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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 12, 2008

Dear Ms. Howell:

I am writing in response to the proposed regulations regarding prescriptive privileges for midwives in Pennsylvania.

I must first say "Thank you" for addressing this issue. I have been a nurse midwife for 13 years. I have lived in Conshohocken all my life, but have only practiced in PA for 2½ years (in Lehighton and Tamaqua) and then I started practicing in New Jersey. I continued practicing in NJ for 10 years as I felt the climate for midwifery practice was better. The prescriptive issue always bothered me; why would any physician want me to write or call in prescriptions in their name if they had not seen the patient? So I chose to continue in NJ where I my license has prescriptive privileges as well as a DEA number. I welcome the opportunity to be responsible for the decisions that I make as a nurse-midwife.

I am presently finishing a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at Drexel University and hope to join or begin a new practice this summer. I am anxious that when that happens, I may have those prescriptive privileges which will allow me to provide the best and most comprehensive care of my patients that I can.

I would be happy to speak with you in person if any clarification is needed. Please don't hesitate to contact me.

Again, I thank you for your attention to this matter and am certain that this issue will be satisfactorily resolved for the midwives and women we care for in the great state of Pennsylvania.

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