



September 29, 2026

Honorable Bryan Bedford, Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20591

RE: FAA-2026-12343 Rescission of Single Pilot Training Exemptions for Certain Cessna Aircraft

Dear Administrator Bedford,

On behalf of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), the world's largest aviation membership organization, I would like to respond to the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) recent notice to rescind the single pilot exemption for some Cessna Citation models originally certified for two pilot operations.

While AOPA supports the Agency's authority to take appropriate action as required by the FAA's safety management system and its aviation safety mandate, AOPA recommends the agency pause its decision to rescind Citation Jet single pilot exemptions in an all or nothing manner. It makes no sense to punish compliant and safe operators with this order.

Most single pilot exemption holders exceed the requirements of the exemption and AOPA believes grouping these highly sophisticated operators with non-compliant operations does not further the FAA's safety mission and appears to punish operators who meet or exceed FAA's safety standards.

We ask the FAA to immediately halt the total denial of the single pilot exemption and only rescind the exemption for operators who fail to meet minimum standards set forth in the exemption. AOPA further recommends the FAA immediately establish an industry work group to evaluate and formulate recommendations in order to move forward together to improve safety.

The goal of modern safety systems is to monitor operations and use the data collected to continuously improve safety. Any deficiencies in operations under this exemption should have been identified and corrected long before such drastic action, without industry collaboration, was taken.

Regards,

David Boulter
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs