Dear all:

Please allow this to be an update of MAG’s activities. All previous updates can be found at [https://www.mag.org/georgia/executivedirector](https://www.mag.org/georgia/executivedirector).

**American Medical Association Annual Meeting**
The AMA annual meeting just concluded in Chicago. Huge congratulations to longtime MAG members, Patrice Harris MD and Sandra Fryhofer. Dr. Harris is the new President-Elect of the American Medical Association. Dr. Fryhofer is the newest member of the Board of Trustees. More information can be found at [https://wire.ama-assn.org/ama-news/patrice-harris-md-wins-office-ama-president-elect](https://wire.ama-assn.org/ama-news/patrice-harris-md-wins-office-ama-president-elect). Great work by your Georgia delegation.

For more highlights of the AMA meeting, please go to [https://www.ama-assn.org/topic/advocating-patients-and-physicians](https://www.ama-assn.org/topic/advocating-patients-and-physicians).

**MAG Elections**
With the conclusion of the AMA meeting, Joy Maxey MD, longtime MAG delegate to the AMA, announced her retirement. Many thanks for the extraordinary work over her tenure.

With Dr. Maxey’s retirement, we have an opening on the delegation for delegate and alternate delegate. So far, the following have declared their intentions to run for the position:

- John Antalis MD, Delegate;
- Frank McDonald, Jr. MD, Alternate Delegate.

In addition, Thakkepat Sekhar, MD has declared his intention to run for Second Vice President of MAG.

**AMA Amicus Brief**
The AMA, joined by specialty societies, will file an amicus brief in the case of Texas vs. the United States to oppose a lawsuit that seeks a result contrary to longstanding AMA HOD policy and advocacy to expand coverage and implement key health reforms. If the plaintiffs in the suit were successful, the following provisions of the Affordable Care Act would be null and void:

- Patients would no longer have protections for pre-existing conditions
- Children would no longer have coverage under their parents’ health insurance plan until age 26
- Insurers would no longer be held to the 85% medical loss ratio, meaning they could generate higher profits at the expense of coverage and payments for services
- 100 percent coverage for certain preventive services would cease
- Annual and life-time dollar limits could be reinstated, leading to more bankruptcies due to health care costs

Each of these provisions has broad, bipartisan and public support.

At the time of its passage and ever since then, the AMA has acknowledged that the ACA has flaws and policymakers need to fix problems, gaps and unintended consequences of this law.
Separate amicus briefs aligned with the AMA’s position have or will be filed by hospital, insurer and patient groups.

More information can be found at https://www.mag.org/georgia/Public/News/News_Articles/AMA_filing_amicus_brief_to_protect_health_insurance_policy.aspx.

MAG is not engaging in this lawsuit at this time.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

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