

A note from your speakers

We are pleased to provide this edition of the American Medical Association Election Manual. It includes information, as submitted, from announced candidates for election in June 2025. AMA House of Delegates policy requires that each candidate's conflict-of-interest information be available for your review. This information is posted on our [password-protected webpage](#).

Thank you to all candidates for your willingness to serve our AMA.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bohman Egbert, MD
Speaker

John H. Armstrong, MD
Vice speaker

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General election information

General election information

Officers and four councils are elected by the American Medical Association House of Delegates (HOD) at the June Meeting. Candidates for these offices are widely solicited throughout the Federation. The elections are conducted during a special Election Session under the supervision of the Committee on Rules and Credentials and the chief teller, who are appointed by the speakers. The speaker and vice speaker are responsible for overall administration of the elections.

Important election dates:

April 26–May 4:

A-25 virtual interview window

Candidates may not schedule interviews with groups that are not on the official list of groups conducting virtual interviews compiled by the HOD Office.

June 6, 6 p.m. CT:

AMA Opening Session

Nominations will be accepted on Friday, June 6, 2025, during the Opening Session of the HOD. Uncontested candidates will be elected by acclamation at that time.

June 6–9:

A-25 in-person interview window

Candidates may not schedule interviews with groups that are not on the official list of groups conducting in-person interviews compiled by the HOD Office.

June 8, 5–7 p.m. CT:

AMA Candidate Reception

Candidates may be featured at this reception or at another reception, but not both.

June 10, 8 a.m. CT:

Election Session

All delegates should be seated in the House at least 10 minutes prior to the Election Session. Only credentialed delegates are permitted to cast a ballot. If a delegate cannot participate in the Election Session, they may designate a substitute delegate who must be properly credentialed by Monday, June 9, 2025, at 6 p.m., Central time.

AMA election bylaws and election policy

AMA elections are governed by [AMA bylaws and HOD Policy G-610.090, “AMA Election Rules and Guiding Principles.”](#) This democratic process allows delegates ample opportunity to become acquainted with the candidates and their views.

President-elect

Sandra Adamson Fryhofer, MD

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The American College of Physicians (ACP) is proud to sponsor Sandra Adamson Fryhofer MD, MACP, as candidate for president-elect. Her candidacy is endorsed by Georgia, Southeast, and Specialty and Service Society.

Proven Leadership in AMA

- Chair, Board of Trustees (2022–23); chair-elect (2021–22) (by acclamation)
- Chair, AMA Task Force on Gun Violence (2022–23)
- Board liaison to AMA councils: Medical Service, Legislation & CLRPD; to sections: LGBTQ, MAS, WPS, IPPS, YPS, SPS & RFS; and to Scope of Practice Partnership Steering Committee
- As Board chair, stood up and appointed AMA's Task Force on Truth, Reconciliation, Healing & Transformation
- Member, Institute of Medicine's Committee on Understanding and Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care, resulting in the report *Unequal Treatment*
- Member, AMA Commission to End Health Care Disparities
- Chair, AMA Council on Science and Public Health
- AMA/ACP liaison to CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices since 2001: currently serving on work groups for COVID-19, flu, HPV, and the Adult Schedule
- AMA liaison to American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer
- Chair, AMA Convention Committee on Rules and Credentials
- Joined AMA in 1983; delegate since 2000

Proven Leadership Outside AMA

- President, American College of Physicians (youngest president in ACP history)
- Chair, ACP Committee on Women's Health
- ACP Board of Regents
- Board of Directors, Medical Association of Atlanta (MAA)
- MAA delegate to Medical Association of Georgia

Valuable Work Experience

- Private practice, board-certified, general internal medicine in Atlanta for over 35 years
- Adjunct associate professor of medicine, Emory University School of Medicine

Effective Communicator and Spokesperson

- Testified before Congress and FDA for AMA/ACP
- Medical correspondent for CNN
- Interviewed by network media hundreds of times
- Over 50 appearances on *AMA Update* and webinar video series
- National spokesperson for the "Doctors for Adults Public Education" campaign
- Host of *Your Health Matters* on Georgia PBS affiliate

Credible, Credentialed

- BChE, chemical engineering (high honors), Georgia Institute of Technology
- MD, Emory University School of Medicine (Alpha Omega Alpha)
- Internal medicine internship and residency, Emory Affiliated Hospitals
- Mastership in ACP (MACP); fellow, Royal College of Physicians (FRCP)

Personal statement

"We have incredible power when we speak with one voice. That voice has never been more needed because we are at a critical time—for Medicare payment reform, prior authorization, physician-led care, and preserving our nation's public health system. Your next AMA President must have the undisputed experience to lead in these complicated times, and I do. And they must ensure that your voice and your message get communicated in the most effective manner possible, and I will. I would be honored to serve you and our patients as your next President-Elect, and I respectfully ask for your support and your vote."

Willie Underwood III, MD, MSc, MPH

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The American Urological Association enthusiastically nominates Willie Underwood III, MD, MSc., MPH and DPS (honorary degree) to be your next president-elect of the American Medical Association. His candidacy has also been endorsed by the American Association of Clinical Urologists, the Urology Caucus, the Medical Society of the State of New York, the American College of Surgeons, the American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery, and the Mobility Caucus. Dr. Underwood has distinguished himself as a urologic surgeon and a leader in health care policy, with decades of service at all levels of organized medicine.

The president is the face of our American Medical Association, and Dr. Underwood is best suited to be that face. Since being chair of the AMA Resident and Fellow Section, he has cultivated relationships and built trust. He was invited to be a TEDx speaker because his passion is palpable. His ability to inspire, motivate, and activate an audience is well-known. He is a straight-shooter—he means what he says, and he says what he means. He will always tell us the truth, even when it may not be exactly what we want to hear.

Dr. Underwood has a gift for convening interested parties and strategizing around a common goal. As COVID first hit New York, the Black community of Buffalo (Buffalo Eastside) was suffering from disproportionately higher hospitalization and mortality rates than other surrounding communities. Isolation alone was not protecting this community. Dr. Underwood brought together community leaders to create the Buffalo Center for Health Equity. This group spearheaded a COVID response which cut mortality in half. When COVID infection rates began to decline, Dr. Underwood kept pushing. Before the next wave, he got all of Erie County to adopt this protocol, an effort that saved many lives.

So many forces are working against us. We physicians must come together and speak with one voice. Medicare rates were cut again this year while every other sector in health care is making more. Proposed Medicaid cuts are even worse, preventing moms, kids, and so many struggling people from getting care. Our young physicians are drowning in medical debt. Insurance companies burden us with prior authorization and ridiculous paperwork. Dr. Underwood has a wealth of experience—as a husband and father, a health services researcher, a leader in academia and private practice, and a community organizer. He has a vision of how to chart forward. He is the right person to bring us together and face these challenges, to be our face and our voice to lead physicians.

Personal statement

"To paraphrase Thomas Payne, 'These are the times that try people's souls.' I have heard from many of you who feel unheard and abandoned. Our autonomy has been stripped away. Now is the time to be bold and courageous and to challenge the status quo. I will always listen to you and advocate for all physicians and patients. My answers will not be scripted; my words will ALWAYS be thoughtful and honest. I will stand up for our sound policies in a way that will inspire, motivate, and activate physicians to join the AMA in our efforts to improve our nation's health and health care system."

Lisa Bohman Egbert, MD



The Ohio State Medical Association, its delegation to the AMA, and the Great Lakes States Coalition enthusiastically endorse the re-election of Lisa Bohman Egbert, MD, for her third term as speaker of the American Medical Association House of Delegates.

As speaker, Dr. Egbert is excited to have helped develop and then oversee the successful implementation of the recommendations from the Resolution Modernization Task Force. Along with these improvements, she continues to work with our fabulous HOD and reference committee staff to streamline the resolution process from submission to final action. She is looking forward to the upcoming update to our IT system which will better enable our House to efficiently and

effectively develop and track our well-crafted policy that is the backbone of our AMA.

In addition to her duties as speaker, Lisa is privileged to serve on the AMA Foundation and COLA (Commission on Laboratory Accreditation) boards. She is a member of the Litigation Center Executive Committee, Council on Constitution and Bylaws, and the Election Committee. She also serves as a liaison to the Private Practice Physicians Section.

Lisa began her AMA journey as a medical student serving as the student representative on the Women in Medicine Advisory Panel, the inaugural group that later evolved into our Women Physicians Section. Subsequently, she was elected to the Resident Physician and Young Physician Sections' Governing Councils, serving as chair of the YPS. She was appointed to serve on the AMPAC Board of Directors and later elected to the Council on Medical Service.

Dr Egbert's experience in organized medicine includes tenures as president of the Ohio State Medical Association and the Montgomery County Medical Society. She remains an active member of both organizations and continues to advocate on behalf of her fellow physicians and trainees at the local and state levels.

Lisa received her Bachelor of Science and Medical Doctorate from The Ohio State University. She is a member of the President's Club and serves on the Buckeye Leadership Fellows Board. She is married to the "other" Dr. Egbert, Brad, who is an anesthesiologist, and they have 3 children: David and his wife Ashleigh, Sarah, and Matthew and his fiancé Madison.

On December 31, 2024, Dr. Egbert's solo practice of 27 years officially closed its doors, a victim of stagnant physician payments set against the ever-increasing costs of running a practice. This experience has supercharged her desire to advocate to fix our broken medical system so that other doctors won't be faced with these same no-win situations and their patients won't be left without a doctor!

Personal statement

"This past year has been challenging, but I now have a deep and very personal understanding of the importance of our AMA's vital work to sustain the practice of medicine. The policies passed by our House are the framework on which this work is built. It has been my great honor to serve as your speaker so that your voices can be heard and our important work can continue at this pivotal time in medicine. I humbly ask for your vote for re-election as your speaker."

Vice speaker

John H. Armstrong, MD



The American College of Surgeons (ACS) and its delegation to our AMA are proud to sponsor John H. Armstrong, MD, for reelection as vice speaker of our AMA House of Delegates. John is endorsed enthusiastically by the Florida Medical Association, Southeastern Delegation to our AMA, and our AMA Specialty and Service Society.

As vice speaker, John has served with the speaker to follow through on what our House asked to be done for efficiency and inclusiveness. Resolution modernization was implemented in just five months, and the I-24 Speakers Open Forum advanced transparency in House processes. John promotes House engagement in advocacy for our policies at federal and states levels and emphasizes the relevance of our work for our patients and members.

He is an ex officio member of the Council on Constitution and Bylaws and a liaison to the AMPAC Board of Directors and the LGBTQ+ Section. John sees multiple perspectives, a skill he has honed through his decades of leadership at all levels of our AMA: HOD Resident Physician alternate and delegate; Hospital (now Organized) Medical Staff delegate; Young Physician Section chair; HOD Army alternate delegate; Young Physician trustee; secretary; Surgical Caucus chair; ACS HOD delegation chair; House Compensation Committee chair; and Council on Long Range Planning and Development member.

John remains an active trauma surgeon, professor of surgery, and distinguished educator at the University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine in Tampa; adjunct professor of surgery at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, Md.; member of the US Defense Health Board; consultant for the ACS Committee on Trauma; and member of the ACS Academy of Master Surgeon Educators. His wife, Jodie, is an ophthalmologist in private practice.

John graduated from Princeton University with a degree in economics and the University of Virginia School of Medicine. He performed his surgical residency at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, his trauma fellowship at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital, and his master educators in Medical Education Fellowship at the University of Florida. As an AMA nominee, he was elected to serve for six years on the ACGME Residency Review Committee for Surgery. John remains committed to protecting, promoting, and improving public health as he draws on his previous experience as Florida's surgeon general and secretary of health.

From the podium, John demonstrates inclusiveness, respect, and parliamentary skill. He remains a member of the American Institute of Parliamentarians. At the board table, John articulates the will of the House and emphasizes the importance of transforming AMA policy into action with results.

Personal statement

"I wear the purple badge, maintaining my origin from our House as a delegate, serving House deliberations with equipoise, humor, and humility, and working with our Speaker to bring the voice of our House to our Board. In our House, out of many, we are one: together, we are stronger. We share joy in caring for our patients and helping each other. I ask for your continuing confidence and vote for reelection as your Vice Speaker."

Board of Trustees

Madelyn Butler, MD

[AMA candidate web page](#)



In 1998, Madelyn Butler, MD, took a deep breath and used her mortgage on the family home and her life insurance as collateral to pursue her dream of opening an OB/GYN practice to serve her South Tampa community.

That dream has blossomed into The Woman's Group, a four-location private practice with 24 physicians, nurses, and support staff members serving the Tampa Bay area. It was named Best OB/GYN Group by the *Tampa Tribune* and the *Florida Medical Journal*.

Dr. Butler's re-election to the AMA Board of Trustees is critical in continuing the AMA's work addressing Medicare payment reform, prior authorization, and scope-of-practice expansion. During her Board tenure, she has seen a seismic shift in our national advocacy efforts. Now is the time to use this momentum to take our physician advocacy even further.

Dr. Butler's credentials include serving as AMA Finance Committee chair and Reproductive Task Force co-chair. She is co-chair of the AMA's Task Force to Preserve the Patient-Physician Relationship When Evidence-Based, Appropriate Care is Banned or Restricted. Dr. Butler serves on the AMA Audit Committee and the AMA Compensation Committee. Additionally, she is the AMA BOT liaison to the AMA Council on Legislation, the AMA International Medical Graduates Section and the AMA Minority Affairs Section. Since 2022, she has served on the AMA COLA Board of Directors. Dr. Butler's extensive leadership in Florida includes her service as Florida Medical Association (FMA) president, FMA PAC president, speaker, and chair of numerous committees.

Dr. Butler is a passionate advocate for the sustainability of medical practice in all its forms and for young physicians' freedom to choose specialties in which they can thrive in all areas of their lives. She is equally passionate about nurturing our next generation of physicians and is proud that, during her year as FMA president, she initiated the policy of adding a medical student, resident, and young physician to every FMA council and committee. She advocated for establishing a young physician mentorship program and an FMA Leadership Academy. Even from her earliest days as the FMA's Student Section president, Dr. Butler understood that when we work together, our Federation can serve as a force-multiplier that influences policymakers and improves quality of care for millions of patients.

The Florida Medical Association and its AMA delegation respectfully ask you to join the AMA's Southeast Delegation in proudly supporting Dr. Butler's candidacy for the AMA Board of Trustees.

Dr. Butler and husband, Bill, enjoy traveling and social gatherings with family and friends. They look forward to many more adventures with their beloved granddaughter, 2-year-old Madelyn Kate.

Personal statement

"I'm proud that the private practice I've built reflects our Tampa Bay area community. From Spanish and Vietnamese to Arabic and Hindi, we speak our patients' languages and provide them with quality care throughout the stages of their lives. I have brought the same passion and tenacity that built an award-winning practice to the AMA Board of Trustees."

John T. Carlo, MD, MS

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The Texas Medical Association proudly nominates John T. Carlo, MD, MS, for election to our AMA Board of Trustees. Dr. Carlo is physician-focused, patient-centered, and consensus builder—he will work hard to make AMA even stronger.

Dr. Carlo leads Prism Health North Texas, a large Federally Qualified Health Center, and has led its significant growth over the past 12 years, now serving 20,000 patients from some of Dallas' highest-need neighborhoods, focused in particular on people living with HIV, as well as the LGBTQIA+ community. Leading Prism Health provides Dr. Carlo deep experience managing a medical practice, health care compliance, and effective finance and operations of a multi-site medical home.

A public health leader, Dr. Carlo has been a central figure responding to Dallas's major health crises for over 20 years. He served on the TMA COVID-19 taskforce, frequently acting as a spokesperson in local, state, and national media. When a patient arrived in Dallas with Ebola in 2014, Dr. Carlo worked with local officials to calm community fear and successfully respond to prevent community spread. His seminal moment was joining local physicians leading the 2005 Dallas Hurricane Katrina medical response which provide urgent care to over 700 patients in the first 24 hours after opening the large local shelter.

Currently chair of the AMA Council on Science and Public Health, Dr. Carlo focused on important issues like drug shortages, cannabis use, and health insurance design. He currently serves on the TMA Board of Trustees and has previously chaired multiple TMA councils, including legislation, socioeconomic, and science and public health. Serving as chair for three different TMA councils is extraordinarily unusual, reflecting his capabilities to understand the diverse aspects of medicine. Dr. Carlo has a unique experience and knows too well the challenges we all face today running a practice or trying to be a leader in the practice of medicine.

Dr. Carlo listens, takes time to fully understand, and thrives on driving change. He believes board service demands deep engagement and brings extensive experience with a unique perspective. He is ready to be your voice on our Board.

Personal statement

"We chose to join the AMA for distinct reasons, but our shared purpose while serving in leadership is to advance AMA's mission. Every day, I witness patients struggling to navigate a complex health care system that too many cannot afford or access effectively. I am in the trenches, confronting the financial, legal, and regulatory challenges we all face every day, and I want to work with you to fix our broken health care system."

Board of Trustees

Sheila Rege, MD

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The PacWest Delegation, along with the Cancer Caucus, the Radiology Section Council, and the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin, is pleased to formally endorse Sheila Rege, MD, FACRO, for election to the AMA Board of Trustees (BOT).

Sheila is a private practice radiation oncologist in Washington state and is a clinical associate professor at Washington State University at Tri-Cities. She was previously the medical director for the western region of a 900-physician multispecialty group and worked in an urban academic center as the director of research in radiology at LSU Shreveport. Sheila has practiced in nearly every practice model represented in the House of Delegates. This provides Sheila a unique perspective which would make her a strong advocate for you on the BOT.

Sheila is an expert in health technology development and implementation. She is a mentor at the Creative Destruction Lab, a global initiative supporting science and tech start-ups. As chair of the Washington State Health Technology Committee, she has worked to reduce administrative burdens for patients with state-funded insurance, including Medicaid.

Sheila has extensive experience in organized medicine and leadership that would inform her contributions. She is a 20+ year member of the Washington State Medical Association Board of Trustees. She has served as president of the American College of Radiation Oncology, has worked as a specialty advisor to the AMA CPT committee, and has been elected twice to the AMA Council on Medical Service (CMS), bringing deep working expertise in health care payment systems and advocacy to the Board. During her seven years of service on CMS and during her term as chair, Sheila was instrumental in the council's efforts to develop meaningful policies on Medicare payment reform, protecting access for Medicaid patients, reducing medical debt, enabling "hospital at home" care, curbing private equity abuse, and ensuring fair payment for both primary care and specialty physicians.

As president of her rural county medical society, Sheila's leadership team reversed a decision to replace internists with nurse practitioners. On air, her "Cancer Chat with Dr. Rege" radio program and "Rise Above Cancer" events focused on cancer prevention strategies and outreach for the local community.

Colleagues across the country who have worked with Dr. Rege emphasize her ability to listen and build consensus among diverse groups to solve complex problems. She has been a welcoming mentor to those seeking to grow in these spaces. Her reputation as a compassionate, competent physician who gives back is well-earned.

Personal statement

"I stand ready to leverage my expertise in diverse practice models, payment systems, and health care technology to ethically integrate new technologies like AI into our daily work environment. I aim to accelerate Medicare reform efforts, protect Medicaid, amplify your voice, and strengthen a culture that supports the next generation of physician leaders. I will work to preserve physician autonomy amid the challenges of reimbursement and technology. I respectfully ask for your vote to the AMA Board of Trustees. Let's bring REGE to the AMA Board."

Board of Trustees

Heather A. Smith, MD, MPH

[AMA candidate web page](#)



Heather A. Smith, MD, MPH, FACOG, is a practicing physician, policy leader, and educator with more than two decades of leadership in organized medicine. **A change agent and advocate, she is dedicated to strengthening the voice of physicians and advancing the future of medicine.**

Her passion for advocacy and health policy began before medical school when she worked in community and health education. Witnessing firsthand how policy gaps impact health and wellbeing, she pursued a career committed to physician-led reforms. She later served as the second-ever AMA Government Relations Advocacy Fellow, a U.S. Senate Policy Fellow in the HELP Committee, and was selected as a RWJ Foundation Clinical Scholar further honing her ability to drive meaningful systems-based change.

Today, Dr. Smith is a board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist, an assistant professor at Brown University, and the director of quality for the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology comprised of 183 clinicians and performs more than 8500 births per year, where she leads efforts to improve patient outcomes, reduce disparities, and optimize care delivery.

Her extensive leadership in the AMA includes serving as delegate for the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) since 2010, chair of the Council on Legislation, the medical student member of the Council on Medical Services, and multiple leadership roles in the Resident/Fellow Section. She was also on AMA Foundation board and elected as president, during which time she led initiatives to expand medical education and leadership development including as a founding donor of two honor funds. At the state level, she has served on boards and councils for the Massachusetts Medical Society, the Connecticut State Medical Society, and recently completed her term as president for the Rhode Island Medical Society, during which she focused on the sustainability of practice, reducing administrative burdens, and protecting physician decision-making authority.

As a full-time practicing physician, Dr. Smith understands all too well the increasing administrative burdens, shifts in health care delivery, and other external pressures that threaten physician autonomy and the integrity of patient care. As an OB/GYN and employed physician, she has personally felt these pressures and is committed to reforms that prioritize care over bureaucratic obstacles.

She is proud to be nominated for election to the AMA Board of Trustees by ACOG and endorsed by the New England Delegation, the Rhode Island Medical Society, and the AMA Specialty and Service Society.

Personal statement

"Our patients and our profession deserve better than living in a maelstrom of 'profit, prior auth, and denial.' I am committed to building a physician-led health care system that champions transformation while protecting our profession's core values and ultimately, lets doctors doctor.

"I am eager to listen, ready to lead, and honored to serve. I respectfully request your support and one of your votes as we work together to shape the future of medicine."

Board of Trustees

Marta J. Van Beek, MD, MPH

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The American Academy of Dermatology Association (AADA) proudly nominates Marta J. Van Beek, MD, MPH, FAAD, for election to the AMA Board of Trustees, with endorsements from the Iowa Medical Society, North Central Medical Conference, Dermatology Section Council, and Specialty & Service Society.

A nationally recognized health care advocate, Dr. Van Beek has held numerous leadership positions across the Federation. For the past six years, she has served on the AMA Council on Legislation and is currently its chair. In the AADA, she led as chair of the Council on Government Affairs and Health Policy and the Congressional Policy Committee during the negotiation and implementation of the Affordable Care Act. She served as AADA secretary-treasurer, a member of the tripartite leadership, overseeing all fiduciary responsibilities of the board of directors and doubled annual revenue to over \$60 million. Recognizing that effective advocacy relies on both stories and data, she was instrumental in launching AADA's DataDerm™ registry, the world's largest dermatology registry, to support advocacy efforts against prior authorizations, step therapy, and narrow networks. She continues to play a key role in payment policy as chair of the MIPS Value Pathways Committee. In 2023, she was elected chair of the AMA Dermatology Section Council, representing eight specialty societies. **Dr. Van Beek is a dedicated advocate for the collective power of organized medicine. As a proven leader, she believes that our AMA must relentlessly uphold the values of our profession.**

A double board-certified dermatologist and Mohs micrographic surgeon, Dr. Van Beek is the executive medical director of ambulatory clinics at the University of Iowa and previously served two terms as hospital chief of staff. She leads the Division of Mohs Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology, where she spearheaded faculty expansion and quadrupled patient volumes. **Dr. Van Beek lives the burdens that physicians face, seeing the consequences of delayed care and poor access to medicine as she manages complex patients at the University and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center.**

Committed to teaching and mentoring the next generation of physicians, she is the director of an ACGME Mohs surgery & dermatology oncology fellowship and previously served as associate director for the University of Iowa Dermatology residency. **Everyday Dr. Van Beek hears the concerns and frustrations of our young physicians as they navigate choosing a practice and worry about scope of practice.**

Dr. Van Beek has served the Iowa Medical Society and Iowa Dermatological Society for over 20 years, holding key leadership roles. She completed her MD, MPH, internship, residency, and fellowships in dermatoeidemiology and dermatologic surgery at the University of Iowa. She is married to Grant Van Beek, a dentist, and has three children: Tyrone, Tyhesia, and Ana.

Personal statement

"To effectively advocate for our patients and our profession, we must speak boldly with one voice. Our HOD is the venue where all of medicine debates issues and achieves consensus. As a Trustee, I will work tirelessly to implement HOD Policy and communicate our story to policymakers and the public."

Board of Trustees, resident/fellow

Pauline Huynh, MD

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The California Medical Association is honored to support the candidacy of Pauline Huynh, MD, for the resident/fellow seat on the AMA Board of Trustees. Dr. Huynh is also proudly endorsed by the PacWest Conference, Resident and Fellow Section (RFS), MedChi The Maryland State Medical Society, and American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery (AAO-HNS).

An active member of our AMA since her first year in medical school, Dr. Huynh has grown up within the AMA, learning from strong leaders and finding power in an organized collective voice to push advocacy priorities. She has actively participated in our House of Delegates as well as served on our AMA Council on Constitution and Bylaws and two section governing councils. Most recently as chair of the RFS, she prioritized trainee protections, engaging state and national leaders to address the implications of residency program closures. As the Medical Student Section (MSS) delegate at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, she transformed the MSS resolutions process through the AMA's first virtual meetings. Her advocacy has addressed a broad array of issues including pharmaceutical advertising restrictions, physician workforce and practice protections, the patient-physician relationship, health equity, firearm safety, graduate medical education, and global vaccine equity.

Beyond our AMA, Dr. Huynh has held numerous leadership positions at the local, state, and national level, engaging physicians to enhance our practices, optimize equitable health care delivery, and serve our communities. During her internship with MedChi, Dr. Huynh played a pivotal role in convincing the Maryland Department of Health to approve COVID-19 vaccine distribution through private physician practices shortly after vaccines became available. Having served on the AAO-HNS Board of Governors, including their Governance & Society Engagement as well as Socioeconomic & Grassroots committees, Dr. Huynh appreciates the need for synergy between strategic planning within the board room and member-driven mobilization to achieve sound health policy goals.

Dr. Huynh is deeply committed to her patients and the medical profession. She is a fierce and proven advocate in leveraging the power of organized medicine to champion evidence-based policy for the betterment of public health. A daughter of a Vietnam War refugee, she is particularly passionate about equitable access to care for some of our nation's most vulnerable patients, including migrants and asylum seekers, and hopes to share that perspective on our board. Please join all her endorsing societies in supporting Dr. Huynh for election to the AMA Board of Trustees.

Personal statement

"In the face of unprecedented threats to our health care system, federal agencies, and our ability to provide care, we need an AMA with the vision and resolve to meet this moment. I am humbled to ask for your vote because I fully believe in our ability to guide our organization towards a stronger future. Now more than ever, it is imperative that we remain a relentless yet nimble force in safeguarding our patients, our profession, and the sanctity of science and public health."

Council on Constitution and Bylaws

Jerry P. Abraham, MD, MPH

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The California Medical Association (CMA) and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) proudly nominates **Jerry P. Abraham, MD, MPH, CMQ**, for re-election to the **AMA Council on Constitution & Bylaws (CCB)**. Additionally, Dr. Abraham is endorsed by the PacWest Conference.

In addition to currently serving as CCB chair, Dr. Abraham serves as the immediate past president of the Los Angeles County Medical Association and serves on the CMA Board of Trustees.

Dr. Abraham is a dual board-certified, practicing family and community medicine physician, injury epidemiologist, and medical quality specialist. He currently serves as the director of public health, integration and street medicine at Kedren Community Health Center, an acute psychiatric hospital, Federally Qualified Health Center, and historically black institution located in south LA. He also serves on the faculty of the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, the nation's fourth historically black medical school, with a joint appointment in family & community medicine and psychiatry. Dr. Abraham previously served as an AMA Medical Justice in Advocacy Fellow, advancing climate health and environmental justice.

Dr. Abraham teaches medical students and residents and fellows on improving care for priority populations including: people experiencing homelessness, people living with HIV, people with serious mental illness, people who inject drugs, people who are justice involved, among others. He is a national leader in health equity and medical justice and champion of street medicine, democratizing health care delivery by meeting people where they live, work, worship, play, and go to school, as well as in homeless shelters and encampments.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Abraham led innovative and revolutionary approaches to achieving vaccine equity, resulting in over 400,000 doses of vaccines being administered into the arms of the residents of the county of Los Angeles. He was invited by the United States Senate to testify before Congress on the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr. Abraham is committed to continuing the work of the council including crafting language for bylaws changes as directed by our AMA House of Delegates, reviewing internal operating procedures (IOP) of our AMA sections, among other council initiatives including collaborations with other AMA councils, namely CEJA and CLRPD. As chair, Dr. Abraham and the council has authored several council reports which were successfully presented and adopted.

Dr. Abraham is a native of Texas and graduated from the University of Texas School of Medicine in San Antonio and completed his residency training and fellowship at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine.

Personal statement

"It is critical that we get the work of our AMA Council on Constitution & Bylaws right, in order to ensure the long-term sustainability, relevancy, and organizational effectiveness of our AMA. I look forward to working together with my colleagues in the AMA House of Delegates to leave our organization stronger and better for future generations of physicians and medical students."

Council on Constitution and Bylaws

Mary Ann Contogiannis, MD

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The North Carolina Medical Society (NCMS) and North Carolina Delegation to the AMA are proud to nominate Mary Ann Contogiannis, MD, for re-election to the AMA Council on Constitution and Bylaws. She is also enthusiastically endorsed by the Southeastern Delegation and the American Society of Plastic Surgeons.

Dr. Contogiannis graduated from the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University then pursued a residency in general and plastic surgery. Mary Ann is board certified in plastic surgery and participates in maintenance of certification. She now maintains a solo private practice in plastic surgery in Greensboro, N.C.

Dr. Contogiannis has a deep commitment to and understanding of organized medicine. From the beginning of her medical career, she has dedicated herself to organized medicine, first by serving as an alternate delegate and then delegate to the AMA Medical Student Section, Resident Physician Section, and Young Physicians Section. In 1989, she was elected to the AMA Board of Trustees as a resident member, serving two terms. Mary Ann has also served as a member of the NCMS Delegation since 2001. In 2021 she had the honor of being elected by her peers to the AMA Council on Constitution and Bylaws and currently serves as vice-chair.

Dr. Contogiannis is passionate about her profession as demonstrated by the many leadership roles she has held in her state, county, specialty, and national specialty societies. Dr. Contogiannis has served on the NCMS Board of Directors, Legislative Cabinet, and PAC board. Mary Ann is a past president of the NC Society of Plastic Surgeons. Dr. Contogiannis has served in many roles in the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, including chair of the State Legislative Advocacy Committee and board of directors. She brings a wealth of experience and deep understanding of organized medicine to her position on the AMA Council on Constitution and Bylaws.

Dr. Contogiannis is distinctive because of her steadfast willingness to serve her profession all while managing a busy private practice. She possesses a level of commitment and enthusiasm unique among her peers. Her experience, commitment, and passion have brought energy and insight into this important council over the last four years.

Personal statement

"As I look at my medical career, I have constantly been drawn to focus on health policy and advocacy. I have maintained this focus throughout my career, making it a priority to participate in advocacy activities. As I have advanced through leadership positions in multiple organizations, I have appreciated that each organization must have order and structure to be effective but still have a way to adapt to change. The organization's constitution and bylaws are central to achieving these goals.

"When the AMA HOD decides there is a need to change the AMA bylaws, it is the Council on Constitution and Bylaws' (CCB) responsibility to accomplish that change within the guidelines of the AMA's Constitution and Bylaws structure. In my leadership roles and as current Vice-Chair of CCB, I have participated in significant revisions of bylaws. My experiences have prepared me to continue my service to the AMA on the Council on Constitution and Bylaws. I humbly ask for your vote in June."

Council of Constitution and Bylaws, resident/fellow

Helene Nepomuceno, MD

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The AMA Resident and Fellow Section is proud to sponsor the candidacy of Helene Nepomuceno, MD, for election to the resident and fellow seat on the AMA Council on Constitution and Bylaws. She is endorsed enthusiastically by the California Medical Association and PacWest Conference.

Dr. Nepomuceno has a history of over a decade of service in various AMA leadership positions and has been a member of the House of Delegates since 2015. She has served as chair of both the Medical Student Section and Resident and Fellow Section, taking on complex challenges in section governance headfirst. During both these terms, she has overseen the revamping of each section's internal operating procedures that have made their way into CCB deliberations.

Committed to the importance of good governance and strong processes, she went to serve as chair and vice chair of the RFS Committee on IOP Revisions. Since 2019, she has served as an inaugural member, vice-chair, and now chair of the Committee on Conduct at Meetings to ensure a safe environment in AMA meetings and events by upholding the AMA Code of Conduct, work which she has found incredibly meaningful.

Dr. Nepomuceno's dedication to her colleagues in the AMA readily comes across, as does her passion for improving processes and ensuring that justice and equity are built into them. She is curious and empathetic by nature, which makes her eager to acquire new knowledge, gain others' perspectives, and try to understand every angle of an issue. Over the years, she has demonstrated an adept navigation of the AMA's processes and an ability to understand the perspectives of the various stakeholders in facilitating an amicable end point. Because of her leadership and skill set, she would be a superb addition to the AMA Council on Constitution and Bylaws. Her combination of content and process expertise in the organization, along with her deep experience in the nuances of running two sections of the AMA as chair make her an exceptional candidate for this role.

Personal statement

"Our AMA Council on Constitution and Bylaws is vital to ensuring that the rules and regulations that we create serve to assist our AMA House of Delegates in creating the best policy for our physicians and patients. Council members must be strong leaders, experienced, knowledgeable, passionate, committed and consistent. They must have an eye for detail, know and understand the structure of the AMA Sections and Councils, and understand parliamentary procedure. I look forward to promoting your voice and advocacy by upholding the governance of our AMA through a strong foundation of process and procedure."

Sherri Baker, MD

[AMA candidate web page](#)



Sherri Baker, MD, is a pediatric cardiologist, dean of admissions for the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine as well as a long-time AMA member and advocate. Her reelection to the AMA Council on Medical Education will enhance the critical work of the council.

Dr. Baker attended the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine, where she was involved in advocacy through medical associations at the county, state and national level. After medical school, she had the opportunity to move to Hawaii for her pediatric residency and then completed a fellowship in pediatric cardiology at Duke University. After her training, she returned home in June 2001, to practice pediatric cardiology at her alma mater.

Dr. Baker was then quickly elected to the Oklahoma delegation to the AMA in April 2002. She has served at all levels in the Oklahoma State Medical Association, serving ultimately as speaker of the House of Delegates and president.

Since her election in July 2021, she has served as the only pediatrician on the council. In addition, she is the only council member with expertise in the undergraduate medical education admissions. This has been critical as the council has considered the issues surrounding in person vs virtual interviews for both medical school admissions and the graduate medical education process are significantly different.

Dr. Baker maintains a busy clinical academic practice and has served as dean of admissions since 2008. She has led a team that revised the school's admissions process to a quantitative, evidence-based system using holistic review. At the GME level, she is involved in teaching and mentorship. In 2024, she completed her recertification and thus is very familiar with issues surrounding CME.

Dr. Baker has been deeply influenced by her time in Hawaii. The exposure to multiple backgrounds and cultures was a time of large personal growth. These experiences as well as growing up an "Okie" in Indian Territory has allowed her to contribute to recent council issues such as use of blood quantum for Native American's, and how to deliver care to the disadvantaged populations we serve.

Now, Dr. Baker would like to continue to use her years of experience in both daily practice and various levels of medical education and advocacy to continue the work of the AMA Council on Medical Education.

The Oklahoma State Medical Association, Oklahoma County Medical Society, Oklahoma Rural Physician Section and Tulsa Medical Society is joined by the Southeastern Delegation to the AMA, American Academy of Pediatrics, the CV Section Council in asking for your vote to re-elect Sherri Baker, MD, to the Council on Medical Education.

Personal statement

"After completing a critical procedure on a newborn, a medical student looked up to me with tears in their eyes. I told them, 'We do not have the luxury of crying during a code. You can cry afterward, but not during the code.' Later, as I reviewed the heartfelt notes I have received from families, I was moved. It reminded me that while the technical aspects of medicine are crucial, it is the human side—compassion and strength in moments of crisis—that truly defines our role as caregivers."

Council on Medical Education

Lou Edje, MD, MHPE

[AMA candidate web page](#)



Inspired by her mother's lifelong commitment to teaching, Lou Edje, MD, MHPE, FAAFP, became interested in the evidence-based role teaching plays in medical education, leading her to earn a master's in health professions education at the University of Michigan Medical School where she is the senior associate dean of medical education.

Dr. Edje, long involved in local and state medical organizations, has put her expertise to work on the AMA Council on Medical Education chairing the nominating committee which provides a slate of nominees to the Board of Trustees for over 42 medical entities. She has the privilege of serving on the council's executive committee. Our council has authored over thirty reports during

Dr. Edje's tenure. She has served as member-at-large in the Organized Medical Staff Section, as a member of the Academic Physicians Section, on reference committees, and testifying on behalf of learners, educators, her state, and collaborative stakeholders. She has also had the privilege of serving as chair of Reference Committee C. As former managing partner of a large, independent, private practice group; chief of staff at a community hospital, and in medical education leadership at three major health systems, she has worked with early, mid and late career physicians across a range of practice models to help maintain their expertise through the master adaptive learner framework.

As a candidate for re-election to the Council on Medical Education, Dr. Edje brings a threefold set of excellent qualifications:

- **CONNECTED to all three stages of medical education** with substantive leadership experience in undergraduate, graduate, and continuing medical education
- **CONNECTED to a full spectrum of specialties** as servant leader of 680 medicals students, 1300 residents and fellows, 100 program directors and 4000 faculty across all specialties
- **CONNECTED to the future of medical education** as the medical education generative artificial intelligence lead at her institution guiding how we approach medical education curriculum, faculty development, assessment, as well as ethics and governance in a rapidly changing medical education ecosystem

She is most proud of her AMA appointment to the Review Committee for Family Medicine of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education where she is chair, supporting the accreditation of over 1300 family medicine core residencies and fellowship in sports medicine, geriatrics, addiction medicine, clinical informatics, as well as hospice and palliative care.

For her continued service and leadership, the Michigan State Medical Society and Michigan Delegation proudly nominate Dr. Edje and, respectfully, ask for your vote in support of **Dr. Lou Edje for re-election to the AMA Council on Medical Education**. They are joined in their enthusiastic endorsement of Dr. Edje by the American Academy of Family Physicians, Great Lakes States Coalition, Michigan Academy of Family Physicians, Minority Affairs Section, and the Washtenaw County Medical Society.

Personal statement

"My personal mission is to have a transformative impact on individual learners across the full spectrum of their lifelong learning, the teams which support them, and the medical ecosystems in which they live."

Council on Medical Education

Joseph M. Maurice, MD, MS

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists proudly nominates Joseph M. Maurice, MD, MS, FACOG, for election to the AMA Council on Medical Education. The Nebraska Medical Association endorses his candidacy.

Dr. Maurice is a thoughtful, effective educator. Dr. Maurice dedicates his career to patient care and medical education, with over 20 years of experience in academic medicine. He is at the forefront of this critical medicine component at the undergraduate, graduate, and continuing medical education levels. Dr. Maurice has been a delegate for the American Medical Association (AMA), representing the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopy (AAGL) since 2016. His dedication to AAGL at the AMA has been transformational. His

advocacy for AAGL members has helped foster an understanding of the importance of representation in the House of Medicine.

Dr. Maurice has an extensive background in medical education. He has served various roles, including associate medical school clerkship director at Rush University Medical Center. Dr. Maurice started an ACGME-approved residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the Carle Illinois College of Medicine. Additionally, he began an AAGL-affiliated, minimally invasive gynecologic surgery fellowship at Creighton University School of Medicine. At the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine, he served as the associate head of faculty development, where he marshaled the academic promotion of his faculty members. He is the former chair of obstetrics and gynecology at Creighton University School of Medicine. Currently, Dr. Maurice is the associate head of surgical services at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine.

Dr. Maurice's vision for medical education is rooted in two key pillars:

1. Competency-based education: Dr. Maurice believes we must transition from time-based to outcomes-based training and ensure our graduates possess the skills and knowledge necessary to provide high-quality care.
2. Integration of technology: Dr. Maurice believes that the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence and virtual reality necessitates a curriculum that teaches their use and cultivates critical thinking to leverage these tools effectively.

Dr. Maurice believes that numerous challenges directly impact medical education:

1. Physician Shortages: Dr. Maurice believes we must address the projected shortage of 124,000 physicians by 2034.
2. Cyber Security: Dr. Maurice believes we must integrate robust cyber security training to protect and maintain patient data and the integrity of our health care systems.

Personal statement

*"I am dedicated to fostering innovation and excellence in medical education. **I am eager to contribute to the Council.** Together, we can build a more resilient and dynamic medical education framework that empowers current and future physicians to deliver exceptional care and improve health outcomes for all patients. My ability to enhance undergraduate, graduate, and continuing medical education aligns perfectly with the Council on Medical Education's goals. Thank you for considering my candidacy. I respectfully ask for your vote."*

Kevin H. McKinney, MD

[AMA candidate web page](#)



A thoughtful and proven leader for the AMA Council on Medical Education.

Dr. McKinney has more than 30 years in medical education leadership and has successfully met the many challenges facing medical education to ensure tomorrow's physicians are highly trained.

Currently, he is the director of the Division of Endocrinology at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB), where he leads an academic division of 15 clinical, research, and education faculty. Dr. McKinney works full-time as a clinician and inpatient endocrinology consultant.

McKinney has been involved at every level of medical education leadership and has a long history of leading teams, building consensus, and moving complicated solutions forward. He has led medical education at the undergraduate UME, GME, and CME levels, and understands today's pressing issues.

His long tenure at UTMB as a course director has allowed him to work with the school's Department of Medical Education leadership to ensure UTMB's success through two LCME renewal cycles.

His five-year stint on the Texas Medical Association's Council on Medical Education, two years as the chair, has given him immense knowledge on medical workforce issues, rural education, medical licensing, graduate medical education financing, and inter-specialty training requirements.

If elected to the AMA Council on Medical Education, he will bring his experience and practicality to shape the future efforts of the council as it addresses issues impacting physicians' education.

Personal statement

"Medical education in the United States is in a never-ending process of iterative change and technological advancement. The AMA has the unique position of working with various bodies to improve the competencies and soft skills of our students, house staff, and practicing physicians. My 30 years of medical education has given me the practical experience to help shape the future of medical education. I would like to ensure that our trainees be equipped with competencies that are important for medical practice in our rapidly diversifying country and world. It is our job to ensure that such competencies remain high-quality, yet accessible. My election to the council will allow me to help work with our other council members to reach those goals."

Scott H. Pasichow, MD, MPH

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) is excited to announce the candidacy of Scott H. Pasichow, MD, MPH, for the Council on Medical Education. Dr. Pasichow is endorsed by The Medical Society of New Jersey, the Specialty and Service Society, and the Mobility Caucus.

Dr. Pasichow is an assistant professor of emergency medicine at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School in Newark, N.J., where he serves as core faculty, and is an assistant medical director for education and simulation for University Hospital's Emergency Medical Services. During residency at Brown University in Providence, R.I., he developed Rhode Island's first Emergency Medicine Advocacy Day, which led to the creation of the "Pasichow Advocacy Award."

Dr. Pasichow is a former speaker of the AMA Resident and Fellow Section (RFS), and served on multiple RFS and HOD reference committees, including serving as chair. He has also served as vice speaker and speaker of the Emergency Medicine Residents Association (EMRA) and is vice chair of the Bylaws Committee for ACEP.

Dr. Pasichow's experience serving as a liaison between organizations is well suited for the collaborative work that the Council on Medical Education does with the ACGME, ABMS, and other medical education organizations. As a member of EMRA's board of directors, he served on the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) Family Leave Taskforce, and on ABEM's Coalition to Oppose Medical Merit Badges. Dr. Pasichow has been working with ABEM on developing their new Certifying Exam.

During his time in the AMA's House of Delegates, Dr. Pasichow has authored resolutions on trainee family leave policy, core faculty protected time, and a broad definition of scholarly activity. His work on scholarly activity highlighted the Boyer's Model of knowledge translation, which is now a foundation for the emergency medicine program requirements for resident scholarly activity.

Dr. Pasichow is married to an accomplished disease ecologist at Columbia University, has two young children, and two adopted pit-bull type dogs. He is an avid hockey fan, and rec-league hockey player.

Personal statement

"It has been a privilege to represent Emergency Medicine within the AMA for the past 8 years, and I am excited about the opportunity to serve as a member of the Council on Medical Education. I have spent my time in medicine focused on mentorship, training, and education, facilitating access of diverse voices to the rooms where decisions are made. My experience as a trainee and new father with a partner completing her PhD inspired my advocacy for increased equality in family leave policies, and seeing my family struggle to access gender-affirming care has inspired my education and advocacy in support of these communities. We are at the start of a huge change in AMA policy on medical education, and navigating many challenging years ahead where the value of the work we do will be questioned at the high levels in our government. I am uniquely qualified to take on the challenges and struggles ahead, and will continue to use my voice and empathy to help advance medical education. I respectfully ask for one of your votes for the Council on Medical Education."

Council on Medical Education

David Savage, MD, PhD

[AMA candidate web page](#)



David Savage, MD, PhD, is honored to seek election as a councilor for the AMA's Council on Medical Education. A dedicated AMA member since 2009, he has committed his career to mentoring, curriculum development, and advocating for the next generation of physicians. He is proudly endorsed by the PacWest Caucus, the New Mexico Medical Society, the Cancer Care Caucus, and the Association for Clinical Oncology.

Dr. Savage has a distinguished record of AMA service, including two prior terms as a councilor for the CME, representing the MSS and RFS while in training. He has also served as speaker for both the MSS and RFS. His leadership has given him deep insight into the challenges and opportunities in medical education

and physician training.

His passion for medical education began early. In medical school, he served on the Curriculum Redesign Committee at McGovern Medical School for three years and presented at the AAMC's Learn Serve Lead conference. As a member of the inaugural National Advisory Panel for the AMA's Accelerating Change in Medical Education initiative (2013–2018), he contributed to physician training reforms. During residency at the Cleveland Clinic, he participated in the first Clinician Educator Track, building a telemedicine training curriculum for peers during the pandemic. He later served as chief educational fellow during his hematology/oncology fellowship at Scripps in La Jolla, Calif.

Now an assistant professor in medical oncology at the University of New Mexico, Dr. Savage enjoys teaching clinical reasoning and mentoring trainees. He currently supports three mentees in their medical oncology research and career development. During residency, he was awarded an ACGME grant to develop a curriculum on breaking bad news, and now he teaches first-year doctoring and clinical reasoning courses for the UNM School of Medicine. Dr. Savage currently serves on the New Mexico Medical Society's CME committee.

As a councilor for the AMA's CME, Dr. Savage will serve as a content expert for the HOD on physician training and trainee wellness. Issues he's worked on previously have included improving the residency/fellowship recruitment process through holistic candidate review, supporting fair wages, advocating for medical and parental leave for trainees, promoting inclusivity, and ensuring a protected learning environment free from undue encroachment by non-physician providers.

With his extensive experience in medical education, prior service on the CME, and leadership within the AMA, Dr. Savage is well-positioned to be a strong voice on the council. As a physician-scientist and dedicated mentor, he brings a unique perspective and a deep commitment to advancing medical education. He would be honored to have your support.

Personal statement

"My AMA membership and leadership experiences have been among the most rewarding aspects of my training and career. The friendships I've made here are priceless, and this year marks my 16th as an AMA member! Through the AMA, I've had countless opportunities to expand my expertise in medical education, and I am eager to give back to the HOD by once again serving on the AMA CME."

Council on Medical Education, resident/fellow

Joey Whelihan MD

[AMA candidate web page](#)



Medical education is at a pivotal moment, and the decisions we make today will shape the future of our profession. As a pediatrician and adolescent medicine fellow, I have spent my career advocating for a strong, well-supported physician workforce—one that is equipped to meet the evolving needs of our patients and communities. Through my leadership in the AMA Resident and Fellow Section and my work in medical education policy, I have championed solutions to strengthen residency and fellowship training while ensuring that all trainees have the tools they need to succeed.

If elected to the Council on Medical Education, I will focus on three key priorities:

- **Advancing Excellence in Medical Training:** Residency and fellowship should be a time of growth, learning, and professional development. I will work to ensure that education remains at the center of training programs by supporting policies that promote high-quality mentorship and pipeline programs, robust clinical experiences within all domains of medicine, and well-being initiatives that help prevent burnout. At the center of this must remain our commitment to embedding equity and inclusion initiatives into all levels of the medical education system. A diverse workforce will help to meet the needs of our rapidly diversifying nation.
- **Strengthening Protections for Physicians in Training:** Residents and fellows are the backbone of our health care system. I will advocate for fair working conditions, equitable compensation, and policies that protect trainees from mistreatment and ensure a safe, supportive learning environment.
- **Ensuring Sustainable Funding for Graduate Medical Education:** A strong physician workforce requires stable and sufficient investment in training programs. I will push for increased federal support for GME to ensure that funding keeps pace with workforce needs, allowing for the expansion of residency positions in critical specialties and underserved areas.

I am honored to have the endorsement of the AMA Resident and Fellow Section, where I have served as a delegate, alternate delegate, and chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation and Advocacy. My experience in medical education policy—both within the AMA and through my work at local institutions—has prepared me to advocate effectively for residents and fellows across all specialties.

Physicians enter medicine to care for others, and we deserve a training system that supports our ability to do so. I am committed to working with colleagues across the House of Medicine to build a stronger, more sustainable future for medical education. I respectfully ask for your support and your vote.

Alain A. Chaoui, MD

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS), New England Delegation, and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) proudly endorse the candidacy of Alain A. Chaoui, MD, FAAFP, for re-election to the Council on Medical Service.

Dr. Chaoui has been a steadfast advocate for physicians, effectively voicing critical issues at local, state, and national levels. As president of the MMS, he enhanced diversity and led strategic initiatives, including forming a women's section within the society and broadening the membership base.

"Over the past four years, I have worked hard with my colleagues on the Council on Medical Service on your behalf. Our council has been instrumental in addressing critical health care issues, working actively on policies to enhance consumer-driven health care with an emphasis on patient choice and physician autonomy. We have been at the forefront of delivery reform initiatives, ensuring systems promote strong patient-physician relationships, and have tackled the complexities of drug coverage and spending to improve patient adherence and outcomes. The Council has also focused on telemedicine and telehealth, navigating the challenges and opportunities these technologies present while advocating for policies that expand access and reduce costs. Our work on Medicare payment reform, Medicaid, and insurance reforms has been vital in ensuring these programs are responsive to the needs of both patients and physicians."

"As a private practice physician, I bring a much-needed perspective to the Council's policy discussions, ensuring they are comprehensive and attuned to the needs of frontline doctors and their patients. My frontline experience in primary care provides valuable insights into the practical implications of health care policies, consumer-driven care, delivery reform, drug coverage, and telemedicine integration. Our collective experience ensure that policy development is grounded in the real-world challenges faced by patients and doctors, particularly in the areas of Medicare payment reform, Medicaid, and insurance reforms."

Dr. Chaoui, a committed AMA member, advocates for improved physician work environments and supports future medical professionals. His office regularly hosts medical students for clinical training, benefiting from his mentorship.

Dr. Chaoui, president of Congenial Healthcare, LLC, founded in 2018, has implemented a behavioral integration model to address addiction and mental health in underserved populations. Collaborating with Harvard School of Public Health colleagues, he has tackled physician burnout, labeling it a public health crisis and proposing actionable solutions to revitalize medical practice.

Dr. Chaoui's re-election to the Council on Medical Service will ensure that the voices of practicing physicians are heard, and that policies are informed by the real-world challenges and opportunities faced by doctors and their patients. His continued leadership will support the council's mission to develop policies that improve health care delivery and patient outcomes.

Dr. Alain Chaoui has enjoyed the opportunity to serve the AMA and respectfully asks for your vote for re-election to the Council on Medical Service.

Laura Faye Gephart, MD, MBA

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists is thrilled to nominate Dr. Laura Faye Gephart MD, MBA, FACOG, UPRS, to the Council on Medical Service. A specialist in urogynecology and reconstructive pelvic surgery in Erie, Pa., Dr. Gephart also serves as the Allegheny Health Network's chair of the Northern Institute Clinician Council where she leads and advocates for physician needs within the Western Pennsylvania integrated health network.

Endorsed by her home state of Pennsylvania and the AMA's Specialty and Service Society, Dr. Gephart is a well-known face within our House of medicine. She is past chair of the Young Physician Section, served on the Governing Council of the Medical Student Section twice, and she served as the resident and fellow member on the Council on Medical Service. Her years on CMS demonstrated that this council is a natural fit for her passion and skill set. With a deep understanding of the report and policy making process, Dr. Gephart believes our policy should be proactive and regularly updated to reflect the current practice of medicine.

Her Master of Business Administration with a focus in health care administration laid the foundation for her expertise in health system reform and funding. Her exposure to the practice of medicine in California, Washington, D.C., Florida, and Texas during her years of training highlighted the breadth of practice patterns, settings and funding mechanisms. Her leadership roles at Saint Vincent Hospital, part of a large health system, show her the daily impact of private equity, regulation, antiquated reimbursement, urbanization, staffing shortages, and physician burnout.

Involved in organized medicine since day one of medical school, she has served on multiple state medical societies' boards of trustees and PAC boards. She currently serves as treasurer of the Pennsylvania Medical Society PAC, member of the Bylaws Committee, and immediate past chair of the Early Career Physician Section. She knows the value of a sponsor and a mentor and seeks to elevate those that will inherit the practice of medicine. In Erie, she educates medical students and residents looking to improve their knowledge of pelvic health and facilitates their involvement in organized medicine.

Dr. Gephart is a vociferous champion for our profession, the public health and our patients. Her ability to listen, understand and advocate ensures that she will elevate our policy as a member of the council.

Personal statement

"My vision of the practice of medicine is one where patient and population health outcomes are maximized while maintaining choice, freedom of practice and equitable compensation for physicians as the head of the health care team."

Steven Wang, MD, MBA

[AMA candidate web page](#)



With a proven track record of leadership, clinical excellence, and advocacy, Steven Wang, MD, MBA, is exceptionally qualified to serve on the AMA Council on Medical Service and is proudly endorsed by the PacWest Conference, the California Medical Association (CMA) and the AMA Radiology Section Council.

After completing his radiology residency and breast imaging fellowship at Yale New Haven Hospital, Dr. Wang joined Kaiser Permanente Kern County, where he played a pivotal role establishing the radiology department. His foundation in medicine is complemented by a degree in electrical engineering and computer science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, underscoring an ability to integrate technology and medicine to drive innovation. He is now the radiology informatics/IT lead for the Southern California Permanente Medical Group.

Dr. Wang strongly believes it is important in our profession to contribute to organized medicine. He has held key leadership positions within the Kern County Medical Society (KCMS), receiving the KCMS Outstanding Physician of the Year award in 2019 and later serving as president. Dr. Wang is deeply involved with the CMA, where he chairs the Council on Medical Service Subcommittee on Health IT and is vice chair of CMA's District VI, a collection of medical societies serving mostly rural and underserved communities. Past roles include chair of the CMA Young Physician Section and board member of CMA's political action committee.

Furthermore, Dr. Wang is founder and chair of California Radiological Society's Government Affairs Committee. His work in government relations has led him to be heavily involved in legislation and regulation, taking up topics ranging from patient privacy to artificial intelligence. His expertise in policy has also led to an appointment to the California Department of Public Health's Radiologic Technology Certification Committee.

As delegate for AMA's Integrated Physician Practice Section, Dr. Wang works hard to advance AMA policy, authoring resolutions that address pain points for physicians and patients, such as his recent resolution "Addressing Social Determinants of Health Through Closed Loop Referral Systems." As delegate, he has always held that his most important role is to facilitate collaboration and understanding, and to interface with the states and specialty societies that comprise the AMA House.

Please join Dr. Wang's endorsing organizations in supporting his election to the AMA Council on Medical Service.

Personal statement

"Right now, we face an unprecedented crisis in health care. We are faced with a maelstrom of issues, ranging from unsustainable payment rates, ruinous physician burnout, serious threats to our public health infrastructure, to the simple fact that our patients are not able to afford or access care.

"Medicine is a noble profession and a calling. I see the crisis, and I can only respond, 'what can I do?' As a member of the Council of Medical Service, I promise to dedicate myself towards a health care system we can be proud of, one that restores the joy in medicine, preserves the sanctity of the physician-patient relationship, and achieves quality, affordable, and accessible care for all."

Kavita Shah Arora, MD, MBE, MS

[AMA candidate web page](#)



The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) is proud to nominate Kavita Shah Arora, MD, MBE, MS, for election to the AMA Council on Science and Public Health. Dr. Arora is endorsed by the North Carolina Medical Society and the Specialty and Service Society.

Dr. Arora is a board-certified ob/gyn and professor at the University of North Carolina. She serves as the division director for general obstetrics, gynecology, and midwifery where she oversees a division of 56 clinicians. Since joining UNC in 2021, she has hired more than 10 clinicians, reinvigorated the research fellowship, improved access to care and quality in health outcomes, created a more positive culture, and assisted with improving services to rural partners.

Dr. Arora excels across the tripartite mission of clinical care, research, and education. She is clinically active as a full-scope ob/gyn providing care in the operating room, labor and delivery, and outpatient ambulatory clinics. She has authored over 135 peer-reviewed publications and has been funded by the NIH and published in high-impact journals like *JAMA*. She serves on an NIH council and was awarded the PECASE award by President Biden, the nation's highest award for early career scientists. She enjoys teaching medical students, residents, and fellows clinically and in research.

Previously, Dr. Arora was in practice at a county hospital as well as the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio. As the first gynecologist directly hired by the second busiest VA in the country, she successfully led the creation of a busy outpatient and surgical service.

Dr. Arora has been active in organized medicine since 2006 and has served in numerous leadership positions throughout the Federation at the local, state, and federal level. At the AMA, she has served on the Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs as well as on the Governing Council of the Young Physician Section. She has served as the Greenwall Fellow in Bioethics for the National Academy of Medicine, chair of the national ethics committee of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and on the board of directors of the American Society for Bioethics and the Humanities. She was named a 40 under 40 leader in minority health by the National Minority Quality Forum. In May, she begins service to the national Board of ACOG.

She is married to Hans Arora, a pediatric urologist, and has two children—Prem and Priya—who were founding attendees of CampAMA.

Personal statement

"Our science and public health policy should be evidence-based, equitable, and ethical. As a scientist and public health researcher with a background in bioethics, I have the expertise, experience, and energy needed to serve well in these challenging times. This is especially true in our current era of misinformation, disinformation, and increasing politicization of facts since clear communication of complex topics is paramount.

"I still remember my excitement when attending my first AMA meeting as a 1st year medical student at A-2006. Now, as A-2025 will mark my 39th consecutive national meeting, that excitement only continues to grow as this House has truly become AMA family. I respectfully ask for your vote for CSAPH."

Jennifer Bryan, MD

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As a family physician, health policy leader and lifelong advocate for physician-led, evidence-based care, I am honored to seek election to the American Medical Association Council on Science and Public Health. My career has been dedicated to protecting patient safety, advancing science-driven health care policy and ensuring that physicians remain central in shaping public health decisions. I am eager to bring my experience, leadership and passion to the council to help guide the future of medicine at the national level.

I currently serve as president of the Mississippi State Medical Association and chair of the Mississippi delegation to the AMA, where I have led key initiatives in public health, scope of practice and physician advocacy. Recognizing the need for a sustained physician-led response to evolving health challenges, I commissioned and continue to lead the MSMA-Mississippi Department of Health Public Health Priorities Committee, formerly the COVID-19 Clinical Operations Committee, which has met continuously since the pandemic's onset. This collaboration has ensured physicians drive Mississippi's public health strategy, providing evidence-based guidance in crisis and beyond.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, I served as a trusted physician spokesperson, expanding my influence by providing clear, science-based information to the public and policymakers. This role extended beyond Mississippi as I became a nationally recognized voice for organized medicine in media discussions on pandemic response, vaccine policy and public health preparedness. My ability to translate complex medical and policy issues into accessible messaging has helped shape informed health decisions at both state and national levels.

My commitment to public health extends beyond advocacy to tangible policy achievements. I successfully authored AMA policies addressing the dangers of tianeptine and kratom, two unregulated substances that threaten patient safety. Through persistent advocacy and science-driven work, tianeptine has been removed from Mississippi shelves. I continue to lead efforts for stronger national regulation of kratom. These successes underscore my ability to turn public health concerns into actionable policies that protect patients and reinforce the integrity of medicine.

As a longtime AMA delegate and national leader in organized medicine, I have worked to defend the physician-led care model and uphold the highest standards of medical practice. I have served on the AMA Scope of Practice Partnership Steering Committee, advocating for policies that ensure patient safety remains the priority in health care decision-making. My leadership extends to legislative efforts, mentoring future physician leaders and ensuring physicians—not nonphysician policymakers or industry interests—shape the future of medicine.

I bring to the council a proven record of leadership, strategic vision and a deep commitment to evidence-based policy. I believe in the power of science and public health to improve lives, protect our profession and ensure the highest quality of care for all patients. I respectfully ask for your support in this election and the opportunity to continue this critical work at the national level.

Thank you for your consideration.