October 31, 1996

Federal Aviation Administration
Office of the Chief Counsel
Attn: Rules Docket (AGC-200)
Docket No. 28637
800 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20591

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Aerospace Medical Association fully supports the FAA proposal to require that oxygen masks be connected to portable oxygen equipment. At altitudes of only 30,000 feet, a rapid decompression could render a flight attendant unconscious in 60-120 seconds. The risk of an incapacitating event would be much greater if flight attendants had to take the time to connect the mask with the oxygen cylinder. If the assembly was already in place, precious seconds would be saved.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this NPRM.

Sincerely,

Russell B. Rayman, M.D.
Executive Director

RBR/br