



**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF AVIATION ENFORCEMENT AND PROCEEDINGS
WASHINGTON, DC**

March 4, 1998

This letter is being sent to U.S. Major and National air carriers, air transport organizations, and certain disability organizations. It concerns the Department of Transportation's rule on air travel by passengers with disabilities, 14 CFR Part 382.

On March 4, 1998, the Department published amendments to Part 382. These amendments establish procedures for providing seating accommodations required by passengers with certain disabilities, provide for cabin stowage of collapsible electric wheelchairs, and clarify the general nondiscrimination obligation of carriers. I have enclosed a copy of the document that contains these amendments; I would appreciate it if you would direct this letter and the enclosure to the individual in your organization who deals with airline passenger disability issues. The enclosure is unstapled and one-side-only to facilitate further reproduction.

Pursuant to §382.45(d), all air carriers must have a copy of Part 382 at each airport that the carrier serves and must make it available for inspection by persons with disabilities upon request. Since the previous version of the rule has been superseded by the rule as revised by the enclosure, carriers must ensure that the current (i.e., revised) version of Part 382 will be available at all airports. We will shortly be sending you a re-issued Part 382 that incorporates these new amendments into the regulation; you may wish to use that version for placement at airports. Upon request we will be happy to furnish an electronic version of these documents to you via diskette or e-mail in word processor or ASCII text format.

We would appreciate it if the air carriers receiving this letter would send a copy of the letter and enclosure to their U.S.-carrier code-sharing partners and to any low-cost or shuttle subsidiary. (As indicated above we are sending this letter to all U.S. Majors and Nationals, so you do not need to forward a copy to any carriers in that group.) Please note that most of the provisions of Part 382 apply to charter flights and to small-aircraft commercial service; the rule is not limited to scheduled-service jet operations.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,
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