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REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

Dear Dr. Fasano:

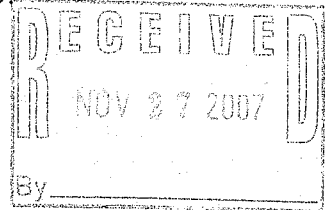
I am writing in response to the proposed regulations for delegated prescriptive authority for physician assistants working under the supervision of osteopathic physicians. As an osteopathic physician working in conjunction with three other allopathic physicians, I have been personally impacted by the current regulations regarding prescriptive authority of physician assistants working under osteopathic physicians. It has caused a lot of confusion in our office and a number of problems for our physician assistant. I have been told over and over that we should have hired a nurse practitioner rather than a physician assistant because of this strange loop in the law. However, it was our opinion, as a group, that our physician assistant was better qualified than the other applicants we had for the position. She has done very well, but the separate regulations have caused a lot of confusion and will continue to do so. Therefore, I am urging you to support the proposed osteopathic prescribing regulations for physician assistants. These should be worded exactly the same as allopathic regulations to avoid any further confusion in our practice. This, in my opinion, would also be beneficial to physician assistants as well as osteopathic physicians seeking employment. It has come to my attention that both of these parties can be discriminated against by employers who do not want to deal with the confusion created by these separate types of regulations for osteopathic and allopathic physicians. It is my firm opinion that the individual physician should decide whether his or her physician assistant should prescribe or not prescribe under a given circumstance, rather than whether the physician is allopathic or osteopathic.

Thank you very much for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

James N. DeAngelo, D.O.

JND/rjk



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