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Date: March 4th 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

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My name is Dawn Burns and I am a Certified Physician Assistant in the state of Pennsylvania. I am in full support of the proposed regulations of permitting osteopathic physician assistants the ability to write prescriptions with the supervision of their physicians. I am currently writing prescriptions with the supervision of an allopathic physician group of psychiatrists. My current field of medicine is children and adolescent behavioral health and we see a lot of ADHD and mood disorders. If I did not have the prescription-writing authority as I do, it would be near impossible to be an effective provider. It would be quite difficult to track down the supervising psychiatrist in order to renew a script of Concerta or Vyvanse. The LPN who does work here has difficulty getting the psychiatrist to sign refill scripts, so a lot of times she comes to me to sign them because I am more readily available. This is not so problematic because the patients are not physically present, waiting for their script. It would be hard to imagine the inability to write scripts and the inconvenience it places on the patients and providers alike.

I think that if the osteopathic regulations were to permit physician assistants to write prescriptions under the supervision of osteopathic physicians, they would become more effective and time-efficient providers. There would be less wasted time waiting for scripts to be signed and the patients would receive the most optimal care.

I appreciate the time taken to read these letters, but I'm sure it will be noticed that many co-providers will agree that giving osteopathic PAs the authority to prescribe under their supervising physicians will be more beneficial for those involved in their care.

Sincerely,

Dawn M. Burns PA-C

Dawn M. Burns, MPAS, PA-C Physician Assistant DuBois Regional Medical Center Behavioral Health Services