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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2644

November 5, 2007

Charles Fasano, DO, Chairman
Pennsylvania State Board of Osteopathic Medicine
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-2649

Dear Dr. Fasano:

I am Chair of the Department of Geriatrics at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I am writing in support of the proposed changes to Pennsylvania Code §§ 25.177 and 25.178 (relating to prescribing and dispensing drugs, pharmaceutical aids and devices; and medical records). I personally have experience supervising physician assistants. I believe that adopting these regulations as published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on October 20, 2007 will improve health care delivery in the Commonwealth

These regulations will help improve access to care in one of fastest growing , and most needy, segments of the population, senior citizens. As a practicing geriatrician, I would be able to improve efficiency in operation of my office be being able to delegate, in advance, which prescriptions I wish to have PAs write for our patients. This would result in an accumulation of time saved throughout each day. The time saved could provide me with greater opportunities to focus on the more complicated patients in my practice.

Because these rules are similar to those already being used by medical board, chances for confusion at pharmacies will be reduced. This will improve patient safety.

I teach future osteopathic physicians. By giving osteopathic physicians the same privileges as allopathic physicians in Pennsylvania I believe it will make it more attractive for PCOM osteopathic medical students to remain in Pennsylvania after they become physicians. Adopting these rules will support one of Governor Rendell's objectives in Prescription for Pennsylvania. It will better allow PAs to work to the full extent of their training.

PAs have been safely writing prescriptions under MD supervision in Pennsylvania for over 15 years. Adopting the proposed regulations will expand the ability of PAs to continue to safely prescribe under supervision of DOs. As a licensed and practicing osteopathic physician in Pennsylvania, I urge the Board to adopt these proposed regulations.

Sincerely,

Katherine Galluzzi, D.O., C.M.D., F.A.C.O.F.P.
Chair & Associate Professor, Department of Geriatric Medicine

Copies: Basil Merenda, Commissioner BPOA
Hon. Edward Rendell