



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF MEDICAL
AND OSTEOPATHIC EXAMINERS**

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September 12, 2008

Senator Jason M. Gant, Chair
Government Operations and Audit Committee
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Senator Gant:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding physician assistant issues. As you know, the Eighty-Second Legislative Assembly, 2007 Legislative Session, rewrote the physician assistant practices act with overwhelming support from the licensed physician assistants in South Dakota.

After they reviewed your letter, the physician assistant advisory committee reported to us the word "overcharges" was a misunderstanding of the one-time adjustment of the renewal date. There was no fee change whatsoever. The committee also reported that not a single PA licensee expressed opposition to the 2007 changes in the physician assistant practices act regarding the date when the licensed PA had to renew the license.

Since the physician assistant Academy has a state wide meeting late next week, your letter will be addressed by them at that time. We asked the Academy and advisory committee to provide a written response to your letter, which we will forward it to you at that time.

If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Margaret B. Hansen
Executive Director

MBH/jp

cc: Doneen Hollingsworth, Secretary of Health
Physician Assistant Advisory Committee
Physician Assistant Academy