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Basil L. Merenda
Commissioner, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Dear Mr. Merenda:

My name is Daniel Patrick Scott. For the past 10 years I have been a practicing physician assistant in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. While I specialize in cardiology, I am currently an Assistant Professor of Physician Assistant Studies at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

As you are aware, the Osteopathic Board now stands at the threshold of a bold new beginning for the advancement of medical practice and accessibility in the Commonwealth. The newly proposed regulations expanding the scope of practice for physician assistants working with Osteopathic physicians is an ambitious effort in the on-going process of providing excellent and compassionate healthcare to our patients.

Allowing these regulations to pass, **AS WRITTEN**, will result in a myriad of advantages to all parties involved, from our patients, our PA colleagues and DO colleagues, as well. Our patients will be afforded more accessibility to quality care; our PA colleagues will be entitled to practice in the manner in which we were so highly trained; our DO colleagues will be able to augment and expand their practices by hiring more and more physician assistants. This is, quite simply, a win – win situation for everyone!

It is also important to realize that physician assistant school is accelerated medical school. Unlike nurse practitioners, physician assistant students are trained in the exact same medical model as U.S. medical students. This fact alone places the physician assistant at the pinnacle with regard to physician extenders.

As a physician assistant and physician assistant educator, I strongly urge you to support the proposed legislation for prescriptive privileges for physician assistants. Thank you for your time and kind consideration to this very important matter. Should you wish to contact me, please feel free to do so. You can reach me at the above telephone number or email address.

Very truly yours,

Daniel Patrick Scott, MPAS, PA-C
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