

2644

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

RECEIVED

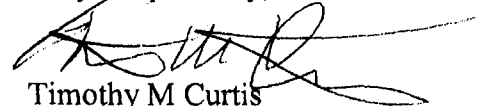
2007 NOV 28 PM 1:52

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Charles Fasano,

I am currently a student enrolled in the Physician Assistant (PA) program at Duquesne University. I am writing you today in support of the current proposed legislation to allow Osteopathic physicians (DOs) the ability to delegate prescriptive authority to current and future PAs they supervise. If this legislation is approved, patients currently under the care of a D.O. will have access to an improved level of care by allowing the PAs to practice to the full extent of their training. PAs have been safely prescribing with the supervision of allopathic physicians (MDs) for years. Since PAs work with physician supervision to ensure patient safety, and receive the same training whether they are supervised by a DO or an MD, it only makes sense that Osteopathic physicians be afforded the same authority to delegate prescriptive authority as their MD colleagues. Physician assistants will be more valuable to DOs with prescriptive authority, meaning more practices may hire a PA. This will in turn improve access to care by reducing waiting times, increasing availability of appointments, and allowing the physician time to focus on more complicated cases. Like their MD colleagues, each physician should and will decide whether his/her PA will have (or not) prescribing authority and also what drugs the PA will be permitted to prescribe. I believe in the long run, the cost and care benefit to the patient population of the state of Pennsylvania can only be improved with the passage of this proposed legislation. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Very Respectfully,



Timothy M Curtis
Physician Assistant Student
Duquesne University

CC:

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

Governor Edward G. Rendell
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

RECEIVED
NOV 21 2007
By