From: Michelle Babcock

To: MRO

Subject: Supporting language changes to the Arizona Fee Schedule

**Date:** Thursday, May 11, 2017 12:54:53 PM

Attachments: image003.png

Importance: High

## To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in support of the Arizona Industrial Commission's proposal to include language that supports the provider of an injured worker in Arizona to receive no less than 90% of the allowable amount or the full value of the discounted negotiated rate.

The current model that allows "middleman" discount networks to receive a large percentage of the full reimbursement is directly shifting funds away from patient care and the providers who work diligently to treat and rehab injured workers. It is devastating the physical therapy profession by forcing quality providers to reconsider contracting because of the low reimbursement. This leaves referral sources and patients with fewer high quality providers and it jeopardizes relationships between us and our referring providers. The injured workers in Arizona deserve quality treatment and exceptional outcomes, and as many dollars as possible should go to those providers who contribute to this.

Let's create a plan that uses the Arizona tax dollars and employer dollars for direct healthcare services in the best interest of our patients, the Arizona injured workers.

Thank you for your consideration of these language changes.

Sincerely,

## Michelle Babcock, PT, MSPT, OCS

**Director of Strategic Programs** 

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