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

I am writing to show my support for the proposed osteopathic prescribing regulations for physician assistants (PAs). PAs have been safely prescribing under the supervision of allopathic physicians for years. Since training and certification for all PAs is equal osteopathic physicians should be given the same ability to delegate prescribing authority to their PAs as their allopathic colleagues. To avoid confusion in the clinical practice the proposed prescribing regulations should be worded exactly the same as allopathic regulations.

Prescribing regulations for PAs may help advance both professions by making osteopathic physicians more likely to hire a PA who has prescriptive authority. In turn Hospitals and practices may be more likely to hire osteopathic physician if they are able to supervise PAs with delegated prescriptive authority.

At present working as a PA without prescriptive authority under the supervision of an osteopathic physician has limited access to care for patients. These prescriptive authorities would allow PAs to practice to the full extent of their training and help improve access to care for patient by reducing waiting times, increase availability of appointments, and to allow the physician time to focus on more complicated cases. Overall this would improve medical care patients received throughout Pennsylvania.

I thank you for you attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Nathan Petula P.A.-C.

Baxter Drew Wellmon, II, D.O.

CC: Governor Edward G. Rendell, Basil L. Merenda

