

I would like to take this opportunity to announce my candidacy for re-election to the position of MAG Delegate to the American Medical Association.

My passion to participate and make a positive contribution still remains strong. I have continued to stay current with health care issues affecting us in Georgia as well as nationally, and to proactively articulate these issues when appropriate in the AMA House of Delegates. I have been on multiple AMA Reference Committees over the years which has allowed me to interact with physicians throughout the country and to promote MAG's policy in deliberations.

It is very evident not only at MAG, but also at AMA, that there has been much discussion about diversity and inclusion. I believe the debate has been very healthy to address these issues in the hopes that all sides will develop a better understanding and come to a reasonable consensus.

We also must not forget the major concerns facing us include decreasing Medicare payments, prior authorization, the basic lack of understanding of physicians' concerns by many hospital systems, and managed care improprieties.

My years at MAG (advocacy), Alliant Health Group (managed care), and my three terms, starting my fourth term on the Georgia Composite Medical Board (regulatory) have given me a better understanding of the complexities of issues that we face as physicians.

I hope my articles in the MAG Journal clarifying the different roles of the Georgia Composite Medical Board over the last 10 years have been informative. I will continue to update you in the Journal on the issues at the Board that affect Georgia physicians and patients.

My involvement at MAG is still strong. I have enjoyed working with my colleagues on the MAG Board of Directors, as well as Vice-Chairman of MAG Foundation. Over the last two years, I have worked with several dedicated physicians, Alliance members, and our well-informed MAG legislative team on two important issues.

The first is Georgia's version of SafeHaven[®] which we are very close to passing this next session. Once it passes, this entity will be a confidential resource to assist physicians and other healthcare personnel with fatigue and "burnout" without the fear of job loss. This law will protect distressed physicians to obtain confidential professional support with the knowledge that any communication in SafeHaven[®] is privileged and non-discoverable. The goal is to return them to their medical practice and resume their productive lives.

The second is CANDOR (Communication and Optimal Resolution) which will allow physicians, hospitals, and patients to discuss a possible medical error with each other in a "safe space". The hope is that all sides will come to an agreeable settlement, before it becomes a malpractice suit with subsequent reporting to the NPDB or to the Medical Board. The settlement would be non-discoverable. With everyone's support, we have a real chance to pass this pre-litigation legislation in the next session.

As the AMA transitions from COVID restrictions to a more business as usual at the AMA HOD, I believe it is very important for MAG to continue its advocacy and influence to obtain support for MAG resolutions from other AMA delegations. Relationships do matter. We must not forget that opioid misuse, physician "burnout", issues of physician employment, and increasing telehealth access are still high priorities. I will continue to speak for you and MAG on these issues.

It has been a great honor to represent you at the AMA HOD. I ask for your support to be re-elected as a Georgia Delegate to the AMA.

Sincerely,

John S. Antalis, MD

To: MAG House of Delegates

Dear Delegates and Alternate Delegates,

The Whitfield-Murray Medical Society is proud to re-nominate John S. Antalis, MD to serve as a Delegate on the Georgia Delegation to the American Medical Association.

Over the years, Dr. Antalis has worked tirelessly to improve the practice of medicine for Georgia physicians and patients. He has served in many leadership roles: Past-Chairman of the Georgia Composite Medical Board; Seventh District Director on the MAG Board of Directors; Vice-Chair of the MAG Foundation; President of MAG; President of GAFP. Dr. Antalis was recently named to the Executive Committee of Alliant Health Group Board, currently serving as its Treasurer. Locally, he has served on Whitfield County Board of Health since 1993, and the Credentials Committee for the Alliant Health Care in Dalton.

Dr. Antalis, still enjoys seeing his patients at Dalton Family Practice, LLC. He is an outstanding leader who works tirelessly for his patients, his fellow medical colleagues, and organized medicine. He has been married to his wife of 36 years, Cathy, and has 3 adult children.

The Whitfield-Murray Medical Society would like to ask for your vote to re-elect Dr. John Antalis to serve as a Delegate on the Georgia Delegation at the AMA.

Sincerely,

Steven M Paynter, MD

President of the Whitfield Murray Medical Society