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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

November 22, 2005

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

Dear Dr. Hummer:

The reason I am writing you this letter is to show my support of the proposed changes to Pennsylvania Code Title 49, Chapter 18, relating to physician assistants. Currently, I am a physician assistant student at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. I'm completing clinical rotations now and will graduate in August 2006. The care I and my supervising physician will provide for patients will be affected by the proposed changes in a positive manner. They will allow the regulations of my future profession to be updated.

Changing the length of time for chart review and relaying treatment information, along with altering prescription regulations for PAs, are factors that will streamline but not diminish physician supervision and give patients better access to appropriate treatments. The medical board has previously approved these regulations and the next step is review by the legislature, public comment, and final review by the medical board.

This moderate update of PA regulations in Pennsylvania will allow physicians to utilize PAs both safely and more efficiently. The modern health care system is always changing and moving forward and these proposed changes will allow PAs and their supervising physicians, along with patients, to progress along with it. Adopted language in other states is well in line with these provisions.

As a physician assistant student in Pennsylvania who will be licensed and practicing within the next year, I ask the Board to make a final approval to these proposed changes. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Jamie Lee Durchin, PA-S*

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