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Gay Dodson, Executive Director Texas State Board of Pharmacy 333 Guadalupe Tower 3, Suite #-600 Austin, TX 78701

July 14, 2008

Dear Ms. Dodson,

We are writing this letter in support of the Institute for the Certification of Pharmacy Technician's (ICPT) exam, ExCPT. We encourage the Texas State Board of Pharmacy to approve this national exam as an alternative to pharmacy technicians in the great state of Texas.

NCPA represents the pharmacist owners, managers, and employees of nearly 23,000 independent community pharmacies across the United States. NCPA supports and recognizes the Exam for the Certification of Pharmacy Technicians (ExCPT) as a national, psychometrically sound pharmacy technician certification exam.

Since the Board last heard from interested parties in October 2006, ICPT has received accreditation of their exam from the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). NABP acknowledged in their April 24, 2008 memo that NCCA accreditation represents an independent audit by certification experts and ensures that a certification program adheres to current standards of practice in the certification industry.

With the quality of the ExCPT assured, there are several key advantages this exam affords pharmacy technicians, educators and employers of Texas. First, the exam is offered over 300 days a year. For employers seeking to fill positions with qualified candidates, this provides an accessible and convenient means for technician certification.

Secondly, technicians are provided their results immediately upon completion of the exam.

- Candidates passing the exam receive their certificates within two weeks.
- Candidates failing the exam are provided a detailed diagnostic report so they can remediate.
- Providing prompt feedback to technicians during their development is essential in the development of a qualified workforce.

Exams meeting the NCCA accreditation standard helps assure Texas that technician testing meets a standard that is held throughout the certification industry. Competition between exams will stimulate innovation and efficiencies in the market that are absent in monopolies.

We ask the Board to strongly consider approving the ExCPT exam and provide a quality option to the Texas market to enhance the technician training process.

Sincerely,

Douglas Hoey

B. Douglas Hoey, R.Ph., M.B.A. NCPA Chief Operating Officer

THE VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY PHARMACIST

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July 17, 2008

Gay Dodson Executive Director Texas State Board of Pharmacy 333 Guadalupe Tower 3, Suite #600 Austin, TX 78701

Dear Ms. Dodson,

I am writing this letter in support of the Institute for the Certification of Pharmacy Technician's (ICPT) exam, ExCPT. NCPA encourages the Texas State Board of Pharmacy to approve this national exam that can serve as an alternative to the current certification examination for pharmacy technicians in the great state of Texas.

NCPA supports our pharmacy technicians who certify with ExCPT in other states and are pleased with its quality, cost and access. We feel it should be approved in all states. In June of 2008, ICPT was awarded accreditation of their exam by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

Many industries, including those in healthcare, have competing certification programs. As a general rule, we support competition over a monopoly and recognize that competition results in lower costs, greater convenience, better quality services and more innovation. The ExCPT offers many advantages to the alternative exam and will be good for technicians, pharmacy employers, the Board and the public.

As ACPE provides a single standard for pharmacy education, NCCA provides a single standard for certification programs. Exams meeting the NCCA accreditation standard helps assure Texas stakeholders that technician testing meets a standard that is held throughout the certification industry.

I ask the Board to approve the ExCPT and provide choice to the Texas market.

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Joseph H Harmison, P.D. Chairman Executive Committee National Community Pharmacists Association



October 24, 2008

Gay Dodson, Rph Executive Director Texas State Board of Pharmacy 333 Guadalupe, Tower 3, Suite 600 Austin, TX 78701

## Re: November 18th Board of Pharmacy Meeting

Dear Ms. Dodson:

The National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) respectfully submits, the enclosed letters as evidence that Texas pharmacists want their technicians to be able to certify by the Exam for the Certification of Pharmacy Technicians, ExCPT®.

These pharmacists feel that ExCPT®, sponsored by the Institute for the Certification for Pharmacy Technicians (ICPT) is a quality test offered at a reasonable price with flexible test scheduling. Training is a pharmacist-led, interactive program and the exam itself is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). Please consider their collective request as you discuss pharmacy technician certification examinations during your meeting on Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

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Lisa A. Fowler Director, Management and Professional Affairs National Community Pharmacists Association

The following letter is one of 125 letters that are identical except for the names and addresses of the submitters. These letters were attached to the preceding letter from NCPA dated October 24, 2008 October 22, 2008

Dear Executive Director and Pharmacy Board members,

I am writing this letter in support of the Institute for the Certification of Pharmacy Technician's (ICPT) exam, ExCPT®. I encourage the State Board of Pharmacy to approve this accredited national exam as an alternative certification exam for pharmacy technicians in our state.

Pharmacy technicians certify with ExCPT® in other states and pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are pleased with its quality, cost and access. In June of 2008, ICPT was awarded accreditation of their exam by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). It is because of this I feel it should be recognized in Texas.

Many industries, including healthcare, have competing certification programs. As a general rule, I support competition over a monopoly and recognize that competition results in lower costs, greater convenience, better quality services and more innovation. The ExCPT® offers many advantages to the alternative exam and will be good for technicians, pharmacy employers, and the public. I feel ExCPT better prepares technicians for their role in my business setting.

Just as ACPE provides a single standard for pharmacy education, NCCA provides a single standard for certification programs. Exams meeting the NCCA accreditation standard helps assure Texas stakeholders that technician testing meets a standard that is held throughout the certification industry.

I ask the Board to approve the ExCPT® and provide choice to the market.

Signature: R. CIRSON\_ Print Name

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San Antontio, TX 78209

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