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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 in regards to the recent consideration of allowing PAs to prescribe medications under the supervision of a D.O. As a physician assistant student, my colleagues and I have been spending numerous hours learning the importance of pharmacology and safely prescribing medications for our future patients. We would appreciate the opportunity to use our acquired skills in our future profession regardless of whether we are licensed under an M.D. or a D.O. PAs have demonstrated excellent reliability and responsibility over the past decade when prescribing medications under the supervision of an M.D. Our training as PA students is based upon the importance of providing proficient health care regardless of whether our supervising physician is a D.O. or an M.D. Because of our equivalent training, PAs working under a D.O. should receive the same prescribing privileges as those working under an M.D. In addition, PAs would be capable of dedicating more time to their patients' health care concerns if PAs did not require the extra time to locate a D.O. to prescribe a necessary medication. This would allow for a more efficient health care system with improved patient satisfaction. I thank you for your consideration of this important matter, and I hope that PAs will soon be permitted to prescribe while working in accordance with a D.O. to improve our health care system.

Sincerely,

Julie L. Saricks, PA-S

Julie L. Saricks, PA-S

CC: Basil L. Merenda

Governor Edward G. Rendell