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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

November 23, 2005
12141 Fry Road
Edinboro, PA 16412

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

Dear Dr. Hummer:

I am a licensed physician assistant (PA) in Pennsylvania. The proposed changes to Pennsylvania Code Title 49, Chapter 18, relating to physician assistants are needed to update the regulations of physician assistant practice and enhance the care of patients. I am writing to express my support of the proposed changes and to encourage you to do the same.

As the medical board has already approved the changes, they now under review by the legislature, public comment and will then undergo final review by the medical board. On paper, the changes may seem to appear numerous, but in fact they are merely much needed updates that will allow physicians to better utilize their own time and skills. By streamlining chart review and information relay requirements, physicians will still supervise PA's, but will be better able to attend to the needs of patients. The proposed prescription regulation changes will allow patients to access needed treatments more readily.

These PA regulation changes are necessary to allow optimum utilization of PA's with appropriate physician supervision. The changes would allow Pennsylvania PA's to practice in a fashion similar to PA's in other states.

As a licensed physician assistant in Pennsylvania, I sincerely hope that the Board will vote to adopt the proposed changes to PA regulations. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Knox, MS, PA-C

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