



**LOCK HAVEN  
UNIVERSITY OF  
PENNSYLVANIA**

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**University Principles**

- Loyalty
- Vision
- Appreciation
- Respect
- Integrity
- Creativity
- Common Mission  
and Objectives
- Clear Expectations
- Good Communication
- Shared Governance

**Values Statement**

Committed to a culture of learning that is caring and challenging, supportive and rigorous while embracing the intellectual, moral, and social virtues of people from diverse backgrounds and persuasions.

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

November 10, 2005

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

Dear Dr. Hummer:

As the president of Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania, a member of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, I am writing in support of the proposed changes to Pennsylvania Code Title 49, Chapter 18, relating to physician assistants. The proposed changes will update the regulation of the PA profession and assist with keeping qualified healthcare providers in the Commonwealth. The mission of the PA Program, and Lock Haven University, includes providing competent, compassionate healthcare providers for service to the Commonwealth. Reducing barriers to effective utilization of physician assistants will expand employment opportunities and assist in reducing disparities in healthcare by facilitating creative staffing solutions that serve underrepresented populations.

As you are well aware, the proposed regulations have previously been approved by the medical board. They now are facing the next step in the process: review by the legislature, public comment, and final review by the medical board. While the proposed changes are numerous, they boil down to a moderate update of PA regulation in Pennsylvania. They will streamline but not diminish supervision and allow physicians to make the best use of their PAs. In changing the length of time for chart review and relaying treatment information, they respond to the realities of clinical practice. Altering the prescription regulations for PAs will give patients better access to appropriate treatments.

The regulatory revisions represent a progressive view of the modern health care system. They are an appropriate blend of public protection and recognition of regulatory language that allows physicians to optimally and safely utilize PAs. The provisions represented in the regulations are well in line with language adopted in other states.

As the president of LHUP that sponsors an accredited physician assistant training program in Pennsylvania, I urge the Board to adopt these proposed changes. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Keith Miller  
President