



Connecticut Academy of Physician Assistants

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Statement of Patricia Marriott, P.A.
Legislative Chair of the Connecticut Academy of
Physician Assistants
In Regard to HB 7163
Public Health Committee
February 26, 2007

Members of the Committee:

My name is Patricia Marriott. I am a physician assistant in practice at Waterbury Hospital and serve as legislative chair of the Connecticut Academy of Physician Assistants. I am submitting comments for the record in support of Section 24 of H.B. 7163, *An Act Concerning Revisions to the Department of Public Health Statutes*.

Very simply, Section 24 will delete the requirement that an “alternate licensed physician” register with DPH. This was established as part of last year’s law that made changes to the statute on supervision of physician assistants. The 2006 Act decided that when the supervising physician is away from the practice due to vacation, leave of absence, sabbatical or other reason, another physician would be designated as a temporary “alternate” supervisor in his or her absence. The “alternate” would ensure continuity in the PA supervision process and would also register with the department.

Section 24 is warranted because these registrations simply are not worth the department’s time and effort. The period in which “alternate” licensed physicians are overseeing PAs was designed to be brief and temporary. The record keeping at DPH really has no purpose. Records of all registrations by alternate physicians will still be recorded and maintained by the hospital or specific medical practice in the normal course of business and in compliance with Section 20-12a.

The Connecticut Academy of Physician Assistants supports the streamlined record keeping provisions contained in Section 24, and we urge you to enact the legislation this session. Thank you.