



**The Physician Assistant HealthCare Access Act
LRB-3689/1**

10 Keys for Member Calls to Legislators Seeking Co-Sponsors for Physician Assistant Authorization Legislation

1. This sheet is not to be shared beyond WAPA Members – it is for our use only.
2. Calls can/should begin as early as Jan. 23, 2012 – and should definitely be made no later than Thursday, January 26th, 2012.
3. WAPA members should call their legislators' offices – they can leave voicemail if it picks up, they can leave messages with staff, and speak directly to their legislators if available.
4. WAPA members should call both their State Representative and their State Senator. They can find both by typing their home address where indicated at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/w3asp/waml/waml.aspx>. This will provide a link to the legislators' personal homepage, their Madison office telephone number and a link to send email.
5. E-mails are a secondary means of garnering a support. (These email boxes are often not reviewed as timely as phone messages, and are far easier to ignore.)
 - A Representative's email address is Rep.Lastname@legis.wisconsin.gov.
 - A Senator's email address is Sen.Lastname@legis.wisconsin.gov.

6. Whether you reach a live staff person, voicemail, or send an email – be sure to identify yourself as a constituent (provide your name and home address so they can double-check if they wish).
7. Be sure to identify yourself as a Physician Assistant.
8. **The specific request** is for the Representative or Senator to “call Representative Petryk’s office and sign on to co-sponsor his bill to clarify the authorities of Physician Assistants – LRB-3689.” It is that simple.
9. Once your call is made – complete the brief on-line survey with information on your contact (it will take less than 1 minute to complete, and will help us track activity on the bill). That way we can track progress and he can follow up with those offices.
10. Legislators will have already received the “co-sponsorship memo” that describes the legislation, so you do not need to go into the merits of the legislation – just ask them to co-sponsor. However, if you talk to staff and they want more information, the key talking points are below.

Talking Points

- PAs practice with Physician supervision – everything in LRB-3689 remains under that supervisory relationship. The four key authorities granted by LRB-3689 are:
 - a. Authority to sign DOT exam forms attesting to Driver fitness
 - b. Authority to order PT services
 - c. Authority to order Home Health services
 - d. Authority to order patient restraints in inpatient settings
- Reality is that the PA does the history and exam, and makes the treatment recommendations within their MD-PA relationship. Red-tape requires MDs to sign paperwork to execute the recommendations, when in most cases they have not seen the patient.
- PAs have authority to issue prescriptions for medications (ranging from antibiotics to scheduled narcotics – without requiring a physician signature.

- These reforms will make patient care more efficient and free physicians to spend more time seeing patients and less time doing paperwork.
- LRB-3689 has the support of the Wisconsin Medical Society, the Wisconsin Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians, Wisconsin Physical Therapy Association, Children's Hospital of Milwaukee and the Wisconsin Academy of Physician Assistants.