

WASHINGTON STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: ***

Subject: Improving healthcare staff and physician workforce in Washington –
Directive to take action.

Sponsored by: Garrett Jeffery, DO, FAAFP

TBD

Referred to: Reference Committee ***

WHEREAS, Washington State has seen an increase in the number of legislative proposals to increase the scope of practice of non-physician healthcare providers; AND

WHEREAS, medical staff and physician shortages have adversely affected healthcare organizations and clinics in their ability to effectively deliver services in an optimal and cost-efficient manner; AND

WHEREAS, access to healthcare services is of an increased import during the COVID pandemic, MAY IT BE

RESOLVED, a Directive to Take Action that WSMA will actively engage on measures to increase the number of training opportunities for registered nurses, nursing assistants, and licensed practical nurses; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that WSMA will support the creation of new and/or maintenance of existing post graduate education sites as well as retention of said trainees in Washington State.

Fiscal Note: [staff will determine in consultation with authors]

REFERENCES: [add citations to relevant resources that support the information, statistics, and/or evidence presented in the whereas clauses]

EXISTING WSMA POLICY:

Education/Training

The WSMA encourages and supports the training of more nursing personnel, with appropriate remuneration. The WSMA endorses state rather than federal licensing of all health care practitioners. The WSMA believes that the education and training of nursing personnel be under the supervision of nurses, in consultation with other health care professionals where appropriate. (Res 14, D-88) (Reaffirmed A-17)

Cause of Death Certification

The WSMA affirms the responsibility of its members and all physicians to provide accurate, timely certification of cause of death for patients who have been under their care, and supports development of training programs and continuing medical education programs to

50 promote the skills necessary to perform accurate cause of death certifications. (Res B-5, A-
51 03) (Reaffirmed A-17)

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53 **Improving Obstetric Care in Rural Communities**

54 The WSMA support the creation and/or maintenance of surgical training programs for rural
55 obstetrics providers, including continuing education through hospital partnerships, and rural
56 family medicine residency programs. (B-6, A-20)

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58 The WSMA support the formation of new obstetric fellowships, and expansion of current
59 obstetric fellowships in Washington State (B-6, A-20)

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61 **Rural Health Care**

62 The WSMA support the creation and/or maintenance of surgical training programs for rural
63 obstetrics providers, including continuing education through hospital partnerships, and rural
64 family medicine residency programs. (B-6, A-20)

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66 **Diversity and Inclusion in the Field of Medicine in Washington State**

67 The WSMA support efforts to enhance diversity in the physician workforce, including
68 engaging in broad-based efforts that involve a wide array of partners both within and outside
69 the medical profession. This includes advocating for funding to support the following: (a)
70 Pipeline/pathway programs to prepare and motivate members of underrepresented groups to
71 enter medical school; (b) Diversity or minority affairs offices at medical schools; (c)
72 Financial aid programs for students from groups that are underrepresented in medicine; and
73 (d) Financial support programs to recruit and develop faculty members from
74 underrepresented groups. (B-8, A-20)