



Board for  
Orthotist/Prosthetist  
Certification

THE ADVANTAGE IS EXPERIENCE

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**TO:** Kentucky House Standing Committee on Licensing and Occupations

**FROM:** The Board for Orthotist/Prosthetist Certification (BOC) – D. Fedder Testimony

**SUBJECT:** House Bill 2015 & Amendment

**POSITION:** SUPPORT

My name is Don Fedder. I am President Emeritus of the Board for Orthotist/Prosthetist Certification (BOC) an international, certification agency for which I served as the Founding President and Chief Executive Officer. I hold a bachelor of pharmacy degree from University of Maryland and Masters and Doctor of Public Health degrees from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. I am currently Professor of Pharmacy and Medicine at the University of Maryland, Baltimore where I have served on the faculty since July 1974.

I speak in support of House Bill No. 2015 and the proposed amendment. I especially wish to compliment the sponsors of this bill for recognizing – as the US Congress, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and its administrative arm, the Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Standards (CMS) has -- the validity of the standard and credentialing procedures developed by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and its parent, the National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA). These credentialing standards make it possible for even the smallest states to establish licensing to assure the availability of a competent and disciplined work force to serve its citizens. Without these nationally developed and credentialed procedures, in my view, it would be extremely difficult and prohibitively expensive for even a state the size of Pennsylvania to develop the range of exams necessary to assure their constituents of the competence of the licensees.

I had the privilege to be involved in the 70's in the early development of NCCA and learned of the need for such a national body for those relatively small professions with numbers too small to support either large scale education programs OR the infrastructure to develop testing mechanisms independently state by state. National accredited exams are the result and are here to serve your needs.

The bill is not perfect, but my mom taught me that perfect is the enemy of good. I thank you for your attention and will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

## BIOSKETCH

**Donald O. Fedder, DrPH, MPH, BSP, FAPhA** is Professor of Pharmacy & Medicine, the University of Maryland Baltimore, and President Emeritus of the Board for Orthotist/Prosthetist Certification (BOC). Dr. Fedder is a behavioral scientist with research, teaching and service in the areas of public health promotion, disease prevention, program planning as well as professional credentialing. He began his career as a community pharmacist in 1950 upon graduation from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. In 1974 he joined the University's faculty as a Clinical Instructor and returned to school to earn a master's degree (1978) and doctoral degree (1982) in public health from the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. Today he continues to teach at Maryland where he holds two senior faculty appointments, one in the department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research in the School of Pharmacy and the other in the department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine in the School of Medicine. For over forty years his scholarly work and research show a steadfast focus on the role of modifiable behaviors in reducing disease risk, increasing patient compliance with medications and improving relationships between health practitioners and patients. His distinguished academic career is matched by an equally impressive history of public service.

In response to a request from the Director of the Maryland Medicaid program in the '80's, he developed what became *ENABLE-MD: The Center for Community Outreach*, a program to aid high-risk populations with chronic disease to reach and maintain control of their illness. He was also the founding President and CEO of the Board for Orthotist/Prosthetist Certification (BOC), an international credentialing organization to both certify practitioners and accredit the facilities in which they practice. He holds fellow positions at the American Pharmacists Association, the Society for Public Health Education, the Peter Lamy Center and the Center on Drugs and Public Policy, and was an active member of the National Cholesterol Education Program Coordinating Committee, representing the Society for Public Health Education. He has served as an officer on numerous pharmacy and public health boards at the national, state and local level.

### Select Publications

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**Fedder DO, Chang RJ, Curry S, and Nichols G, The Effectiveness of a Community Health Worker Outreach Program on Health Care Utilization of West Baltimore City Medicaid Patients with Diabetes with or without Hypertension. *Ethnicity & Disease,* January 2003**

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Revised: 012208