resulting from an inflight medical emergency unless the individual is negligent or wilfully dose wrong."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Aerospace Medical Association strongly recommends that the International Civil Aviation Organization adopts and all countries implement Hold Harmless Laws (Good Samaritan Laws) for acts on commercial aircraft and urges all airlines to provide liability coverage for such acts.

Approved AsMA Business Meeting May 8, 2001

