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Basil L. Merenda, Commissioner  
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P.O. Box 2649  
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PROFESSIONAL REGULATION  
COMMISSION

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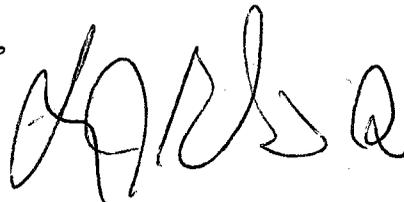
Sir:

I am writing a letter in favor of the proposed regulations for delegating prescriptive authority for physician assistants working under the supervision of an osteopathic physician. I am an osteopathic physician in the state of Pennsylvania and have been here for almost 29 years. I employ two, full-time physician assistants who are a major part of my practice. With their assistance, my partners and I are able to meet the medical needs of our patients in the Greensburg area.

All I am asking is that the physician assistants be given the same prescriptive authority as those physician assistants that are working for my medical doctor colleagues. My physician assistants work under my direct supervision to ensure patient safety. I or my partners are always on the premises in direct supervision of my two physician assistants. My osteopathic colleagues may be more likely to hire more physician assistants if they are given prescriptive authority. This would in turn remove some of the barriers to patient care due to the reduced waiting times, increased availability of appointments and allowing the physician time to focus on more complicated cases.

As a supervising osteopathic physician to my physician assistants only I will decide whether my employees will prescribe or not prescribe and also what drugs the physician assistants are permitted to prescribe. Please grant me the authority for this to occur.

Sincerely,



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