October 30, 2020

The Honorable Representative Russell Bowers
Speaker of the House
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

RE: Sunrise Application for Expansion of Scope of Licensed Acupuncturists

Dear Speaker Bowers,

We respectfully request that you and the Committees of Reference review and consider the attached Sunrise Application for expansion of the scope of practice of Licensed Acupuncturists in Arizona. As Founder and President/CEO of one of Arizona's Acupuncture and Asian/Oriental Medicine colleges in the state, I had the opportunity to be a part of the original enabling legislation over twenty years ago and to witness the incredible growth and development of the field in Arizona and in the United States.

Pursuant to A.R.S. 32-3105, we submit this application, as well as associated supporting documentation demonstrating the clear need and benefits for the expansion of scope. What follows is an articulation of the depth to which Arizona has been instrumental in supporting the education and development of the Acupuncture Medicine profession.

When we, the original stakeholders, began this journey with the initial Sunrise application in 1997-1998, we knew that it was the first of many steps for the profession. Years later, we have graduated many practitioners, expanded to Doctoral level education, increased integration in the broader medical community serving Arizona, and are now ready to take the next steps to ensure the Acupuncture medicine profession and Arizona are well-prepared for the future to come.

I appreciate the attention and consideration of our Sunrise Application and the opportunity to discuss how Licensed Acupuncturists in Arizona can contribute to improving the health and wellness of Arizona citizens. Should additional information be helpful or required, please do not hesitate to contact me or any one of our team.

Sincerely,

Catherine Niemiec, J.D., L.Ac.
President & CEO
Phoenix Institute of Herbal Medicine & Acupuncture (PIHMA)
College & Clinic