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November 4, 2007

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

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Dr. Fasano,

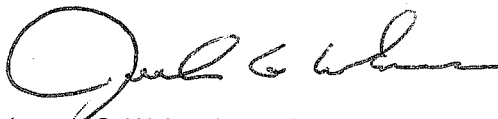
As a student in the Physician Assistant program at Gannon University, I'm writing in support of the proposed legislation that would allow Physician Assistants prescriptive privileges under the authority of Osteopathic Physicians.

There are a number of reasons that this proposed legislation should be passed including:

- All physician assistants require the same level of training and board certification regardless if they are supervised by an MD or a DO.
- Physician Assistants already have prescriptive privileges while working for MD's and have been safely prescribing for a number of years. It is logical that this exact same level of authority be provided to Physician Assistant's under the supervision of Doctors of Osteopathy.
- The privileges should be exactly the same for Physician Assistants working under MD's and DO's thus allowing optimum benefit to patients and to respective hiring healthcare facilities.
- In an ever growing need for trained healthcare professionals, patients will benefit by having more ready access to highly trained Physician Assistants who have prescriptive capabilities. This will reduce patient wait times, and help increase the utilization of DO's to better serve the medical needs of their communities.
- There is a potential positive economic impact to the state of Pennsylvania because Physician Assistants will have more job opportunities within the state. This will help minimize the number of trained healthcare professionals leaving the state for higher paying positions with more authority.

I urge the legislators within the State of Pennsylvania to support this initiative that will ultimately provide more efficient utilization of DO and PA skills, provide more effective care to patients, and help the state retain valuable healthcare resources that are so greatly needed.

Sincerely,



Joseph G. Weber, MBA, CPT

Cc: Basil L. Merenda
Governor Edward G. Rendell