

Policy Statement of the Medical Association of Georgia Delegation  
to the American Medical Association  
As adopted June 9, 2015

I. Purpose

The charge of the MAG AMA Delegation is to present and advocate for the policies of the Medical Association of Georgia to the American Medical Association, including deliberations at the AMA House of Delegates and other activities.

II. Composition and Duties

A. The Georgia Delegation is comprised of the AMA Delegates and Alternates elected by the MAG House of Delegates, the MAG President (an additional Alternate Delegate as allowed by AMA) and other AMA Delegates and/or Alternates that are funded by MAG (Regional Section Delegates to the AMA HOD). For internal elections, delegation endorsements and policy changes, only the AMA Delegates and Alternates elected by the MAG HOD will be allowed to vote.

B. The Georgia Delegation is expected to advance the policies of the Medical Association of Georgia in the form of resolutions to the American Medical Association and other advocacy activities.

C. Delegation members will be assigned to study, monitor and present testimony before at least one of the AMA HOD reference committees and to be seated in the House during their primary reference committee deliberations. Each will be expected to:

1. Analyze the pertinent sections of the AMA HOD Handbook and complete the Delegation Worksheet with his/her perspective of MAG's policy, personal opinions and recommendations prior to the pre-meeting teleconference. The worksheet should be submitted to MAG staff at least 24 hours before the teleconference, so they can be compiled.

2. Participate in the teleconference if at all possible.

3. Review the online testimony in the relevant reference committee and others where interested, prior to the meeting and be prepared to inform the Delegation during the teleconference considerations, where appropriate.

D. The Delegation Chair is responsible for submitting reports to the MAG House of Delegates, Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

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

F. Georgia Delegation members are expected to be present during the entire meeting of the AMA House of Delegates; however, the Delegation is permitted to set up an early departure schedule as long as all allotted seats in the House are occupied until the end of the

meeting. They are to take part in all caucuses of the Delegation, in reference committee hearings and all floor deliberations, unless excused by the Chair for other AMA related responsibilities. Any foreseen or unforeseen absences are to be reported to the Chair of the 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.

### III. AMA Medical Student Section Delegates and Alternates to the AMA HOD

A. The Delegation will include and support AMA MSS Regional Section Delegates and Alternates as long as they are approved and funded by MAG. The criteria for selection will include:

1. Prospective candidates must be and remain MAG and AMA members in good standing.
2. Candidates are nominated and elected through each school's AMA/MAG MSS Chapter; if more than 4 candidates are nominated, the MAG MSS shall elect a final slate of not more than 4 candidates for consideration. A list of candidates shall be forwarded to the chair of the Georgia Delegation.
3. Candidate(s) will be interviewed by the Georgia Delegation to the AMA or its designees and approved by the delegation chair/vice chair. It is recognized that a candidate may or may not be chosen in any given year. The candidate(s) will be interviewed prior to the deadline for submission as designated by the AMA at a time determined by the Chair.
4. It is required that candidates request a Dean's letter with assurance of academic standing and Dean's agreement that candidate(s) would be released from class/clinical duties for meeting attendance.
5. The student delegation will participate in meetings/caucuses/teleconferences of the Georgia Delegation, and will be seated with the Delegation on the floor of the House.
6. The student delegate will testify for the Delegation only if authorized by the chair/vice chair. He/she may always speak as an individual.
7. The student delegate is to follow MAG policy in all testimony, including testimony given on behalf of the AMA-MSS.
8. The Delegation will mentor the student with MAG policy, process and procedures.
9. The student delegate will be required to submit a report within two weeks at the end of each AMA HOD to both the State MSS and Chair of the Delegation.

#### IV. 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 meetings.

#### V. Executive Sessions

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

#### VI. Officers and Elections

##### A. Officers

1. The MAG Delegation will elect a Chair and Vice Chair of the Delegation by secret ballot at the AMA Annual Meeting in odd years by a majority vote. A runoff election will be held as required until a majority can be achieved. Proxy or absentee ballots are not permitted. The MAG CEO (or his/her designee) will count the ballots. 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. In the event of the resignation or incapacitation of the Chair in between elections, the Vice Chair will assume the responsibilities of the Chair and will call a Delegation meeting to select a new Chair and, if necessary, Vice Chair as soon as convenient to the Delegation.

2. 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.

(i) 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, including participation in MAG Executive Committee meetings.

(ii) The Senior Alternate Delegate will be responsible for securing a nearby seating location for the other alternates and for coordinating their seating in the house. When two or more Alternates take office at the same time, seniority shall be established by the flipping of a coin or other method as determined by the Senior Alternate Delegate.

## VII. AMA Office Candidates

A. The Delegation shall interview and evaluate all potential Georgia candidates who are MAG members for AMA elective office. Potential candidates should declare their interest in running for office at least two full years 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 voting members 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. The Delegation should consider MAG candidates for all the elected AMA offices.

C. The Georgia Delegation is a member of the Southeastern Delegation to the AMA and an active participant in the SED Candidate Review process. All candidates for elected AMA offices are interviewed by the SE Delegation. In order to preserve the integrity of this coordinated candidate interview process, the Georgia Delegation agrees not to conduct independent interviews of candidates. However, any candidate may come before the Georgia Delegation as a courtesy to ask members of the Delegation for their votes. Members of the Georgia Delegation agree that they will not ask questions of such candidates and refrain from giving any appearance that this meeting is an “interview” of the candidate.

## VIII. Candidate Development

The Delegation shall have responsibility for assisting MAG members 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.

## IX. Service Expectations

A. The Delegation will develop and adopt a policy statement on expectations of service and develop a report to include attendance, participation, and accomplishment of assigned duties that will be available to the MAG Executive Committee, Board of Directors and House of Delegates.

## X. Amendments

The policies of the Georgia Delegation to the American Medical Association may be amended at any meeting of the Georgia Delegation to the American Medical Association by a two-thirds vote, as long as the subject(s) of the proposed amendment(s) is/are circulated to the Delegation 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

XI. Procedures

The deliberations of the Georgia Delegation to the American Medical Association shall be conducted in accordance with the current MAG HOD parliamentary standard.

Adopted December 7, 1994

Amended June 16, 2008

Consolidation recommended by subcommittee May 13, 2015

Consolidation adopted June 9, 2015

Approved by the MAG Board of Directors January 30, 2016