

Policy Statement of the American Medical Association Delegation  
of the Medical Association of Georgia

I. Purpose

The purpose of our Delegation is to represent the views of the physicians of Georgia at the American Medical Association House of Delegates deliberations. Our AMA Delegates are duly elected representatives of the physicians and are responsible to our county societies and the Medical Association of Georgia.

II. Duties

A. The Georgia AMA Delegation is expected to represent the policies put forth by the Medical Association of Georgia in the form of resolutions to the American Medical Association. In addition, members are expected to study the various reports and resolutions in the AMA House of Delegates Handbook and advocate positions on these reports and resolutions that are arrived at by consensus of the delegation.

B. The AMA Delegation is also responsible for submitting either oral and/or written reports to the MAG House of Delegates, Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

C. The Chair of our Delegation sits on the MAG Executive Committee, the MAG Board of Directors, and should be present at the MAG House of Delegates.

D. Attendance. Delegates and Alternate Delegates are expected to be present during the entire meeting of the AMA House of Delegates. They are to take part in all caucuses of the Delegation, in reference committee hearings and all floor deliberations. Any foreseen or unforeseen absences are to be reported to the Chair of our Delegation. A Delegate who is present for only part of the meeting will not be reimbursed unless such absence is excused by the Chair of the Delegation.

E. The Delegates and Alternate Delegates are expected to participate in all of the AMA House of Delegates sessions, including attendance at reference committees as assigned by the Chair.

III. Caucuses and Meetings

Delegation meetings may be called at the discretion of the Chair or by written petition signed by a majority of the Delegates and Alternate Delegates. The Chair will designate times for caucuses and other meetings during the AMA House of Delegates meeting. The Delegation shall meet for breakfast each day that the AMA House of Delegates is in session. All caucuses shall be attended by all Delegates and Alternates and the Officers and staff members of MAG as appropriately designated. Non-delegates who hold AMA office shall also attend these meetings. Non-MAG AMA Delegates shall attend only upon the invitation of the Chair (i.e., specialty society AMA Delegates, medical students, AMA staff, etc.).

IV. Executive Sessions

The Chair may call executive sessions from time to time as needed. An executive session shall be attended by the Delegates, Alternate Delegates, and others may be included by invitation of the Chair.

V. Officers and Elections

A. Officers

(i) The Delegates and Alternate Delegates shall elect a Chair and Vice Chair of the Delegation. The senior Alternate Delegate will be in charge of the Alternate Delegates and will report directly to the Chair. The Chair and the Vice Chair are elected for a two-year term and may serve additional terms if elected by the

Delegation. The Chair will be in charge of the overall activities of the Delegation, including appointing any Ad Hoc committee and presiding over all meetings. The Chair is responsible for communication with members of the Delegation in preparation for attending an AMA House meeting. The Chair is also responsible for appropriate correspondence and communication with other delegations or other members of the AMA House of Delegates. The Chair also represents the Delegation in its various functions that are part of the normal activities of the AMA House. The Chair will be the host for the Delegation and is responsible for all Delegation activities and shall not be absent from the Delegation under normal circumstances.

(ii) The Vice Chair of the Delegation will preside over the meetings of the Delegation and fulfill other duties of the Chair in his/her absence.

(iii) The Senior Alternate Delegate shall be the Alternate Delegate serving as an alternate for the longest period of time. When two or more Alternates take office at the same time, seniority shall be established by the flipping of a coin. Seniority status of Alternate Delegates shall be established following their election. It shall be the responsibility of the Senior Alternate Delegate to conduct the coin flipping process through which seniority is established.

#### B. Delegation Elections

(i) Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the AMA shall be sworn in at the time of their election at the House of Delegates and shall effectively be members of the Delegation as of this date. This will become effective as of May 1998.

(ii) Delegation officers shall be elected by secret ballot by a simple majority of the MAG elected Delegates and Alternate Delegates present. A run off election shall be held as required until a majority can be achieved. Proxy or absentee ballots are not permitted. The election will be held at the AMA Annual Meeting held during odd numbered years. The term of office will begin at the conclusion of that Annual Meeting. The Chair must announce the time and place of the election, at least 24 hours in advance of the election.

#### VI. AMA Office Candidate

A. The MAG AMA Delegation shall screen and select all potential Georgia candidates for AMA elective office. Potential candidates should declare their interest in running for office at least one full year in advance of the AMA Annual Meeting at which they plan to be a candidate. If there are developments later in the year that preclude this, the Chair at his/her discretion, may call a special Delegation meeting to consider this person for candidacy.

B. In order to receive the official endorsement of the Delegation, at least 75% of the Delegates and Alternate Delegates present must vote to support the potential candidate. After such selection by the Delegation, the potential candidate should expect to receive the full support of the Delegation. Our Delegation should consider candidates for all the elected AMA offices, as well as OSMAP and the Southeastern Delegation.

#### VII. Candidate Development

The Delegation shall have responsibility for selecting and assisting Georgia physicians who are interested in seeking various AMA elective offices. These efforts shall include forecasting potential openings for the various offices and planning to sponsor qualified physicians for them. Additionally the Delegation shall advise candidates in the planning of effective strategies for seeking the various offices.

#### VIII. Amendments

The policies of the Georgia Delegation to the American Medical Association may be amended at any annual and interim AMA meeting of the Georgia Delegation to the American Medical Association by a two-thirds vote.

IX. Procedures

The deliberations of the Georgia Delegation to the American Medical Association shall be conducted in accordance with parliamentary usage contained in the then current edition of Sturgis' Rules of Order, unless contrary to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Medical Association of Georgia and the American Medical Association.

Revised June 16, 2008