

1 **SUBJECT:** Regarding the Full, Complete, Unrestricted and Independent Practice of
2 Medicine by Physician Assistants

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4 **SUBMITTED BY:** David Garza, DO, FACOFP

5 **REFERRED TO:** Professional Affairs Committee

6 WHEREAS, that the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA) advocates for physician lead
7 healthcare teams based on their medical education and postgraduate training; and

8 WHEREAS, TOMA recognizes that physicians (MD/DO) are the only entity licensed by State
9 Medical Boards to engage in the full, complete, unrestricted and independent practice of
10 medicine¹; and

11 WHEREAS, Physician Assistants (PA's) are currently licensed and regulated by each states
12 Medical licensing and regulatory Board; and

13 WHEREAS, a physician-led, team-based health care is a crucial step in ensuring that patients
14 receive the most patient-centered, highest quality care possible; and

15 WHEREAS, creation of a separate regulatory board for PA's and allowing complete, unrestricted
16 and independent practice of medicine could fragment the health care team by explicitly
17 removing provisions in state law and regulation that require a relationship with a physician in
18 order for physician assistants to practice; and

19 WHEREAS, The American Medical Association is opposed to the newly revised guidelines by the
20 American Association of Physician Assistants²; now, therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, that the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA) stands opposed to the full,
22 complete, unrestricted and independent practice of medicine by Physician Assistant's (PA's);
23 and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, that TOMA opposes efforts to establish autonomous regulatory boards meant to
25 license, regulate, and discipline physician assistants outside of the existing medical license
26 board in the State of Texas or any other State in the United States.

27 References:

28 1. Lane, S. PAEA Task Force Ready to Tackle Implications of OTP. [http://paeaonline.org/paea-task-force-](http://paeaonline.org/paea-task-force-ready-tackle-implications-otp/)
29 [ready-tackle-implications-otp/](http://paeaonline.org/paea-task-force-ready-tackle-implications-otp/). See also Lane S. Optimal Team Practice Tops the Agenda at Education
30 Forum. <http://paeaonline.org/optimal-team-practice-tops-the-agenda-at-education-forum/>. Accessed
31 March 31, 2018.

- 32 2. **American Medical Association Advocacy Center.** *eBulletin: Position paper by the American Medical*
33 *association on the American Academy of Physician Assistants revised guidelines for State Regulation of*
34 *PA's, accessed March 31, 2018*
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36 **HOD 2018**

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38 Approved