Official call to Special Meeting of the House of Delegates

To: Delegates and Alternate Delegates  
From: Bruce A. Scott, MD, Speaker; and Lisa Bohman Egbert, MD, Vice Speaker

Pursuant to the unanimous action of the American Medical Association (AMA) Board of Trustees (BOT) on April 25, 2020, this notice will serve as the official call to convene a Special Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates (HOD) on June 7, 2020 at 2:00 pm CT. This Special Meeting will be convened on a virtual platform.

The purpose of this meeting as defined by the request of the BOT is to inaugurate our new president, to elect officers and members of councils, and to conduct essential business that would otherwise be required to be addressed at an annual meeting of the HOD.

Essential business and process

— Business to be considered will be limited to the essential items as above. At the current time it appears this will be about 10 items. Per our bylaws (2.12.2) for Special Meetings of the HOD, no other business will be considered.

— No other resolutions or reports beyond these required items will be considered. Extensive consideration has been given in reaching the decision to limit the items of business. While the desire of many members to discuss certain items that may be felt to be urgent or pertinent to our current national situation is understood, our rules have no mechanism which allows us to screen or limit items of business other than the motion to object to consideration, which itself is subject to debate for each item of business. For this reason and in keeping with Bylaws 2.12.2, the business of the Special Meeting has been narrowly defined as described.

— Given this meeting’s narrow focus, your speakers will work with the Resolution Committee at our November HOD meeting to accept items of business beyond those related to advocacy and legislation.

— Reference Committee F will be convened online to allow testimony on the limited business of this Special Meeting. The online reference committee will remain open for several days to allow delegates ample opportunity to comment. The HOD will be notified when the reference committee is open for testimony.

— As in “live” reference committee testimony, those testifying will be asked to identify their role (Delegate/Alternate from State/Specialty or member representing sections etc.) and whether they are commenting on behalf of a delegation or on behalf of themselves as individuals. Conflicts of interest, if any, should also be declared with each comment. Online testimony may include amendment suggestions, with specific wording clearly delineated.
— Following the close of the virtual reference committee “hearing,” the members of Reference Committee F will prepare a reference committee report which will be presented to the HOD as a consent calendar.

— This consent calendar will then be the business of the HOD at the Special Meeting.

— A handbook with business to be considered and useful information will be sent as soon as assembled. This will include the roster of delegates and alternate delegates.

— If the credential information for your delegation has changed please contact Patti.Wargo@ama-assn.org.

— Delegates and Alternate Delegates please confirm your contact information, specifically confirm an email address (if this email arrived at your preferred address, you may consider this accomplished), as much of our meeting will be dependent on the ability to reach delegates electronically. In addition credentialing information for secure voting will be sent by email.

— A notice will be sent shortly announcing the Board’s nominations for Councils. Active campaigning for officer and council candidates will be allowed at this point.

Being respectful of the challenges we all face during this pandemic, the limitation to essential business only, combined with some additional efficiencies your speakers plan, will expedite our meeting allowing us to hopefully complete our Special Meeting within 2 hours. Your speakers want to assure you that we are planning a virtual meeting with secure voting and protection of participants’ rights. Having just received the request to “call” the Special Meeting we wanted to get this notice out to you as soon as possible. Further details will be forthcoming. We request and very much appreciate your patience and cooperation as we journey into new territory for us and our AMA. We look forward to virtually connecting with you on June 7th.