

Speakers' Letter

Special Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates
Online June 11-16, 2021

Updated May 13
Updated June 8
Updated June 9

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As most of us, of necessity, have now become seasoned veterans of online meetings and have experienced our November 2020 Special Meeting, your speakers hope that the information and instructions below will simply be a reminder of our planned process for the upcoming June Special Meeting of the House of Delegates. Please be sure to watch the Special Meeting website and your designated email address for the latest updates, particularly the website addresses that you will need to access different parts of the meeting.

Bruce A Scott, MD, Speaker
Lisa Bohman Egbert, MD, Vice Speaker

Note - The *Speakers' Letter* is being sent both electronically and to the registered postal address for every delegate, alternate delegate, and current or former officer, as well as Federation staff and official observers. It is imperative that we have your correct email address and that you are receiving our communications electronically. If you have only received this via postal mail, please ensure that the HOD office has your correct email address. Contact HOD@ama-assn.org immediately to provide a correct email address if this is not the case. Alternatively, note that it is possible that the HOD has your correct email address but that this notice was sent to your SPAM. Please check if this was the case for you and if so, please include ama.delegates@groups.ama-assn.org in your approved contact list. If you are the chair of or the administrative staff for a delegation, we ask that you check with all members of your delegation to ensure they have received this message electronically.

June 2021 Special Meeting

The June 2021 Special Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates (HOD) will convene June 11-16, opening at 7 pm Central Daylight Time (UTC-5) Friday, June 11, using both ZOOM and LUMI platforms. Participants are strongly encouraged to sign into the meeting early. The sites will be open 30 minutes prior to all sessions.

In addition to the usual ceremonial elements of an opening session, the Rules and Credentials and the Resolution Committee Reports will be dealt with. Nominations for candidates seeking election at this meeting will also be handled as will any uncontested elections.

Reference committee hearings will start at 9 am Saturday, June 12 and will continue Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. The specific reference committees meeting at which times are not yet decided and depend on the business received. Three hearings are planned for Saturday morning, three for Saturday afternoon, and two on Sunday morning.

Business sessions of the House will resume at 10 am on Monday, June 14.

A preliminary **HOD schedule included at the end of this document** is provided to assist with planning, but it is subject to change. Changes may be required as business is received and planning unfolds. Note that all times are based on Chicago (Central Daylight Time).

Special Meeting Website

The latest information on the Special Meeting, including changes to the schedule, will be posted on the [Special Meeting page](#) on the AMA website. In addition to the HOD meeting, information on the various section meetings can be accessed at ama-assn.org/hod-special-meeting. You will find links to such relevant pages as the Online Forums along with the handbook after it has been posted. All proposed business items are [posted](#) as they are submitted. Given that many elements of the meeting are still in flux, **please check the meeting website frequently for updates.**

Handbook Distribution

The initial handbook will be posted on the meeting [website](#) on or about May 10, and the addendum on or about May 20. Business items are collated by reference committee. Once items are reviewed by the Resolution Committee, a notation will be added to resolutions that do not meet the threshold of priority for consideration at this Special Meeting (see below for more information regarding resolution prioritization). The list of delegates and alternate delegates can be found in the frontmatter of the handbook (updated as of date of posting of the initial handbook).

Hardcopy handbooks will be mailed to delegates and alternate delegates who have previously received paper copies. Primary distribution of the handbook is through the meeting website. **Those receiving hardcopy handbooks are strongly encouraged to confirm that we have their correct email address as subsequent communications including the Resolution Committee final report, the “Friday Tote,” and reference committee reports will not be mailed.**

Registration

Delegates and alternate delegates should check the list of delegates and alternate delegates in the handbook to be posted online to ensure they have been certified to represent their society at the upcoming Special Meeting. AMA bylaws require that individuals be confirmed as delegates or alternate delegates *before each meeting* of the House of Delegates, and several societies have yet to confirm their delegates.

Only certified delegates will be issued voting credentials for the Special Meeting, which will include an ***Election Credential*** as well as a separate ***Business Credential*** for use during business sessions. Both credentials will include an alphanumeric code and password. For clarity, the *Election Credential* alphanumeric code will begin with the letter “E” and the *Business Credential* will begin with the letter “B.” The *Election Credential* MAY NOT BE SHARED and will be valid only during the election session on Tuesday morning, June 15. The *Business Credential* and password will be REQUIRED to vote during business sessions. Codes and passwords will be sent to certified delegates both by postal mail and by email, so again, **it is important that we have your current, preferred email address.**

Delegates may share their *Business Credential* with their alternate delegate should they wish to allow the alternate to temporarily be “seated” for them, enabling the alternate to speak and to vote on the business of the House. This is functionally equivalent to passing the salmon-colored badge to that individual at an in-person meeting.

If either your *Election Credential* or *Business Credential* is compromised, contact us at hod@ama-assn.org, and you will be provided with a new credential. Delegates who learn before the Special Meeting that they will be unable to participate must notify us at hod@ama-assn.org as well as their sponsoring organization of their situation so that an alternate delegate can be credentialed as a substitute delegate in their place.

Business of the Special Meeting

As outlined in the Call to the Special Meeting (emailed March 22 and sent by US mail shortly thereafter) the purpose of the meeting is to accomplish leadership transitions that would otherwise be addressed in association with an Annual Meeting of the HOD and to conduct priority business of the Association. All resolutions are subject to review by the Resolution Committee with the final determination made by the HOD of the business to be considered (see “Prioritization Process” below for more details).

Operation of the Virtual Meeting

The June 2021 Special Meeting will again be broadcast utilizing ZOOM with voting and joining the speaking queue functions on LUMI. The Chrome browser is recommended for LUMI and the ZOOM app should be downloaded in advance of the meeting for best function. A key difference from our last meeting is that Friday evening’s opening session of the House of Delegates will be broadcast on ZOOM but will also require LUMI for voting on the Resolution Committee Final Report.

Anyone intending to speak or vote will need to logon to both LUMI and ZOOM. Others may choose to view the HOD proceedings using ZOOM alone. Audio and video will rely on your device’s speakers, microphone, and camera. Please be sure you are familiar with the controls in ZOOM to unmute your microphone and turn on your camera. You may wish to test these features if you do not regularly use them.

Please note that a special *Election Session* will be held on Tuesday morning. Delegates will have an unique Election Credential to vote during that session. Alternates and guests may watch via ZOOM. Details are below.

HOD Practice Session

We will be offering a live practice session for meeting participants at 7 pm Wednesday, June 9. Watch your email and the meeting website for details, including the links for both ZOOM and LUMI. We are hoping to record the session so that those unable to participate in the live session can review it at their convenience. Link information will not be available until the session has been posted online but will be added to the information on the meeting website.

Online Forums

Given the limitations of virtual meetings, members are strongly encouraged to submit their comments to the Online Forums particularly for this virtual Special Meeting of the House of Delegates. Our experience in November suggests that greater use of the online forums will facilitate the hearings conducted during the meeting. Reference committees are instructed to give all comments, including those offered in the forums, equal consideration.

The forums are online at ama-assn.org/forums/house-delegates or can be accessed through the meeting website at ama-assn.org/hod-special-meeting. Aside from entering your comments as text, the forum should be treated as any other reference committee hearing. The forums allow comments of any length and can include supplemental materials if desired. Delegates and alternate delegates must provide their name and delegation, note on behalf of whom they are testifying (as an individual or their delegation), and declare any conflict of interest. Comments should be directed to the “chair” although reference to previous comments is certainly possible and appropriate. Ad hominem comments and other inappropriate comments will be deleted. The forums will remain open through Friday, June 11.

Reference Committees

The following reference committees will be convened at this Special Meeting:

Amendments to Constitution & Bylaws

A: Medical Service

B: Legislation

C: Medical Education

D: Public Health

E: Science and Technology

F: Finance

G: Medical Practice

Reference committees will convene at 9 am Saturday morning, June 12. Three hearings will run from 9 am to 12:30 pm. A second group of three hearings will get underway at 1 pm and run until 4:30 pm. The last reference committee hearings will be held at 9 am on Sunday morning, June 13. The order of reference committees is dependent upon the volume of business in each subject area and will be communicated once determined. Watch the meeting website.

Reference committees will be conducted using LUMI and ZOOM concurrently. **All participants who wish to testify must login to both platforms simultaneously.** This may be accomplished by using one larger device (a laptop or desktop pc) with the ability to show two windows side by side or alternating between 2 tabs or with two separate devices. If you choose to use two devices, we recommend that you login to ZOOM on the larger device and LUMI on the smaller device (such as a smartphone). Delegates and officers (past and present), please login to LUMI using your unique **Business Credential**. Alternate delegates and all others who wish to testify, please login to LUMI as an Alternate/guest with your full FIRST and LAST NAME. ALL participants must login to ZOOM using your full FIRST and LAST NAME.

All participants are reminded to check their ZOOM registration name and make sure it MATCHES the name you see on the LUMI Information Page which is assigned to your LUMI *Business Credential* for delegates or the name you used to login to LUMI for alternates and guests. We will not be able to identify you in ZOOM if these names are not exactly the same!

Each reference committee will have a distinct URL for both LUMI and ZOOM and require a separate login to both. Attendees will not be able to login to more than one reference committee at a time, just as you can only physically attend one live meeting at a time. As is the case in live reference committees, more than one reference committee will be running simultaneously. An email address for each reference committee will be provided for members wishing to submit supplemental materials, including proposed amendments. Comments will be limited to 90 seconds for the virtual hearings. You will see a timer in one window to remind you of this limit. In addition, in response to requests received, this timer will also **display the current item of business in each of the reference committees** that are running concurrently.

Reference committee reports will be based on testimony presented in the Online Forums and at the reference committee virtual hearings, with equal consideration given to all testimony, irrespective of how it is provided. The reports will be available online as they become available to allow review by delegations. Each committee's report will be presented as a consent calendar and becomes the business of the House starting Monday at 10 am CDT.

Speaking at Reference Committees:

Individuals who wish to speak at reference committee hearings will need to join the speaking queue. On LUMI, open the speaking queue page by clicking on the "speaking queue icon" (displayed here at right) which is found on the LUMI information page in the center of the light gray menu bar at the top. To join the speaking queue, type or copy/paste one of the "ACTION TERMS" (listed below) into the "ASK A QUESTION" box at the bottom of the screen and then hit send using the purple arrow. Your name will automatically be submitted with your request, which will then be sent to the chair of the committee. If you are the author of a resolution or a report, choose the Action Term AUTHOR and then ADD the RESOLUTION or REPORT NUMBER, so that you may be recognized to speak first. The committee chair will instruct each speaker to "RAISE THEIR HAND" in ZOOM. **There will be a brief disconnect from ZOOM as you are promoted to a panelist.** After you have been reconnected, please turn on your camera so that the chair can see you are ready but DO NOT UNMUTE. Only after the chair recognizes you, unmute and begin your testimony. The 90 second limit will be enforced. Remember that **there will again be a brief disconnect in ZOOM as you are returned to attendee** status.



The chair will give the author the opportunity to speak first, followed by alternating pro and con discussion. Your chairs have been instructed to keep the attendees informed if there is a long queue for either pro or con with few or no one in the opposing queue, as there will not be the typical visual of the "line" at the mic. Note that the Action Term REMOVE should be used if you wish to leave the queue.

REFERENCE COMMITTEE ACTION TERMS:

AUTHOR (plus **RESOLUTION/REPORT NUMBER**) = to identify you as author

PRO = speak for the item

CON = speak against the item

REMOVE = remove yourself from the queue

Opening Session of the House of Delegates

The Opening Session will convene at 7 pm (CDT) Friday evening, June 11 and will use both the ZOOM and LUMI platforms. The House will convene to hear President Bailey's address and EVP Madara's report, to receive items of business, and to consider the Rules and Credentials Report as well as the Resolution Committee Final Report. The LUMI platform will be used for voting. Written extractions of Informational Reports or recommendations from the Resolution Committee Final Report that were received before the deadline will be considered individually. As detailed below, there will be no debate of the extracted items (see Prioritization Process below) and no opportunity for further extractions during the live session.

Nominations for officer and council vacancies will also be handled during the opening session. Nominees who were named by the Board of Trustees will be announced, and any delegate may make a nomination for any office from the floor. When nominations are closed for a given office, election by acclamation will take place for uncontested races. See below for additional information on the elections.

Assistance During the HOD Meeting:

Should you require assistance during the meeting, you may contact the Member Service Center at 800.337.1599 or send an email to HODmeetingsupport@ama-assn.org.

House of Delegates Business Sessions

The business of the HOD will be conducted using LUMI and ZOOM concurrently. Delegates and officers (past and present) with the privilege of the floor, please login to LUMI using your unique *Business Credential*. Alternate delegates and guests need only to login to ZOOM to observe the proceedings, but may logon to LUMI as guests for pertinent information found on the documents page. Participants must login to ZOOM using your full FIRST and LAST NAME.

All participants are reminded to check their ZOOM registration name and make sure it MATCHES the name assigned to your LUMI Business Credential for delegates. We will not be able to identify you in ZOOM if these names are not exactly the same. Alternates please review special instructions for being temporarily "seated" for your delegate below.

At the start of the HOD consideration of each reference committee report, the Speaker will ask for extractions from the consent calendar. Any delegate or "seated" alternate may extract an item by typing or copy/pasting the *Action Term*: EXTRACT plus the ITEM NUMBER into the LUMI "Ask a Question" box. Extractions will not be taken verbally.

After the remainder of the consent calendar is accepted, the Speaker will open the floor for debate. To join the speaking queue, the HOD will use the following Action Terms.

HOD ACTION TERMS:

EXTRACT (plus the **ITEM NUMBER**) = extract from consent calendar (via message only)

PRO = speak for a motion

CON = speak against a motion

AMEND = offer an amendment (greater than 3 words **MUST BE SUBMITTED** electronically **PRIOR** to speaking)

REFER R = refer for report

REFER D = refer for decision

CALL = move to end debate

PARLI = parliamentary point of order or of information, please specify your point

REMOVE = to be removed from the queue

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR ALTERNATE DELEGATES:

Alternate delegates may be “seated” for their delegate by logging onto the LUMI platform using their corresponding delegate’s unique *Business Credential*. Delegates should establish a method to be in contact with their alternate delegate at all times during the meeting as only one individual can be logged onto LUMI at any one time. When the alternate delegate logs onto LUMI, the delegate will automatically be signed out, and conversely when the delegate logs back into LUMI, the alternate delegate will be signed out. Both individuals are able to continuously stay logged onto the meeting via ZOOM, but as in our in-person meetings, only one of them may have the privilege of the floor or vote at any given time.

Alternates who wish to join the queue must use the appropriate Action Term, followed by ALTERNATE plus their FIRST and LAST NAME. Example: PRO ALTERNATE JANE DOE. Alternates will not be able to be identified on the ZOOM platform if they do not include their FULL name, as all messages will be received with the delegate’s name associated with the *Business Credential*.

House of Delegates Election Session

Elections for contested races will be held at 9 am Tuesday morning, June 15. Delegates will be sent a special *Election Credential* that must be used for this session. It will start with the letter “E” to distinguish it from the *Business Credential*. The *Election Credential* **may not be shared** and will be used only for the Election Session. Delegates who learn they will be unable to participate in the Election Session should see that their alternate delegate is recredentialed as a substitute delegate, which must occur no later than 6 pm Monday, June 14.

The following are candidates for the officer positions as listed:

- President-elect: Jack Resneck, MD
- Speaker: Bruce Scott, MD
- Vice Speaker: Lisa Bohman Egbert, MD
- Trustee (* one open seat): Madelyn Butler, MD and Bobby Mukkamala, MD
- Resident trustee: Pratistha Koirala, MD, PhD

* Note: If Jack Resneck, MD is elected by acclamation during the Opening Session of the House on Friday night two seats will be available on the Board of Trustees and the nomination for those two positions will be accepted on Friday night.

The following candidates have been nominated by the Board of Trustees for council positions:

- Council on Constitution & Bylaws (*one open seat): Mary Ann Contogiannis, MD and William Reha, MD
- Resident member, Council on Constitution & Bylaws: Christopher Libby, MD, MPH
- Council on Medical Education (four open seats): Sherri Baker, MD, Lou Edge, MD, MHPE, Robert Goldberg, DO, and Krystal Tomei, MD, MPH
- Council on Medical Service (one open seat): Harry Ajrawat, MD, Alain Chaoui, MD, and Michael Simon, MD, MBA
- Council on Science & Public Health (two open seats): John Carlo, MD, Mary LaPlante, MD, and Bollepalli Subbarao, MD

*Note: If Madelyn Butler, MD is elected to the Board of Trustees by acclamation during the Opening Session of the House on Friday night two seats will be available on the Council on Constitution & Bylaws (CC&B) and the nomination for those two positions will be accepted on Friday night. There are currently two candidates nominated by the BOT for CC&B. Your speakers have been made aware of at least a third candidate, Jerry Abraham, MD, MPH, who has announced his intention to be nominated “from the floor” on Friday night.

The [election manual](#) is on the AMA website and includes information on all officer candidates and currently nominated council candidates; the manual also includes a link to conflict of interest disclosures, which are accessible only to members. Your speakers conducted interviews with all those known (at the time of the interviews) to be candidates for offices other than president-elect. Those interviews are accessible through the meeting [pages](#) on the AMA website.

In addition to the above candidates, President-elect Gerald Harmon, MD, will nominate three new members to the Council on Ethical & Judicial Affairs during the Opening Session on Friday evening. Their conflict-of-interest disclosures will be posted on the AMA website, and they will be part of the election session on Tuesday, June 15.

Candidate Interviews

Your speakers have conducted interviews with the candidates other than Dr. Resneck. Each candidate gave a one-minute statement and then responded to a handful of questions posed by the speakers. These interviews were conducted online in mid-April and will be posted shortly.

As a reminder, caucuses and other groups wishing to conduct their own candidate interviews must immediately send a contact name to hod@ama-assn.org along with the contests for which interviews are sought. Note they are due by the end of business on April 30. That contact information will be provided to candidates who are responsible for making the arrangements for the interviews.

Interviews may be scheduled between May 21 and June 10. Groups choosing to interview candidates in a given contest must provide the same opportunity for each nominated candidate. Candidates may not be recorded without their consent and recordings may only be shared with members of the caucus/group and only AFTER all candidates in a given contest have been interviewed.

Candidate contact information is also available from hod@ama-assn.org for those caucuses wishing to initiate the exchange.

Inaugural of Gerald Harmon, MD

Tuesday's business session will conclude about 5 pm and will be followed at 6 pm by the inauguration of Gerald Harmon, MD, as AMA president. The inaugural will be viewed on ZOOM, and this session will not require use of the LUMI platform.

The link for the inaugural is <https://zoom.us/j/99007658481> and will allow view-only access.

Prioritization Process for Special Meeting

Given the constraints inherent in a virtual meeting, a prioritization process will once again be utilized for this Special Meeting of the HOD. All delegates, delegations and sections have been asked to submit only those items that are a priority. This request is consistent with the expressed purpose of the Special Meeting, as defined by our Board of Trustees, which has been called to "conduct priority business of the Association." The Board and councils have all completed a prioritization process for their reports as well.

Sponsors of resolutions have also been required to rank order their resolutions to give the Resolution Committee some sense of the priority the sponsor would assign to an item. Your speakers note that some groups require that all resolutions slated to be forwarded to our AMA House of Delegates must be transmitted regardless of their priority. Specifically noting this requirement in the priority statement and ranking these items accordingly will clarify it for the Resolution Committee and ultimately, for the HOD.

A Resolution Committee, with members from diverse geographic regions, specialties, modes of practice and career stage representative of the HOD has been appointed. The Committee will make recommendations on the priority of resolutions with final determination of the business of the House to be decided by the House. To encourage fairness and objectivity in the review process the members of the Committee have been asked to remain anonymous and the items sent to them for review are de-identified. The [Prioritization Matrix](#) was previously sent to the House (email of March 22) with the Official Call for the meeting. The authors of resolutions have been instructed to send a prioritization statement with their resolutions which will be available for review on the Online Forum.

The Committee will complete an initial review of resolutions. Once identified as meeting the threshold for priority, no further comments need be made regarding priority as the item will be considered as business of the Special Meeting. Comments on the resolution itself are certainly welcome and encouraged.

For those items identified as not meeting the threshold for priority, any delegate may post comments regarding the priority of the item as well as comments on the merits of the resolution itself in the Online Forum. The Resolution Committee will again review these resolutions and corresponding priority comments along with any new resolutions submitted between their initial review and the resolution submission deadline of June 6 for the sections. The Committee's Second Report will be posted on the AMA website on June 8.

Extractions of Resolutions:

Those resolutions identified as not reaching the threshold for priority by the Resolution Committee may be extracted by any delegate after the Committee's Second Report is posted. This can be accomplished by emailing the Speakers at hod@ama-assn.org to request extraction. This request should be accompanied by a statement (150-word max) presenting testimony regarding the resolution's priority.

Extractions may be submitted after the Resolution Committee Second Report is posted until WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9 at Midnight CDT and ONLY via email. There will be no other opportunity to extract after this deadline.

Once extracted, the item will be marked as such on the Resolution Committee's Final Report to be posted on the AMA website on or about noon on Thursday, June 10. The Resolution Committee's Final Report will include the statement from the individual making the extraction along with the score and relative rank from the resolution committee. Please note that comments of priority in the Online Forum will not be considered as "extractions," rather only emails specifically requesting extraction of an item, including the required 150 maximum testimony as to the priority, will result in extraction. Once the Resolution Committee's Final Report is posted, further comments supporting or opposing the extraction can be presented on the Online Forum, but only the first extraction statement received will be presented in the Final Report to the HOD.

The Committee's report will be considered as a consent calendar by the House at the Opening Session on Friday, June 11. Once the remainder of the report is accepted, each extracted item will be put to a vote to sustain the recommendation of the reference committee or to overrule their recommendation, **without further debate**. All items that are deemed by the HOD to meet

the priority threshold will be accepted as business of the Special Meeting and referred to the appropriate reference committee.

Code of Conduct

Our AMA has a robust code of conduct for AMA-sponsored meetings to ensure a professional and ethical environment for all attendees. Importantly, everyone should feel safe and able to participate without fear of unwelcome conduct, whether in face-to-face contacts or electronic communications. Attendees should conduct themselves in a manner that is attune to the highest ideals of the profession. Harassment and inappropriate behavior are serious, and House policy provides for reporting and dealing with these matters. The policy can be accessed at ama-assn.org/codeofconduct. Our standing rules, which will be ratified by the House, commit each of us to be courteous, respectful, and collegial in the conduct of HOD business. Users must agree to be bound by the code of conduct to access the meeting platform.

Conflict of Interest Policy

Sponsors of resolutions are reminded that the AMA-HOD has established policy (G-600.060) calling on delegates introducing an item of business to declare any commercial or financial conflict of interest at the time the resolution is submitted and that any such conflict of interest be included with the resolution.

This policy also applies to resolutions introduced by delegations. The sponsoring delegation must disclose the identity of any delegate or alternate delegate who has a commercial or financial interest with respect to matters addressed in the resolution. If a conflict is disclosed, the notation on the resolution will not contain an individual delegate's name, but will state in substance that, "In accordance with House policy regarding disclosure of conflicts of interest, the delegation has notified the Speaker that one or more delegates has a commercial or financial conflict of interest with respect to the matters addressed in this resolution." For resolutions already submitted, please notify the AMA Office of House of Delegates Affairs. A revised resolution containing the conflict-of-interest statement will be distributed.

Recording of AMA-HOD Meetings

Proceedings of AMA meetings may be recorded for use by the AMA. Participation in or attendance at a meeting shall be deemed to confirm the participant's consent to recording and to the AMA's use of such recording. Individuals may not record the proceedings.

Meeting Attire

Your Speakers have determined that business casual attire (at least from the shoulders up unless you stand up!) is appropriate for the Special Meeting. Please be aware that appropriate attire is required if you wish to appear on camera to testify.

Announcements of Candidacy for 2022 Elections

Individuals who intend to seek election at the 2022 Annual Meeting should submit an electronic announcement to Roger Brown (roger.brown@ama-assn.org) by Monday, June 14. Our intention is to show those announcements in the virtual meeting before we adjourn.

Submissions will be maintained in confidence until shown and will be posted online on the candidate [page](#) after the Special Meeting.

Proceedings of the November 2020 Special Meeting

The draft of the [Proceedings](#) of the House of Delegates for this past November's Special Meeting has been posted on the AMA website. Approval of the previous meeting's minutes is a routine action item. PolicyFinder has been updated to reflect actions from June as captured in the Proceedings.

Reference Committee F Volunteers Sought

Just after June's Special Meeting concludes, three new members will be appointed to Reference Committee F. The committee deals with AMA's governance and financial matters, including such things as the annual plan, budget and business products, and is responsible for ensuring that the HOD has adequate information regarding the fiscal circumstances of the Association. While the typical reference committee exists only for a single meeting, members of Reference Committee F serve two-year terms and meet with the Board of Trustees between HOD meetings, meaning their commitment is more substantial; in fact, the chair serves a third year in that capacity.

Like other reference committees, we rely on volunteers to serve on Reference Committee F, but the special role of the committee along with the matters that come before it and the longer term of service warrant a special appeal for those volunteers. We are inviting interested members of the House to let us know of their interest in serving on the committee by sending a note to hod@ama-assn.org and completing the [application](#) on the [speakers' page](#). Even if you have previously volunteered to serve on the committee, we ask that you confirm that interest so that our roster is current. We will follow up with everyone who volunteers.

We need to know of your willingness to serve on the committee by June 20, and appointments will be made by Independence Day. The full committee will meet with the Board of Trustees on August 29, in Chicago if in-person.

Planning for November 2021 Interim Meeting

At this time we are planning for the 2021 Interim Meeting to be held in-person at the Swan & Dolphin Hotel in Orlando, Florida, which was the location of the 2016 Interim Meeting. A number of logistical elements need to be worked out. It is possible, for example, that the delegate seating area in the House will require additional space for social distancing and thereby limit the number of non-delegates who can be seated in the same room. We will be dealing with public health mandates and hotel-imposed restrictions as well as incorporating our own science-based standards.

Under AMA bylaws the Interim Meeting is focused on advocacy with business spread across six reference committees:

- Amendments to Constitution & Bylaws
- B - Advocacy dealing with legislation
- C - Advocacy on medical education (sometimes part of K)
- F - AMA governance
- J - Advocacy on medical service, practice and insurance
- K - Advocacy on public health and science

Depending on the volume of business, those committees may change. Regardless, we invite you to consider serving on a reference committee and encourage you to visit the [speakers' page](#) and complete the application for reference committee service.

Although the bylaws focus the Interim Meeting on advocacy, we will work with the bylaws-mandated resolution committee to allow as much business as possible. That said, we would discourage thinking that the meeting will allow the submission of all “backlogged” business. The hotel does not have availability to expand the meeting dates, so we will be working within the typical Interim Meeting timeframe.

Assuming a return to a face-to-face meeting, childcare will be provided per the policy adopted at I-19 in San Diego. We should note, however, that the Swan & Dolphin Hotel’s own program is currently suspended due to SARS-CoV-2. We are pursuing other vendors, and if a willing and able vendor is found, pre-registration will be required in order to provide the proper level of supervision. Due to the need to arrange for an appropriate number of caregivers based on the number and ages of children, acceptance of children will be limited to those that are pre-registered.

Section Meeting News

The [AMA section meetings](#) will be held virtually on June 4-6 and June 11. Visit each group’s meeting page for meeting documents and for the most up-to date-information. All times are Central Daylight Time.

Other Events to Note

Special Meeting of the Specialty and Service Society (SSS)

The SSS, the caucus for national medical specialty society, professional interest medical association and the federal service delegates and alternates to the AMA HOD, will hold a special meeting at 2 pm Central time on Sunday, June 6. Information on the SSS meeting will be sent directly to SSS members. If you have questions about the meeting or do not receive the registration information, contact Terri Marchiori (terri.marchiori@ama-assn.org).

AMPAC's Capitol Club Virtual Event - UPDATE

UPDATE: Due to unforeseen circumstances, there has been a change to our scheduled speaker. We are happy to announce AMPAC's new speaker for Tuesday's Capitol Club event, Ron Brownstein, Senior Editor for The Atlantic and Senior Political Analyst for CNN. Called "one of America's best political journalists" by The Economist and a two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist for political reporting, Brownstein blends history, voter trend analysis, and insider anecdotes to explore the state of each party today and predict what is next.

Please note there is no action required if you already registered to attend this event. This information is intended only to let you know of the speaker change.

The American Medical Association Political Action Committee (AMPAC) is the bipartisan political arm of the AMA that helps elect medicine-friendly candidates running for federal office. This year AMPAC is celebrating 60 years of political advocacy and we hope you will join us during this very special year.

AMPAC will be hosting a virtual Capitol Club event for all 2021 Capitol Club members during the June Special Meeting of the House of Delegates. Please plan to join us on Tuesday, June 15 for an online discussion you will not want to miss with our new special guest speaker, Ron Brownstein.

The event begins at 12:00 pm Central time (1:00 pm Eastern) and will run for one hour, allowing time for questions from members at the end. In order to attend this member only Capitol Club event with Ron Brownstein, please make sure your AMPAC membership is current for 2021 by visiting www.ampaconline.org You will receive link to register for this special event.

Thank you for your generous support during AMPAC's 60th anniversary year and we look forward to "seeing" you soon.

Meeting of the Obesity Caucus

You are invited to attend the obesity caucus at the upcoming Special Meeting. This caucus is open to all AMA attendees and strives to improve health outcomes with regards to obesity.

The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately taken its toll on people with obesity. Recent studies have shown that many people gained additional weight through this crisis, with some estimates as high as two pounds per month! In spite of this, most people with obesity are still not receiving the evidence-based tools that could help them achieve a healthier BMI. Our AMA gives us a unique opportunity to put our heads together and try to figure out how to conquer this problem.

Ethan Lazarus, Obesity Medicine Association delegate, will host this online caucus from 1:30 to 2:30 pm Central Daylight Time Sunday, June 13. Join the Zoom meeting at <https://obesity-medicine-org.zoom.us/j/99474697449?pwd=WEhnSGNwaDM2STQ1dDdwb3g1bVhxZz09>. Alternatively use Meeting ID: 994 7469 7449 and passcode: 953144 or Zoom's one tap mobile +12532158782,,99474697449# US (Tacoma) or +13462487799,,99474697449# US (Houston).

Ambassador Program Events

The AMA Ambassador Program Steering Committee is hosting some virtual activities in conjunction with this meeting to reconnect current AMA Ambassadors and provide information to prospective ambassadors. All meeting attendees are welcome and encouraged to participate. Check the AMA Ambassador Program Events web page ama-assn.org/ambassadors-events to register for the June meeting events. If you have questions, email J. Mori Johnson at ambassadors@ama-assn.org.

The AMA Ambassadors are hosting a Virtual Networking Mixer from 5:30 to 6:30 pm CDT on Friday, June 11. Wind down your week and get revved up for the start of the Special Meeting of the House of Delegates by reconnecting with your peers and by meeting new colleagues. All House of Delegates meeting attendees and guests are welcome to join in the fun and camaraderie! Advance registration is required by visiting <http://bit.ly/june11mixer>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to join the mixer and calendar download options.

AMA Foundation Virtual Booth

Join the AMA Foundation for special events and more this J21. 'Zoom' into the [AMA Foundation's](https://amafoundation.org/hod/) virtual booth starting June 11. Visit their J21 HOD Meeting hub at amafoundation.org/hod/ for booth hours and ZOOM links, to donate, check the giving thermometer, and learn more about the impact of your charitable giving. Stay tuned for news on other special opportunities available only during the Meeting. **To ensure your donor pin arrives ahead of the meeting, make sure you have made your gift this year. Visit amafoundation.org/hod to donate today.**

For additional information, please call 312-464-4200 or email amafoundation@ama-assn.org.

Mobility Caucus CME session: COVID-19 Aftermath: Unique Challenges in Rehabilitation and Ongoing Care

The Mobility Caucus will offer a CME session at 3 pm CDT Sunday, June 13. To register and get more information, visit www.aans.org/aftermath. Participants will hear from AMA experts, including Drs. Patrice Harris and Sandra Fryhofer, and are eligible for 1 hour of free CME provided by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons.

The objectives of the session are: 1. Identify unique challenges of managing COVID-19 survivors from an ICU bed through the course of rehabilitation. 2. Discuss best practices of frontline health workers engaged in the rehabilitative care of patients who suffer from COVID-19 with attention to mobility and joint care to mitigate the need for prolonged treatment. 3. Define the value of early discharge and appropriate placement when triaging patients for rehabilitation. 4. Summarize the value of graded exercise, education on energy conservation, behavior and home modification, psychosocial support, assistive products, as well as rehabilitation that targets physical and respiratory impairment. 5. Identify new vaccine strategies to manage current pandemic and future outbreaks.

JUNE HOD SPECIAL MEETING SCHEDULE*

Date	Time†	
April 30		Caucuses should submit name of person who will schedule interviews
May 10		Online Forum opens
~May 10		Handbook posted
May 12		On time deadline - 30 days before meeting commences (other than exempted resolutions)
May 21 – June 10		Interview window for caucuses / groups to conduct interviews with candidates.
June 2		Resolution Committee First Report posted
June 6	4 pm	Deadline for submission of resolutions for exempted groups, including AMA sections and Federation societies
June 8		Resolution Committee Second Report posted
June 8,9		Opportunity to extract items from the Resolution Committee Second Report by email to hod@ama-assn.org
June 9	Midnight	Deadline for extractions from Resolution Committee Second Report on urgency / priority of resolutions. Send email to hod@ama-assn.org Deadline for extraction of informational report by email to hod@ama-assn.org
June 9	7 pm	HOD Practice Session (ZOOM and LUMI)
June 10	Noon	Resolution Committee Final Report posted for House review
June 11	7 pm	Opening Session, June 2021 Special Meeting, President's Address, speeches, nominations, acceptance of business, including consideration of resolution committee recommendations
June 12	9 am – 12:30 pm	Reference committee hearings, session 1 (3 concurrent hearings) Committees A, F and D or E
June 12	1 pm – 4:30 pm	Reference committee hearings, session 2 (3 concurrent hearings) Committees B, G and D or E
June 13	9 am – 12:30 pm	Reference committee hearings, session 3 (2 concurrent hearings) Committees C and Amendments to Constitution & Bylaws
June 14	10 am	HOD business session
June 15	9 am	Election session – Delegates only, special election credential needed
June 15	10 am- 5 pm	HOD business session resumes
June 15	6 pm	Inaugural of Gerald Harmon, MD
June 16	9 am	HOD business session resumes

* Schedule is subject to change.

† All times listed as Central Daylight Time (UTC-5).