

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

B of T Report 33-A-24

Subject: Employed Physicians

Presented by: Willie Underwood III, MD, MSc, MPH, Chair

Referred to: Reference Committee F

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1 BACKGROUND

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3 At its November 2021 Special Meeting, the House of Delegates (HOD) referred Resolution 615,  
4 which asked AMA to take a variety of actions to ensure that the voice of employed physicians is  
5 heard within the organization.

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7 BOT Report 9-I-22 subsequently argued that creation of an employed physician caucus, already in  
8 the works at that time via efforts of the Organized Medical Staff Section (OMSS), would be the  
9 most appropriate mechanism for giving voice to employed physicians in the HOD. The report  
10 concluded that while it is beyond the scope of the Board to establish caucuses, the Board fully  
11 supported the creation of an employed physician caucus in lieu of the asks of original Resolution  
12 615.

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14 As directed by BOT Report 9, this follow-up report provides an update on the caucus and  
15 representation of employed physicians within our AMA.

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17 DISCUSSION

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19 The inaugural meeting of the OMSS-convened employed physician caucus was held at the 2022  
20 Interim Meeting. Since then, the caucus has met in conjunction with each Annual and Interim  
21 meeting, and between meetings as the need has arisen. Attendance at these meetings has ranged  
22 from 15 to 20 participants per meeting, engaging not only OMSS members but also members from  
23 most of the other AMA sections as well as members of the HOD who are not actively involved in  
24 any section.

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26 Facilitated by OMSS leadership, caucus meetings have focused on (1) discussion of resolutions and  
27 reports under consideration by the HOD that are especially relevant to employed physicians, and  
28 (2) general discussion of issues facing employed physicians and how AMA might address them,  
29 whether through the policymaking process or otherwise. Through these actions, the group has  
30 directly lent its expertise to the HOD, with one key example being the contributions of the caucus  
31 to the development of OMSS-sponsored Resolution 017-A-23, which established AMA's definition  
32 of "employed physician." Additionally, the group has served as a resource for AMA staff  
33 addressing employment matters – for example, providing input on recent revisions to the *AMA*  
34 *Physicians' Guide to Hospital Employment Contracts* and allowing for observation of the caucus  
35 by AMA staff to garner ideas for a series of news articles on physician employment.

1 In 2024, the OMSS-convened employed physician caucus will focus on formalizing its structure  
2 and processes, developing a charter that outlines caucus membership requirements, how caucus  
3 leadership is selected, and the process by which the caucus determines positions it will voice on  
4 items of business under consideration in the HOD. The caucus will next meet on Saturday, June 8,  
5 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency Chicago (see Speakers' Letter for room location),  
6 and all AMA members are invited to attend. The Board of Trustees looks forward to the continued  
7 evolution of the caucus and its success in representing the interests of employed physicians within  
8 our AMA.

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10 RECOMMENDATION

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12 The Board of Trustees recommends that the following be adopted and the remainder of the report  
13 be filed:

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- 15 1. That AMA policy D-405.969 be rescinded as having been accomplished by this report  
16 (Rescind HOD Policy).

Fiscal Note: No significant fiscal impact.