

AMA-YPS delegate's report

Issues of particular interest to the AMA-Young Physicians Section (YPS) gained positive action at the recent AMA House of Delegates (HOD) meeting in Chicago. Testimony on behalf of the AMA-YPS was offered in several HOD reference committees as well as on the floor of the House based on the Assembly's direction to actively support or actively oppose individual resolutions.

Among other items of business, the Section introduced two resolutions to the HOD that were adopted by the AMA-YPS during the June 13 Assembly Meeting:

- 1) Resolution 626 called upon the AMA to increase the ability of members to participate in Annual and Interim meetings without using paper, and further asked the AMA to decrease the organization's overall paper use. Because testimony on Resolution 626 was generally favorable, Reference Committee F recommended that it be adopted as amended. After a close floor vote, the HOD elected to refer Resolution 626 to the Board of Trustees (BOT).
- 2) Resolution 323 directed the AMA BOT to write a letter asking the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) to work with its 24 member boards to: a) coordinate with specialty societies and the AMA to ensure that the demands of MOC are reasonable; b) increase physicians' understanding of the MOC process; c) solicit physician input and feedback on MOC implementation; d) make recertification-related costs transparent; e) minimize disruption of practice due to MOC requirements; and f) ensure that the number of MOC-related testing dates and locations are adequate. Testimony in the reference committee was consistently supportive. The amendments made by the reference committee were in the spirit of the original resolution and Resolution 323 was adopted as amended by the HOD.

The AMA-YPS also testified in support of or in opposition to several other HOD items of business. The Section was one of many parties to testify in opposition to Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs (CEJA) Report 1, which recommended that physicians and institutions of medicine no longer accept industry funding to support medical education.

In addition, language to amend seven resolutions was offered by AMA-YPS representatives in Reference Committees B, C, D and E. The HOD ultimately adopted AMA-YPS language to amend Resolution 207, regarding ambulatory surgical centers, and Resolution 518, regarding immunization access to parents of high-risk infants

I want to thank everyone for participating in the handbook review process, especially those who sat on handbook review committees. Your guidance ensures that your delegate and alternate delegate accurately represent the Section's thoughts and views to the HOD. More importantly, the actions you pass in the YPS assembly shapes AMA policy as evidence by the amended language put forward as well as the resolutions brought forth. Also, please remember that your delegate and alternate delegate are a resource to you should you need assistance in crafting a proposed resolution.

Updated copies of the AMA-YPS A-08 grids, which note the recommended AMA-YPS position on HOD items of business as well as the HOD's final action on each item, are available for viewing at <http://www.ama-assn.org/go/ypsmeeting>.

In closing, I want to thank all of you for the last three years while I have been able to serve first as your alternate delegate and then as your delegate. It has been a pleasure to serve the YPS and put forth your thoughts and ideas to the HOD and the leadership of the AMA. Our section has matured in our processes and our voice is one that is recognized and listened to throughout the organization. It truly has been my honor to represent you within the AMA. Thanks again and I look forward to seeing all of you in the HOD.