MHA
MISSOURI HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

Herb B. Kuhn
President and CEO
P.O. Box 60
Jefferson City, MO 65102

October 6, 2021

Donald G. Kauerauf
Director
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
P.O. Box 570
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0570

Dear Director Kauerauf:

Early in the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of Health and Senior Services, with approval of the Governor, granted a waiver of certain requirements pertaining to unlicensed assistive personnel. The waiver extended the timeframe for such individuals to obtain the training time required under 19 CSR 30-20.125 by 90 days. This waiver expedited recruitment of these personnel during previous patient surges associated with COVID-19. These personnel are critical to allowing nursing staff to focus on duties at the top of their scope of practice and also ensure adequate attention to basic patient care duties during times of increased absenteeism of health care workers personally affected by the pandemic.

It recently came to our attention this waiver has been allowed to lapse. With the current capacity and staffing issues associated with the Delta variant, we would appreciate it if this waiver could be reinstated to mitigate those issues. The pandemic continues to present uncertainties for Missourians and health care providers alike. Reinstatement of this waiver is one means for hospitals to continue providing appropriate care to those who need it.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jane Drummond, General Counsel and Vice President of Legal Affairs, at jdrummond@mhanet.com, or Sarah Willson, Vice President of Clinical and Regulatory Affairs, at swillson@mhanet.com.

Sincerely,

Herb B. Kuhn
President and CEO

hbk/pt

c Steve Bollin
William Koebel

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