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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is intended to support prescriptive authority to physician assistants who are supervised by osteopathic physicians. Having recently left a position assisting an allopathic physician and currently working with an osteopathic physician, my duties have not changed, with the exception of prescription writing. This is an extreme inconvenience not only to me, but also to my supervision physician who is trying to start a healthy practice. Much time is wasted in attempts to track my supervising physician down to have him sign a prescription, a prescription that could have easily been signed by me. Also add into the equation a high demanding patient who is already late for another appointment, you can easily see, with just with this small example, how frustrating not having prescription authority can be, multiple times per day, everyday. In addition, experiencing another PA in the same practice, with the same education working under an allopathic physician, able to write prescriptions further adds to the frustration and inequality of the entire situation.

It does not make sense that PA's with the same education have different basic privileges. I do not know the reason why osteopathic PA's are not allowed to write prescriptions. Put politics aside and step back and look at the situation, it does not make sense. It is my hope that this proposal will pass and osteopathic PA's will enjoy the same prescriptive authority as their allopathic counterparts. It is time for the inequality to end.

Sincerely,



Michael S. Schellhammer, PA-C, M.M.S.