Date:

Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

I am writing today in support of legislation that was proposed by State Senator Thomas H. Killion to modernize Physician Assistant (PA) practice legislation, and to ask that you co-sponsor this bill.

My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I am a dermatology PA who lives in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ county. As a PA, I have completed a rigorous masters level education and training, passed the NCCPA national board exam, and continued to pursue an expertise in dermatology under the supervision of my collaborative physician.

While Pennsylvania is one of the premier states for Physician Assistant education, providing almost 9% of the nation's PA programs, we severely lag behind legislatively for practicing PAs. This new legislation from Senator Killion proposes the following:

1. Place a Physician Assistant on the Medical Board and Osteopathic Board with a permanent seat.

2. Remove the requirement of a physician countersignature on 100% of patient files.

3. Allow a written agreement to be "filed" instead of "approved" by the Medical and Osteopathic Boards. This will allow Physician Assistants to immediately begin working like Nurse Practitioners instead of waiting 120 days or longer for the Medical Board's approval.

4. Outline what supervision means, to ensure laws and regulations do not hinder the Physician - Physician Assistant - Patient relationship.

I have supported similar legislation for the state of Pennsylvania previously, and I feel that it is time now for this change to take place. PAs are losing jobs in our county or are being delayed in providing access to care due to unnecessarily long approval processes for their supervisory agreements, and the extra burden of physician countersignature especially in cases where PAs have been practicing in their specialty for years.

I welcome the opportunity to speak with you further about this important legislation to modernize the PA practice, and I thank you for taking the time to consider sponsoring this legislation with Senator Killion.

Sincerely,

(Name)

Email:

Phone: