

30 JUL 1969

*Take in age 60 folder  
GKN*

**Letter of Dr. Barron concerning age-60 rule**

**AM-1**

The subject letter has been reviewed by the professional staff of AM-200. Dr. Anderson has been assigned the project to update the age-60 stat tables. In reviewing Dr. Barron's report the overall approach seems to be realistic. Itemized comments concerning the recommendations are as follows:

1. While the committee members question actual need for additional medical studies, we do face the fact that F. Lee Bailey has been retained to challenge the age-60 rule and it can be anticipated that some updating such as that planned by Dr. Anderson will be helpful.

2. In reference to the recommendation that a clear definition of requirements for flying is needed, the research already underway has probably not met these requirements with the possible exception of the Thousand Aviator Study. Should the requirements be better defined, does this imply that FAA sponsored research tailored to our particular needs is warranted?

3. The statement that any change in the age-60 rule would involve equally arbitrary criteria is probably true indicating that the most desirable position is to stand our ground.

4/5. The experiences of airlines concerning voluntary retirement, etc., is difficult to come by and guidance of the Federal Air Surgeon would be required as to the priority given to this need. The paper presented by Dr. Billings should be helpful in this regard but would require careful study once released in its entirety.

Original signed by  
Gordon K. Norwood, M.D.

**GORDON K. NORWOOD, M.D.**  
Chief, Aeromedical Standards Division, AM-200

**Enclosure:**  
**Subject letter**

Cc: AM-1, AM-200, AM-210  
AM-200:GKNorwood:jbl:29 July 1969  
Filed: Age 60

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NOTE This copy of the original letter written by G.K. Norwood (AM-200) to AM-1 was made as a convenience because of the poor quality of the copy of the original, attached.