



April 29, 2017

NCCPA  
Attn: Mary L. Warner, MMSc, PA-C  
12000 Findlay Road Suite 100  
Johns Creek, GA 30097-1409

Dear Ms. Warner:

I am writing you on behalf of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants. Although we officially only speak for PAs in North Carolina, we closely monitor legislative efforts in other states as well. We found the recent governor's veto of the West Virginia PA modernization bill to be very disheartening. When we learned that the NCCPA successfully lobbied the governor to veto the bill that had been unanimously approved by the legislature, we became very concerned and, frankly, disappointed with your organization's actions. Our dismay has only increased when we discovered that the NCCPA also engaged in concerted, lobbying efforts to jeopardize similar practice modernization bills in the states of Illinois and New Mexico. As the President of our progressive Academy, I uniquely understand the time and financial resources that go into the development and passage of state legislation. The NCCPA was established as a certification body for Physician Assistants. We do not believe that it is appropriate or in the interest of the profession for a certification body to inhibit the progress of state PA practice modernization laws. Unfortunately, your organization has negated many years of hard work and wasted precious financial resources in these fine states.

In your letter that was sent to all certified PAs, you stated that your actions were in response to the removal of recertification requirements in these bills. You also stated that this was in the interest of public safety. Though this issue can and should be debated further, there is no reliable research that proves this to be a fact. On behalf of the NCAPA Board of Directors and the PA constituents of the state of North Carolina, as well as PAs across our nation, we ask that you refrain from further legislative lobbying activities that will have detrimental and long-lasting impacts on PA practice modernization bills across the country. We do think that it is appropriate for an organization like yours to assess the initial medical knowledge of PA graduates before starting practice and would encourage you to apply your resources to the continuance and improvement of that unique goal.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

*Truett Smith, MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA*

Truett Smith, MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA  
2017 NCAPA President

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