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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

6 November 2007

Dear Dr. Charles P. Fasano

As a current physician assistant graduate student at Gannon University in Erie, Pennsylvania, I believe the ability for physician assistants to prescribe in osteopathic medicine would benefit both parties.

Prescription privileges for physician assistants would be valuable to osteopathic physicians because more practices would hire physician assistants, which will reduce the work load of the physician. The ability of the physician assistant to prescribe would reduce waiting times, increase the availability of appointments, and allow the physician to devote more time to more significant issues. The osteopathic physician will be more beneficial to patients, hospitals, and practices with the ability to supervise physician assistants who are authorized to write prescriptions.

Physician assistants would profit from prescription privileges with the opportunity for more job openings, especially in Pennsylvania. Students, similar to me, would be more inclined to stay in the state if it is possible to work at full potential. Pennsylvania would prosper with the prescription privileges as potentially fewer graduates would leave the state in search of better opportunities.

It has been proven physician assistants can prescribe under the supervision of allopathic physicians for years. There should be no difference with physician assistants under the guidance of osteopathic physicians. The physician assistant receives the same training and patient safety is still ensured regardless of the type of physician supervision.

Yours sincerely



Michael Eller

CC: Basil L. Merenda  
Commissioner, Bureau of Professional & Occupational Affairs  
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