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July 30, 2019

Haig Aintablian, MD
President
AAEM/RSA
David A. Farcy, MD
President
AAEM
555 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202-3823

Dear Dr. Aintablian and Dr. Farcy:

On behalf of the American Medical Association (AMA) and our physician and student members, thank you for your letter urging the AMA to lead a public relations campaign and increase resources on state legislative efforts to combat independent practice bills. The AMA shares your passion for scope of practice issues.

The AMA leads state advocacy efforts vigorously defending the practice of medicine and safety of our patients by opposing nurse practitioners and other non-physician practitioners attempts to inappropriately expand their scope of practice. Just this year, the AMA's Advocacy Resource Center, in strong collaboration with state medical and national specialty societies, defeated more than 40 scope bills. But our work does not end there. We recognize the importance of the house of medicine working together, which is why the AMA created the Scope of Practice Partnership (SOPP), a collaborative effort staffed by the AMA which is comprised of the AMA, 14 national medical specialty societies, the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), 50 state medical associations plus DC, and 38 state osteopathic associations. The SOPP is focused on promoting physician-led team care, truth in advertising and defeating inappropriate scope expansions. Since 2007 the SOPP has awarded more than \$1.9 million in grants to its members to fund advocacy tools and campaigns toward these efforts.

The AMA develops vast fact-based resources to better inform legislators, regulators and policymakers as they consider scope of practice bills. These tools are the backbone of our state legislative efforts. We actively track thousands of state bills on an annual basis and work hand in hand with state and specialty societies to defeat bills that would inappropriately expand non-physician practitioners' scope of practice. We have created proactive campaigns to support physician-led team-based care and truth in advertising to make sure patients are informed about

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who is providing their health care. We also host regular meetings on scope of practice with state and specialty society staff and physician leaders, as well as AMA members. The AMA has been actively engaged in responding to Federal Trade Commission (FTC) enforcement against state licensure board actions, as well as the FTC's interest in nursing scope of practice at the state level. Finally, as mentioned above, the AMA created the Scope of Practice Partnership to help physicians work together with a unified voice to defend the practice of medicine.

I am proud of the AMA's leadership and work we have done thus far to stop inappropriate scope expansions and promote physician-led teams. But our work is not done. We will continue to work hard on behalf of physicians across the country. If you have further questions or would like more information, please contact Kim Horvath, JD, Senior Legislative Attorney, Advocacy Resource Center at (312) 464-4783 or kimberly.horvath@ama-assn.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patrice A. Harris".

Patrice A. Harris, MD, MA

cc: Madeleine Hanan
Kay Whalen
AMA Board of Trustees