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New Columbia, PA 17856

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

November 13, 2007

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

Dear Dr. Fasano,

I am writing to you to support and continue to push forward the prescribing regulations for Physician Assistants. It is very important that the regulations are exactly the same as allopathic Physician Assistants, thereby preventing confusion between the two boards.

I have been a Physician Assistant for over 32 years. I am currently retired from the Federal Bureau of Prisons. There we had prescriptive authority from the inception of PA's we had no problems during those years. In addition I have been a PA in the State Prison System, worked in an emergency room, and for Geisinger Medical System. During those periods I worked with an allopathic physician, and had prescriptive authority. I never had a problem during all of that time. The physician always agreed with my treatment plan.

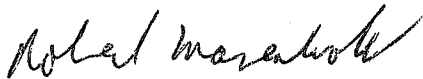
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Currently I am working for an osteopathic physician in a drug and alcohol treatment center. Currently I am not allowed to prescribe medications, however the Nurse Practitioner is. This causes continuous confusion as to why she can prescribe but I cannot. I must make a recommendation in the progress note. The nurses must then talk with the physician either in person, or by telephone and get the orders from him. During the last 11 years with him, he has never changed an order. If there is any question I always consult him, and then have him give the orders to a nurse. This causes additional work on both the nursing staff and physician. I would definitely be more effective if I had prescriptive authority. The nurse would be more effective in treating the patients because some of the workload would be lifted from them, and the physician can spend more time with the more complicated cases because it prevents the duplication of work and writing.

Thank you for your consideration in allowing these regulations go through.

Sincerely yours,



Robert Manenkoff PA-C

Cc: Basil L. Merenda
Governor Edward G. Rendell

