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*JEFFREY N. THOMPSON, D.O.*  
*Dermatology Clinics of Westmoreland County, Inc.*

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*4016 Old William Penn Highway*  
*Murrysville, Pa 15668*  
*Telephone (724) 733-7544*  
*Fax (724) 325-2935*

November 12, 2007

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

Dear Dr. Fasano:

I am writing this letter in support of the petition from the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) to grant prescriptive authority to physician assistants practicing under osteopathic supervising physicians. The position of a physician assistant (PA) was created as an extension of the physician in order to meet the growing medical demands in the United States. Since the development of the position, PA's have proven to be a necessity in healthcare and have gained notoriety and respect among patients and healthcare peers. In training, we are educated not only to obtain history and perform physical examinations, but also to perform diagnosis and treatment. Part of treatment often includes prescribing medications. PA's working under allopathic physicians have had prescribing authority for years in Pennsylvania, as well as most of the states in the U.S. To prevent PA's from prescribing is a hindrance of our scope of practice. Please move forward with changing the regulations for prescriptive authority for physician assistants working with osteopathic supervising physicians.

Sincerely,



Marie Pirillo, MPAS, PA-C

cc: Basil L. Merenda  
Governor Edward G. Rendell

INDEPENDENT  
LEGISLATURE  
HARRISBURGH, PA

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