

My name is Greg Nieberding, President of Baby B'Air Flight Vests, and I WOULD LIKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK AT THIS PUBLIC MEETING DISCUSSING DOT REGULATIONS. I HAVE NEW INFORMATION TO PRESENT ON THE IMPORTANT ISSUE OF LAP CHILD SAFETY ON AIRCRAFT.

I invented the Baby B'Air Flight Vest for use by lap children under age 2 to prevent injury due to turbulence. FAA regulations permit use of the Baby B'Air Vest during cruise portions of flight.

The traveling public has been told that car seats are the safest place for children on aircraft and that car seats should be mandatory for children under age 2 on aircraft. However, FAA-approved car seats WILL CAUSE FATAL HEAD IMPACT injuries to children in crashes. Also, 80 or more children will die in auto accidents on the highway as a result of such a regulation.

Thousands of parents want to use the Baby B'Air vest during takeoff and landing. After 9/11, the ability to bring a car seat (in accordance with FAA regulations for use at takeoff and landing) has been compromised and bringing small children through airport security has become a major problem. Children in car seats are much harder to evacuate from a survivable crash than lap children. The FAA has not kept up with these and other important issues facing parents traveling with young children. I would like the opportunity to bring these issues to the DOT's attention.