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SOUTH HILLS FAMILY MEDICINE

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

Dear Dr. Fasano,

I am writing in support of the proposed osteopathic prescribing regulations for Physician Assistants. Physician Assistants have been safely prescribing under the supervision of allopathic physicians for many years. I feel strongly that as long as the regulations are written exactly as the allopathic regulations, this would avoid any confusion in our clinical practice.

It should be noted that PA's work closely with their supervising physicians whether they are a DO or an MD, and as such should be given the same ability to delegate prescriptive authority. Osteopathic physicians may be more likely to hire a PA if they are given prescriptive authority. By removing some of the barriers to care, access to a PA will be improved because they will be able to practice to the fullest extent of their training. Also increased availability of appointments, reduced waiting times allow the physician to focus on more complicated cases.

In the end, the individual physician should decide whether his/her PA will prescribe (or not) and also what drugs the PA will be permitted to prescribe.

Very Truly Yours,



Michael P. McGonigal, MD

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

Governor Edward G. Rendell