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November 15, 2005

Charles D. Hummer, Jr., M.D., Chairman
Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Dear Dr. Hummer:

I am an ophthalmologist, and a supervising physician for Carol Keller, PA-C. I am writing this letter in support of the proposed changes to the Pennsylvania State Code Title 49, Chapter 18, relating to physician assistants. I think that these changes represent a more progressive view of the health care team, and bring state code more in line with codes of other states.

One item is particular that is addressed is the barrier to prescribing sympathomimetic agents, which are used in control of glaucoma. Another change relates to length of time for chart review and relaying treatment information, which would allow us to care for patients more effectively. These changes will not diminish my role in providing care, but will allow me to make the best use of my PA in treating our patients.

Physician groups have reviewed and approved these proposed changes, and they clearly maintain the doctor's role in physician-directed health care. As a licensed physician in Lewisburg, PA, I ask the Board to adopt these proposed changes to the Code. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jan K. Hilliker, M.D.

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