

## Senior Physicians Section (AMA-SPS)

Officer At-large (two positions)

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### Name

Edward W. Capparelli

### Credentials

MD

### Pronouns

He/Him



### Statement of interest

After a decade of serving as a medical missionary in rural Honduras, I moved to east Tennessee to work with a community health center program treating migrant farm workers in 1993. Shortly after my arrival, Tennessee completely revised its Medicaid program to TennCare causing a series of problems and pushing me to get active with the Tennessee Medical Association.

In the ensuing years I became increasingly more active serving as chairman of several committees, speaker of the house, and eventually president. In traveling across the state as president I became aware of stress and burnout among the physician population. Each age group faces unique challenges, but the seniors needs were not being addressed. While president, I attended two A.M.A meetings and learned about the Senior Physicians Section. I am currently presenting a resolution to establish a S.P.S. within the T.M.A..

Seniors are a wealth of knowledge and experience that have much to offer organized medicine. That resource is currently being underutilized. In trying to become an AMA delegate for my state I was told by the state CEO that I was too old to be considered. It is time for us seniors to stand up and be recognized for what we have to offer and what our unique needs are. I want to be part of that solution.

## **Diversity statement**

Although I am a Caucasian heterosexual male, I also am an employed rural physician both of which are underrepresented groups. I have worked as a practicing primary care physician for over 40 years, having served in leadership positions at the local, hospital, regional, state, and national levels working with individuals of all different gender, race, and orientation positions. I have served in peer review committees at regional levels often defending stances of physicians being brought before those committees.