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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

4201 McKee Rd.
Erie, PA 16506
November 8, 2005

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

Dear Dr. Hummer,

I went back to school to become a Physician Assistant and graduated 20 years after completing High School. My main reason was to help people have better access to health care. This remains my primary professional goal.

Under our current regulations I am stifled from doing the most I can for my patients and my supervising physicians, Dr. Christian Dudenhoefer and Dr. Joseph Carvelli of Erie, Pennsylvania. I am writing in support of the proposed changes to Pennsylvania Code Title 49, Chapter 18, relating to physician assistants and asking for the Boards.

The proposed changes have already been approved by the medical board, I am sure you are aware. The next steps involved in the process are review by the legislature, public comment, and final review by the medical board. There are several changes being proposed but in essences it comes down to moderate updates of PA regulations in Pennsylvania. They will enable supervising physicians to use their physician assistants more efficiently, help more patients' access medical care, and help physicians to better focus on the critically ill and complicated patients. This will be accomplished by streamlining their supervision but never eliminating it. They will be given more time for chart review and relaying treatment information. Revising prescription regulations for PAs will enable patients' better access to appropriate treatments.

Health care has certainly changed since the last regulatory changes were made. The proposed changes would only reflect that. The proposed changes would allow physicians to utilize PAs safely and efficiently. These changes are similar to language in other states.

I am a licensed and practicing physician assistant in the state of Pennsylvania, I ask you to please adopt the proposed changes. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Marianne Taft Schroeder PA-C

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