



PA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
655 K Street NW, Ste. 700, Washington, DC 20001
PAEAonline.org • 703-548-5538

February 23, 2023

Representative Ann Meyer
Chair, House Health and Human Services Committee
Iowa House of Representatives
State Capitol
10007 East Grand Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Chair Meyer:

On behalf of the PA Education Association (PAEA), the national organization representing all 300 accredited PA programs in the United States, we are writing to express the Association's strong support for HSB 115. This proposed legislation, which aligns with the Optimal Team Practice policy adopted by the American Academy of PAs, would significantly improve patient access to care by eliminating outdated administrative barriers to PA practice in Iowa while upholding the value of interprofessional collaboration. As such, the Association urges the Iowa legislature to support its swift enactment.

Throughout the history of the profession, PA programs have prepared students to both practice at the top of their license and to value the unique skill sets and contributions of each member of the health care team. For this reason, PAEA endorsed the final OTP policy adopted by the American Academy of PAs in 2017 which included a commitment to collaboration **determined at the practice level** based upon the experiences, skills, and

2023 PAEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Linda Sekhon, DHSc, PA-C
PRESIDENT

Nicole Burwell, PhD, MSHS, PA-C
PRESIDENT ELECT

Kara L. Caruthers, MSPAS, PA-C
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Janie McDaniel, MS, MLS(ASCP)SC
SECRETARY

Jacqueline S. Barnett, DHSc, MSHS, PA-C
TREASURER

Shalon Buchs, MHS, PA-C
DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Jennifer Eames, DHSc, MPAS, PA-C
DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Elizabeth Elliott, MS, PA-C
DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Shaun L. Grammer, DMSc, PA-C
DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Robert D. Hadley, PhD, PA-C
DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Virginia L. Valentin, DrPH, PA-C
DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Cassidy McCandless, MS
STUDENT MEMBER AT LARGE

Sara Fletcher, PhD
EX OFFICIO MEMBER



capabilities of specific PAs. State limitations on PA practice that arbitrarily impose administrative restrictions on PA practice without regard to clinical expertise only serve to impose delays in patient care at a time of growing health care workforce shortages. As we seek to achieve PAEA's vision of Health for All, creating a practice environment that fully equips the PA workforce to leverage its expertise in the best interest of patients will be critical.

This policy changes proposed by HSB 115 will allow PAs to be more easily employed at health care facilities throughout the state, eliminate the possibility of patients losing access to care provided by PAs in the event of the unexpected departure of a supervising physician, and ultimately ensure better outcomes for all patients. For this reason, HSB 115 has PAEA's strong support, and we look forward to opportunities to promote its enactment.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the Association's position on HSB 115. Should you have specific questions or if you would like additional information, please contact Senior Director of Government Relations Tyler Smith at 703-667-4356 or tsmith@PAEAonline.org.

Sincerely,

Linda Sekhon

Linda Sekhon, DHSc, PA-C
President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sara F. Fletcher".

Sara Fletcher, PhD
Chief Executive Officer