



January 22, 2020

Wayne A. Smith
President & CEO

The Honorable Kendra Johnson
411 Legislative Avenue
Dover, DE 19901

RE: Support for HB 169, Physician Assistants

Dear Representative Johnson,

*Alfred I. duPont Hospital
for Children*
Jay Greenspan, MD,
Interim Chief Executive
Nemours Delaware
Valley Operations

Thank you for being the lead House sponsor of House Bill 169 to make changes to Title 24 of the Delaware Code regarding physician assistants.

Bayhealth
Terry Murphy,
President & CEO

Physician assistants are an integral part of the health care workforce and will continue to play a critical role, particularly in light of a growing national and local primary care provider shortage. Physician assistants are also an important component in the delivery of high-quality, high-value health care. HB 169 recognizes the important role of physician assistants in making several changes, including in the relationship between physicians and physician assistants from supervisory to collaborative. The bill also allows for flexibility in the 1:4 ratio of physician assistants to physicians in certain settings, such as an emergency department, when physicians and physician assistants practice in the same physical office or facility building. Finally, the bill adds two physician assistant members to the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline.

Beebe Healthcare
Rick Schaffner
Interim CEO

*Christiana Care Health
System*
Janice E. Nevin, M.D.
MPH
President & CEO

DHA is pleased to support HB 169 and looks forward to working with you and the members of the General Assembly to advance this important legislation.

*Nanticoke Health
Services*
Steven A. Rose, RN,
MN
President & CEO

Sincerely,

Saint Francis Healthcare
Daniel Sinnott
President & CEO

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Wayne A. Smith'.

Wayne A. Smith
President & CEO

*Delaware Healthcare
Association*
Wayne A. Smith
President & CEO

DHA represents hospitals and health care delivery systems in Delaware and advocates for policies that create an environment enabling every Delawarean to be as healthy as they can be.