

October 30, 2007

2644

RECEIVED

2007 NOV 14 PM 1:30

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Charles P. Fasano, D.O.
Chairman, Osteopathic Board of Medicine
P.O. Box 2649,
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Dear Dr. Fasano:

I am writing this letter to express to you my strong opinion supporting the notion that physician assistants should be able to write prescriptions under DO's. PA's have been safely prescribing medications under MD's for at least the past ten years. A physician assistant's training remains the same whether they practice under and MD or a DO. By allowing physician assistant's the opportunity to prescribe, the DO can then be more capable of spending more valuable, quality time with his or her patients, while benefiting from having extra help in seeing patients. They would be capable of providing more efficient access to health care and provide for less waiting time for the patients. Furthermore, DO's will still have the right to regulate specifically what the physician assistant would be able to prescribe and therefore would not be losing their final say in the treatment of their patients.

As a student and a future health care provider, this topic is very important to me. I feel that if physician assistants were to be able to write prescriptions under DO's, they would be able to more efficiently use their knowledge as a health care provider, allowing them their much needed freedom. As I'm sure you know, physician assistants are highly trained individuals who are educated in the art of writing prescriptions and are well prepared for the professional setting. I feel that this in many ways benefits the DO's as well, as stated above, in allowing them more time to spend with patients and provide more concentrated, comprehensive care for those individuals.

Sincerely,

Katherine E. Murtagh, PA-S

Katherine E. Murtagh, PA-S

CC: Basil L. Merenda
Governor Edward G. Rendell