

REFERENCE COMMITTEE C&B

Items referred to Reference Committee C&B will be taken in the following order:

- 1) BENEFIT MEMBERS (Resolution 501CB.20; Resolve 1)**
- 2) DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AT HOUSE OF DELEGATES (Resolution 502CB.20; Resolve 1)**

MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF GEORGIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES (C&B-20)

SUBJECT: Report of Reference Committee C&B

PRESENTED BY: Frank McDonald, M.D., M.B.A., Chairman

1 Mr. Speaker and members of the House of Delegates:

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3 Reference Committee C&B gave careful consideration to the several items referred to it and submits the
4 following report:

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6 **1) BENEFIT MEMBERS (Resolution 501CB.20; Resolve 1)**

7
8 **Original Resolve**

9
10 1) “That the Medical Association of Georgia (MAG) create an additional type of membership for
11 entities, organizations, and other non-physician medical professionals that work closely with MAG
12 called Benefit Members that may participate in insurance, financial services, and other benefits
13 offered by MAG, but shall not vote, have representation on MAG’s Board of Directors, or hold any
14 office within the organization. Benefit Members will be required to pay annual dues as established by
15 the Board of Directors.”

16
17 **Recommendation:**

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19 Mr. Speaker, your Committee recommends that Resolution 501CB.20 be adopted by substitution.

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21 1) “That the Medical Association of Georgia (MAG) create an additional type of membership
22 called “Benefit Members” that is open to Affiliate Members and the staffs of Independent
23 Physician Associations, specialty societies, component medical societies, and state physician
24 societies that work closely with MAG.”

25
26 2) “That Benefit Members may participate in insurance, financial services, and other benefits
27 offered by MAG, but shall not vote, have representation on MAG’s Board of Directors, nor hold
28 any office within the organization. Benefit Members will be required to pay annual dues as
29 established by the Board of Directors and must sign a membership agreement barring use of
30 MAG’s name or their membership status in any unapproved communications or for advocacy
31 purposes.”

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33 Recommended Language to be Added to the Bylaws in Chapter II with subsequent sections renumbered
34 accordingly...

35
36 *CHAPTER II – Membership*

37 ...

38
39 *SECTION 10. BENEFIT MEMBERS. Affiliate Members and the staffs of Independent Physician*
40 *Associations, specialty societies, component medical societies, and state physician societies that*
41 *work closely with MAG may become a Benefit Member, thereby granting them the ability to*
42 *participate in insurance, financial services, and other benefits offered by MAG. Benefit Members*
43 *shall not vote, have representation on MAG’s Board of Directors, nor hold any office within the*

1 *organization. Benefit Members will be required to pay annual dues as established by the Board of*
2 *Directors and must sign a membership agreement barring use of MAG’s name or their*
3 *membership status in any unapproved communications or for advocacy purposes.*

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5 **Rationale:**

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7 Your Reference Committee heard robust testimony on the resolution with the majority of testimony
8 being in favor of the underlying intent of the resolution. Several members testified about concerns
9 regarding the potential of the resolution as introduced to negatively impact MAG’s advocacy
10 interests, including during scope of practice discussions. Members were concerned that non-physician
11 medical professionals may use their membership status during advocacy that opposes the interests of
12 MAG. Your Committee also heard testimony on the legal reasons for the membership in order for
13 expansion of MAG’s programs including the rules and regulations governing Association Health
14 Plans. Testimony was also provided as to the financial benefit to the organization and to the members
15 currently using these services of increasing participation.
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18 **2) DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AT HOUSE OF DELEGATES (Resolution 502CB.20; Resolve**
19 **1)**

20
21 **Original Resolve**

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23 1) “That the Georgia State Medical Association, the Georgia Association of Physicians of Indian
24 Heritage, the Georgia Chapter of the Association of Nigerian Physicians in America, and the
25 Association of Physicians of Pakistani Descent each have 1 delegate and 1 alternate delegate to the
26 MAG House of Delegates. Other organizations may be granted representation subject to approval by
27 the MAG House of Delegates.”
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29 **Recommendation:**

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31 Mr. Speaker, your Committee recommends that Resolution 501CB.20 be adopted as amended.
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33 1) “That the Georgia State Medical Association, the Georgia Association of Physicians of Indian
34 Heritage, the Georgia Chapter of the Association of Nigerian Physicians in America, and the
35 Association Of Physicians of Pakistani Descent ~~each have 1 delegate and 1 alternate delegate to the~~
36 MAG House of Delegates be granted representation at the House of Delegates by a sliding scale
37 where any listed state physician association having 51 to 200 active MAG members is entitled to one
38 delegate, any listed state physician association having 201 to 400 active MAG is entitled to two
39 delegates, and any listed state physician association with more than 400 active members is entitled to
40 three delegates. Listed state physician association with 50 or less members will be entitled to one
41 delegate if at least 60 percent of its members are active MAG members. Any delegate representing a
42 listed state physician association must be a member in good standing of the Medical Association of
43 Georgia, and not simultaneously a delegate or alternate delegate from any component county medical
44 society, specialty society, or section. Other ~~organizations~~ state physician associations may be granted
45 representation ~~subject to approval~~ by the MAG House of Delegates.
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47 Recommended Language to be Added to the Bylaws in Chapter V with subsequent subsections
48 renumbered accordingly...
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1 (c) State Physician Associations. Georgia State Medical Association, the Georgia Association of
2 Physicians of Indian Heritage, the Georgia Chapter of the Association of Nigerian Physicians in
3 America, and the Association of Physicians of Pakistani Descent, shall be eligible for
4 representation in the MAG House of Delegates if it contains at least 51 Active MAG members.
5 Each above listed state physician association shall be entitled to representation in the MAG
6 House of Delegates in the following manner:

- 7 (i) Any listed state physician association having 51 to 200 Active MAG members shall
- 8 be entitled to one delegate;
- 9 (ii) Any listed state physician specialty association having 201 to 400 Active MAG
- 10 members shall be entitled to two delegates; and
- 11 (iii) Any listed state physician association having more than 400 Active MAG members
- 12 shall be entitled to three delegates.

13 If a listed state physician association does not have 50 dues-paying state physician association
14 members, it shall be entitled to one delegate if at least 60% of its members are Active MAG
15 members. Any delegate representing a listed state physician association must be a member in
16 good standing of the Medical Association of Georgia, and not simultaneously a delegate or
17 alternate delegate from any component county medical society, specialty society, or Section.

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19 **Rationale:**

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21 Your Reference Committee heard testimony from many MAG members. Members supported
22 increased diversity within the organization but were concerned about the lack of requirement for
23 MAG membership in order to obtain representation. Some testimony was concerned about dilution of
24 the voice of societies and sections who currently have representation. Additionally, members wanted
25 to ensure that there was a process for obtaining representation under this section and that it was not
26 open to any organization, regardless of their relationship with MAG.

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29 Mr. Speaker, this concludes the report of Reference Committee C&B. I wish to thank the members of the
30 committee who are:

- 31
- 32 Matthey Harris, M.D., Vice Chairman, Hall CMS
- 33 Sean Sumner, M.D., Hall CMS
- 34 Charles Wilmer, M.D., MAA
- 35 Bret Crumpton, D.O., Muscogee
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37 Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee wishes to also thank MAG staff members, Bethany Sherrer and
38 Ryan Larosa, for their very capable assistance to the committee.

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Frank McDonald, M.D., M.B.A., Chairman
47 Hall CMS