

POMA



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September 26, 2008

Rep. Mike Sturla, Majority Chair  
House Professional Licensure Committee  
333 Main Capitol Building  
P.O. Box 202096  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2096

Dear Representative Sturla:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on House Bill 2727, the Health Care Practitioner Identification Badge Act.

The Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association has reviewed the bill and, at this time, we do not see a need to change identification badges.

As for institutions, we believe rules and regulations regarding identification badges should be left up to the individual institution.

In a physician practice, all allied health care professionals should wear badges that clearly identify their name and degree. For example, a physician badge should clearly identify D.O. or M.D. after the name; a physician assistant's badge should state the wearer is a P.A.; and a certified nurse practitioner's badge should say C.R.N.P.; etc.

The POMA does not feel that including a photo on an identification badge is necessary, causing undue burden and cost, since today's technology allows such items to be easily altered.

Thank you again for the opportunity to express our comments regarding House Bill 2727. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at the number listed above.

Sincerely,

Kieren P. Knapp, D.O.  
Vice Chairman, Legislative Committee

Suzanne K. Kelley, D.O.  
Vice Chairman, Legislative Committee

William J. Kuprevich, Jr., D.O.  
Co-chairman, Legislative Committee