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Whitford Family Medicine

Gary A. Cooperstein, D.O.

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

November 8, 2007

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

Dear Dr. Fasano:

I am writing to you to lend my support for the proposed regulations concerning delegated prescriptive authority for physician assistants. I have been fortunate to have served as a supervising osteopathic family physician to two physician assistants for the past 8 years as well as serve as an associate clinical professor to the Drexel-Hahnemann Physician Assistant program as a preceptor to their students.

Our physician assistants have embraced the osteopathic philosophy of medicine and have strongly supported the use of manipulative therapy as an integral part of our patients' care. As such, I have enjoyed the successful relationship we have fostered as partners in healthcare. We meet daily to discuss problematic cases, and have a thorough understanding of our roles in healthcare delivery. I have been able to expand the scope of my practice by the presence of our assistants especially into areas such as Preventative Healthcare. This has enabled me to provide a more comprehensive evaluation and plan of care for my patients.

I strongly support the proposed regulations and feel as if the wording in these regulations should be no different than those put forth in the allopathic regulations. Considering that PA's have been safely prescribing under allopathic physicians for years, their competence has been more than proven. I would be certain to delineate parameters for prescribing that were applicable to my practice circumstance, and feel that I should be given the same authority to delegate prescriptive services to my PA's in the same way as my allopathic colleagues.

Thank you for your support of this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

Gary A. Cooperstein, D.O.

Cc. Basil L. Merenda, Commissioner, Bureau of Professional and Occupational
Affairs
Governor Edward G. Rendell