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U.S. Department of Transportation
Docket Operations, M-30
West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Docket No. FAA-2009-0218 Airworthiness Directives; Piper Aircraft Inc. PA-23, PA-31, and PA-42 Airplanes

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) is a not-for-profit individual membership organization of more than 400,000 pilots. AOPA's mission is to effectively serve the interests and needs of its members as aircraft owners and pilots and establish, maintain, and articulate positions of leadership to promote the economy, safety, utility, and popularity of flight in general aviation aircraft. Representing two thirds of all pilots in the United States, AOPA is the largest civil aviation organization in the world.

AOPA supports the FAA's proposed revision of the existing airworthiness directive (AD) that applies to Piper Aircraft, Inc. PA-23, PA-31, and PA-42 airplanes regarding life limits for safety-critical nose baggage door components. We agree with the FAA finding that the nose baggage door compartment light does not impact the unsafe condition addressed by AD 2009-13-06 and should therefore be removed from the requirements of the AD. Removing this requirement does not impact safety yet relieves some of the burden the AD imposes on aircraft owners. AOPA is glad to see the FAA making this type of common sense revision and encourages this type of review of other existing ADs

Sincerely,

M. Kristine Hartzell
AOPA
Manager, Regulatory Affairs