

WASHINGTON STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: C-1
(A-22)

Subject: Improving Health Care Staff and Physician Workforce in Washington

Sponsored by: Garrett Jeffery, DO, FAAFP, Delegate
John Dunne, MD, Delegate
Northwest Washington Medical Society

Referred to: Reference Committee C

1 WHEREAS, the Washington state legislature should invest in a highly educated and trained
2 physician and other health care professionals' work force as opposed to expanding scope of
3 practice to include additional services currently performed by physicians; and
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5 WHEREAS, medical staff and physician shortages have adversely affected health care
6 organizations and clinics in their ability to effectively deliver services in an optimal and cost-
7 efficient manner; and
8
9 WHEREAS, access to health care services is of an increased import during the COVID
10 pandemic; THEREFORE BE IT
11
12 RESOLVED, that the Washington State Medical Association will actively engage on measures
13 to increase the health care workforce, including the number of training opportunities for
14 physicians, physician assistants, nurses, medical assistants, and behavioral health professionals
15 (Directive to Take Action); and BE IT FURTHER
16
17 RESOLVED, that WSMA will support the creation of new and/or maintenance of existing post
18 graduate education sites as well as retention of said trainees in Washington state (New HOD
19 Policy).

Fiscal Note: *None.*

Health Equity Note:

This resolution could help to advance equity and diversity in the health care profession.

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)

HOUSE ACTION: ADOPTED _____ ADOPTED AS AMENDED ____
 FILED _____ REFERRED _____ NOT ADOPTED ____

Improving Obstetric Care in Rural Communities

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

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

Rural Health Care

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

Diversity and Inclusion in the Field of Medicine in Washington State

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