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Airport Operators  
Airline Operators  
Aviation Insurers

4 March 2014

Graeme Harris  
Director of the Civil Aviation Authority  
PO Box 3555  
Wellington

Dear Graeme

## **Petition for Exemption from medical certificate requirements**

Thank you for your letter of 5 February 2013 in response to the Association's petition for exemption of 1 November.

While we are appreciative of the detailed nature of your response and the grounds cited for declining the petition it is our view your response gives insufficient weight to the fact that pilots and air traffic controllers are first and foremost aviation document holders and the Director's powers, provided for in the Civil Aviation Act, is extensive. Part 2 A, while specific to medical certification, does not in our view obviate or in any way reduce the powers of the Director to take action "in the interests of aviation safety" per Section 15 A (1).

However, it is not our intent to debate the point as your letter gets to the nub of the issue which is the cost of New Zealand's medical certification regime. The Association is accordingly very pleased to note that you intend convening an advisory group to look at options to reduce the cost of the regime and accepts your invitation to participate.

We would wish to see this matter resolved as early as practicable as we are aware that the cost of the regime is both acting as a discouragement for new entrants and is encouraging the more experienced not to continue holding a medical certificate.

Yours sincerely

Irene King  
Chief Executive



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