

## AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION RESIDENT AND FELLOW SECTION (I-25)

Report of Reference Committee

Jacob Altholz, MD, Chair

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1 Your Reference Committee recommends the following consent calendar for acceptance:

2 **RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION**

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4 1. Late Resolution 2 – Clarifying the Medical Student Section's and Resident and  
5 Fellow Section's Abilities to Fill Temporary Vacancies in Accordance with the AMA  
6 Bylaws  
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8 2. Late Resolution 3 – Sustaining Ethical Leadership Through Continued Support of the  
9 *AMA Journal of Ethics*

10 **RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION AS AMENDED**

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12 3. Late Resolution 1 – Amendments to the Resident and Fellow Section Internal  
13 Operating Procedures  
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## 1 RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION 2

3 (1) LATE RESOLUTION 2 - CLARIFYING THE MEDICAL  
4 STUDENT SECTION'S AND RESIDENT AND FELLOW  
5 SECTION'S ABILITIES TO FILL TEMPORARY VACANCIES  
6 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMA BYLAWS  
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8 **RECOMMENDATION:**  
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10 **Late Resolution 2 be adopted.**  
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12 **RFS ACTION: Late Resolution 2 adopted.**  
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15 RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association Bylaws be amended to explicitly affirm  
16 the ability of the Resident and Fellow Section to appoint substitute resident and fellow  
17 sectional delegates and alternate delegates as well as temporary substitute resident and  
18 fellow sectional delegates in accordance with procedures adopted by the Section as all other  
19 delegations to the House of Delegates are able to and without being held to a higher threshold  
20 of election; and be it further  
21

22 RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association Bylaws be amended to explicitly affirm  
23 the ability of the Medical Student Section to appoint substitute medical student regional  
24 delegates and alternate delegates as well as temporary substitute medical student regional  
25 delegates in accordance with procedures adopted by the Section as all other delegations to  
26 the House of Delegates are able to and without being held to a higher threshold of election;  
27 and be it further  
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29 RESOLVED, that our AMA-RFS immediately forward this resolution to the AMA House of  
30 Delegates at the 2025 Interim Meeting.  
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32 Your Reference Committee recommends Late Resolution 2 be adopted. The context of this  
33 resolution is complex, however in summary, a reinterpretation of the current AMA Bylaws by  
34 the current HOD Speakers has meant that the traditional method of filling RFS vacancies with  
35 appointments has ceased given a Bylaw that states RFS Sectional Delegates are elected.  
36 The AMA Speakers hold that all who sit in the HOD must therefore be elected even if  
37 temporarily. This decision has been sent to the Council on Ethics and Judicial Affairs (CEJA)  
38 for evaluation and ruling, however their decision will not be received before the Interim  
39 Meeting and therefore the GC felt it was necessary to create a resolution directly asking for  
40 the conflict within the Bylaws to be resolved. Some concern was expressed by Reference  
41 Committee members that the wording of the resolved clauses was somewhat cumbersome,  
42 however there is an identical resolution moving forward in the Medical Student Section (MSS)  
43 given essentially identical concerns for their Section Delegation and the hope is that the MSS  
44 and RFS will be able to jointly present a resolution that will be available for consideration to  
45 the HOD as soon as possible to rectify the conflict. In this context and noting that this  
46 resolution would also be available for consideration and amendment within the larger HOD as  
47 necessary, your Reference Committee recommends Late Resolution 2 be adopted.  
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1 (2) LATE RESOLUTION 3 – SUSTAINING ETHICAL  
2 LEADERSHIP THROUGH CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE  
3 AMA JOURNAL OF ETHICS  
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5 **RECOMMENDATION:**

6 **Late Resolution 3 be adopted.**

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10 **RFS ACTION: Late Resolution 3 adopted.**

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13 RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association support the continued work,  
14 dissemination, and publication of the AMA Journal of Ethics to address ethical challenges in  
15 healthcare; and be it further

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17 RESOLVED, that our AMA reaffirm its commitment to sustaining accessible, physician-led  
18 ethics education and discourse; and be it further

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20 RESOLVED, that this resolution be immediately forwarded to the AMA House of Delegates at  
21 the 2025 Interim Meeting.

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23 Your Reference Committee recommends Late Resolution 3 be adopted. As it currently stands,  
24 the AMA Journal of Ethics is scheduled to cease publication in December of this year. The  
25 ask of the resolution is reasonable and timely given the recently announced decision to  
26 discontinue publication. It is worth noting that should this resolution pass, it is unclear the  
27 timeline that AMA might take in order to continue publication. Some discussion surrounded  
28 striking the third resolve given concern that passing the first two resolved clauses may not  
29 actually lead to continued publication as written. This seems unlikely, however, as the explicit  
30 ask is for the continued publication and given the timeliness of the issue, the decision was  
31 made to retain the third resolve clause. Consideration was also given to striking the second  
32 resolve clause as reaffirmation is not being considered by the HOD from forwarded resolutions  
33 given that it does not actively change policy, however this resolve clause does not refer to any  
34 specific policy and therefore should not likely face this barrier per discussion with staff.  
35 Therefore, your Reference Committee recommends Late Resolution 3 be adopted.

## 1 RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION AS AMENDED

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3 (3) LATE RESOLUTION 1 – AMENDMENTS TO THE RESIDENT  
4 AND FELLOW SECTION INTERNAL OPERATING  
5 PROCEDURES

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### 7 RECOMMENDATION A:

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9 The First Resolve of Late Resolution 1 be amended by  
10 addition to read as follows:

12 RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association  
13 Resident and Fellow Section (AMA-RFS) amend our  
14 Internal Operating Procedures section V.A.1 by addition  
15 and deletion to read as follows:

16

#### A. Timing of Elections and Endorsements.

1. The following elections shall be held at during the RFS  
Interim Business Meeting:
  - a. Governing Council: Chair-Elect.
  - b. Sectional Delegates and Sectional Alternate  
Delegates.
  - c. Endorsements for elections ~~that take place at the next  
Annual meeting of the AMA House of Delegates including,  
but not limited to, of the resident/fellow position on the  
Board of Trustees and the resident/fellow position on  
elected AMA Councils so long as these endorsements are  
obtained no later than six months before the election.~~

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### 30 RECOMMENDATION B:

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32 The Second Resolve of Late Resolution 1 be amended by  
33 addition to read as follows:

35 RESOLVED, that our AMA-RFS amend our the version of  
36 the RFS IOPs submitted for Board approval at A-25, section  
37 V.C., by addition and deletion to read as follows:

38

#### C. Special Election

- i. There shall may be a special election at the RFS Business  
Meeting of every Annual meeting to fill permanent  
vacancies in the Sectional Delegate and Sectional  
Alternate Delegate roster.
- ii. Election procedures will be the same as the regular  
election as outlined in V.H.
- iii. Elected Sectional Delegates and Sectional Alternate  
Delegates will serve at the following Interim Meeting  
immediately following their election and conclude at the  
close of the next Interim meeting of the House of  
Delegates.

1           d. Temporary vacancies shall be filled using the  
2           procedures outlined in RFS IOP VIII.G  
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4           **RECOMMENDATION C:**  
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6           The Third Resolve of Late Resolution 1 be amended by  
7           addition to read as follows:  
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9           RESOLVED, that our AMA-RFS amend our IOPs section  
10           VI.B.3. by addition and deletion to read as follows:  
11           3. The Resident/Fellow Trustee shall represent the voice of  
12           the residents and fellows on the Board and may provide  
13           guidance to the RFS Governing Council and RFS standing  
14           committees.  
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16           **RECOMMENDATION D:**  
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18           The Fourth Resolve of Late Resolution 1 be amended by  
19           addition and deletion to read as follows:  
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21           RESOLVED, that our AMA-RFS amend our IOPs section  
22           IX.D.2.d. by addition and deletion to read as follows:  
23           The Governing Council shall review the application and  
24           make a recommendation to the RFS Assembly, subject to  
25           Board of Trustees approval. Business Meeting regarding  
26           whether if it recommends that the organization be granted  
27           representation in the Resident and Fellow Section  
28           Business Meeting. The recommendation shall be submitted  
29           to the AMA Board of Trustees for review. If approved by the  
30           AMA Board of Trustees, the organization may be  
31           represented in the Resident and Fellow Section Business  
32           Meeting. The Assembly Business Meeting shall then vote  
33           to determine whether the organization shall be granted  
34           representation in the Business Meeting.  
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36           **RECOMMENDATION E:**  
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38           Late Resolution 1 be adopted as amended.  
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41           **RFS ACTION: Late Resolution 1 adopted as amended.**  
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43           **ADOPTED LANGUAGE:**  
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45           RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association Resident and Fellow Section  
46           (AMA-RFS) amend our Internal Operating Procedures section V.A.1 by addition and  
47           deletion to read as follows:  
48            A. Timing of Elections and Endorsements.

1       1. The following elections shall be held at during the RFS Interim Business  
2       Meeting:  
3           a. Governing Council: Chair-Elect.  
4           b. Sectional Delegates and Sectional Alternate Delegates.  
5           c. ~~Endorsements for elections that take place at the next Annual  
6           meeting of the AMA House of Delegates including, but not  
7           limited to, of the resident/fellow position on the Board of  
8           Trustees and the resident/fellow position on elected AMA  
9           Councils so long as these endorsements are obtained no later  
10           than six months before the election.; and be it further~~

11      RESOLVED, that our AMA-RFS amend the version of the RFS IOPs submitted for  
12     Board approval at A-25, section V.C., by addition and deletion to read as follows:

13       C . Special Election

14           i. ~~There shall~~ may be a special election at the RFS Business Meeting of  
15           every Annual meeting to fill permanent vacancies in the Sectional  
16           Delegate and Sectional Alternate Delegate roster.  
17           ii. Election procedures will be the same as the regular election as outlined  
18           in V.H.  
19           iii. ~~Elected Sectional Delegates and Sectional Alternate Delegates will  
20           serve at the following Interim Meeting immediately following their  
21           election and conclude at the close of the next Interim meeting of the  
22           House of Delegates.~~  
23           d. Temporary vacancies shall be filled using the procedures outlined in RFS IOP  
24           VIII.G; and be it further

25      RESOLVED, that our AMA-RFS amend our IOPs VI.B.3. by addition and deletion to  
26     read as follows:

27           3. ~~The Resident/Fellow Trustee shall represent the voice of the residents and  
28           fellows on the Board and may provide guidance to the RFS Governing Council  
29           and RFS standing committees; and be it further~~

30      RESOLVED, that our AMA-RFS amend our IOPs section IX.D.2.d. by addition and  
31     deletion to read as follows:

32           d) ~~The Governing Council shall review the application and make a  
33           recommendation to the RFS Assembly, subject to the Board of Trustees  
34           approval, Business Meeting regarding whether if it recommends that the  
35           organization be granted representation in the Resident and Fellow Section  
36           Business Meeting. The recommendation shall be submitted to the AMA Board  
37           of Trustees for review. If approved by the AMA Board of Trustees, the  
38           organization may be represented in the Resident and Fellow Section Business  
39           Meeting. The Assembly Business Meeting shall then vote to determine whether  
40           the organization shall be granted representation in the Business Meeting.~~

41      RESOLVED, that this resolution be immediately forwarded to the AMA House of  
42     Delegates at the 2025 Interim Meeting.

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1 RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association Resident and Fellow Section (AMA-  
2 RFS) amend our Internal Operating Procedures by addition and deletion to read as follows:  
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4 B. Timing of Elections and Endorsements.

5 2. The following elections shall be held at during the RFS Interim Business  
Meeting:

6 d. Governing Council: Chair-Elect.

7 e. Sectional Delegates and Sectional Alternate Delegates.

8 f. Endorsements for elections that take place at the next Annual meeting  
9 of the AMA House of Delegates including, but not limited to, of the  
10 resident/fellow position on the Board of Trustees and the  
11 resident/fellow position on elected AMA Councils so long as these  
12 endorsements are obtained no later than six months before the  
13 election.

14 RESOLVED, that our AMA-RFS amend our IOPs by addition and deletion to read as  
15 follows:

16 C. Special Election

17 i. There shall may be a special election at the RFS Business Meeting of every  
18 Annual meeting to fill permanent vacancies in the Sectional Delegate and  
19 Sectional Alternate Delegate roster.

20 ii. Election procedures will be the same as the regular election as outlined in  
21 V.H.

22 iii. Elected Sectional Delegates and Sectional Alternate Delegates will serve at  
23 the following Interim Meeting immediately following their election and  
24 conclude at the close of the next Interim meeting of the House of Delegates.

25 e. Temporary vacancies shall be filled using the procedures outlined in RFS IOP VIII.G

26 RESOLVED, that our AMA-RFS amend our IOPs by addition and deletion to read as  
27 follows:

28 3. The Resident/Fellow Trustee shall represent the voice of the residents and fellows  
29 on the Board and may provide guidance to the RFS Governing Council and RFS  
30 standing committees.

31 RESOLVED, that our AMA-RFS amend our IOPs by addition and deletion to read as  
32 follows:

33 e) The Governing Council shall review the application and make a recommendation to  
34 the RFS Assembly Business Meeting regarding whether If it recommends that the  
35 organization be granted representation in the Resident and Fellow Section Business  
36 Meeting. The recommendation shall be submitted to the AMA Board of Trustees for  
37 review. If approved by the AMA Board of Trustees, the organization may be  
38 represented in the Resident and Fellow Section Business Meeting. The Assembly  
39 Business Meeting shall then vote to determine whether the organization shall be  
40 granted representation in the Business Meeting.

41 Your Reference Committee recommends Late Resolution 1 be adopted as amended. To  
42 summarize the context of this resolution, the RFS passed numerous changes to the IOPs at  
43 A-25 which were then submitted to the Council on Constitution and Bylaws (CCB) in usual

1 fashion. CCB recommended specific changes and then forwarded recommended changes to  
2 the Board of Trustees (BOT) for approval who expressed concern that some changes violated  
3 the current AMA Bylaws and therefore would not be approved. In tandem, a freeze on IOP  
4 changes was announced pending a report planned by CCB with the goal of standardizing IOP  
5 language across AMA Sections. The BOT expressed that they would consider re-evaluation  
6 of the IOP changes if the sections that were viewed as in conflict were amended. Your  
7 Governing Council has submitted these changes for consideration in order to expedite  
8 changes that would allow approval of the revised IOPs. Numerous changes were  
9 recommended; however most are simply for clarity in naming the specific section of the bylaws  
10 recommended for amendment, however we also recommend addition of language that  
11 explicitly calls for amendment of the already-passed IOPs such that it would be included in  
12 the considered changes instead of being read as new changes in isolation. Your Reference  
13 Committee notes that the IOP changes have been a multi-year process and recommends this  
14 change in order to ensure that passage and consideration is as swift as possible given the  
15 goal of the resolution. Therefore, your Reference Committee recommends Late Resolution 1  
16 be adopted as amended.

1 This concludes the second report of the RFS Reference Committee. I would like to thank  
2 Ashley Glass, DO, Tristan Mackey, MD, Sham Manoranjithan, MD, Helene Nepomuceno, MD,  
3 Karthik Sarma, MD, PhD, Joey Whelihan, MD.

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Jacob Altholz, MD, Chair

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Ashley Glass, DO

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Tristan Mackey, MD

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Sham Manoranjithan, MD

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Helene Nepomuceno, MD

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Karthik Sarma, MD, PhD

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Joey Whelihan, MD