

February 14, 2018

Ms. Chelsea Church, Pharm.D., D.Ph.
Executive Director
Oklahoma Board of Pharmacy
2920 Lincoln Blvd., Suite A
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Via email: cchurch@pharmacy.ok.gov

Dear Ms. Church:

On behalf of our members operating chain pharmacies throughout the state of Oklahoma, the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) requests that the Board of Pharmacy immediately establish a Technician Task Force stakeholder group to explore all issues related to enhancing the use of technicians in retail community pharmacies.

With the ongoing reforms in the healthcare system that have led to additional opportunities for community pharmacists to play an expanded role in patient care, it is important that state policies enable pharmacists to leverage their support staff to optimize patient care. Unfortunately, current statistics reveal that pharmacists across practice settings are spending nearly one-third of their workday performing pharmacy technician level duties.

Pharmacy technicians are integral to the delivery of pharmacy care services and support pharmacists in numerous capacities. As training programs have improved and states have moved to recognize pharmacy technicians as paraprofessionals through registration and licensure, many states have been trending towards allowing pharmacists to delegate more non-judgmental duties and responsibilities to technicians.

NACDS thanks the Board for considering our request. We welcome the opportunity to further discuss these issues and participate on the Technician Task Force. I can be reached at 817-442-1155, or mstaples@nacds.org.

Regards,



Mary Staples
Regional Director, State Government Affairs