



American Society for
Clinical Pathology

July 14, 2010

Elizabeth Carter, PhD
Director, DHP Healthcare Workforce Data Center
9960 Maryland Dr., Suite 300
Henrico, VA 23233-1463

Dear Dr. Carter:

On behalf of the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP), I am writing to commend the work of the Virginia Board of Health Professions to consider the need to license laboratory personnel in the state of Virginia. Attached is ASCP's updated public policy statement, *State Licensure of Laboratory Personnel*, which was approved by the organization's Board of Directors in March 2010.

ASCP has long maintained that because the important work performed by laboratory professionals affects the health, safety and welfare of the public, states should license laboratory personnel. Licensure legislation should ensure that laboratory personnel possess appropriate academic and clinical training, pass competency-based examinations conducted by an approved national certifying organization, and participate in continuing education programs.

The American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) is a nonprofit medical specialty society representing 130,000 members, including board certified pathologists, other physicians, clinical scientists, medical laboratory scientists and technicians. ASCP is one of the nation's largest medical specialty societies and is the world's largest organization representing the field of laboratory medicine and pathology. As the leading provider of continuing education for pathologists and medical laboratory personnel, the ASCP enhances the quality of the profession through comprehensive educational programs, publications, self-assessment materials and advocacy.

If ASCP can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or Matthew Schulze, ASCP's Senior Manager for Federal and State Affairs, at (202) 347-4450.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark H. Stoler".

Mark H. Stoler, MD, FASCP
President, ASCP

Attachment