[email to: wapa@wapa.com]

Dear WSMA,

I’m writing as a physician [member of WSMA] to express support for Resolution B-5, which asks WSMA to support reforming Washington’s PA practice laws. I work with XX [number] of PAs in my practice of [specialty]. They do a great job and make it possible for our practice to function. [add specifics about how PAs help in medical practice].

I think physicians deserve to choose the team members that will do the best job serving our patients. I’m aware that some employers are not hiring PAs because of the burden of delegation agreements and other restrictions. These laws seem out of date and out of step with modern team-based medical practice. Right now, my choice of who to hire for our team is restricted by the law limiting the number of PAs we can work with, as well as the liability and burden of PA supervision. When we hire a PA, we have to wait for the Medical Commission to approve their paperwork before they can start seeing patients. This just doesn’t make sense. I would like to be able to hire PAs as easily as we hire physicians and nurse practitioners. Moving the PA agreement to the employer level would help a lot in streamlining our ability to hire the team members we need.

As the House of Medicine, we share an obligation to provide care to patients who need us. Please support Resolution B-5 to improve patient access to care by modernizing and simplifying our PA laws.

Sincerely,

(Physician signature)