

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

Report of Reference Committee

Jacob Altholz, MD, Chair

1 Your Reference Committee recommends the following consent calendar for acceptance:
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3 **RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION**
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5 1. Late Resolution 2 – Clarifying the Medical Student Section's and Resident and
6 Fellow Section's Abilities to Fill Temporary Vacancies in Accordance with the AMA
7 Bylaws
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9 2. Late Resolution 3 – Sustaining Ethical Leadership Through Continued Support of the
10 *AMA Journal of Ethics*
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12 **RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION AS AMENDED**
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14 3. Late Resolution 1 – Amendments to the Resident and Fellow Section Internal
15 Operating Procedures

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

- (1) LATE RESOLUTION 2 - CLARIFYING THE MEDICAL
STUDENT SECTION'S AND RESIDENT AND FELLOW
SECTION'S ABILITIES TO FILL TEMPORARY VACANCIES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMA BYLAWS

RECOMMENDATION:

Late Resolution 2 be adopted.

RFS ACTION: Late Resolution 2 adopted.

RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association Bylaws be amended to explicitly affirm the ability of the Resident and Fellow Section to appoint substitute resident and fellow sectional delegates and alternate delegates as well as temporary substitute resident and fellow sectional delegates in accordance with procedures adopted by the Section as all other delegations to the House of Delegates are able to and without being held to a higher threshold of election; and be it further

RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association Bylaws be amended to explicitly affirm the ability of the Medical Student Section to appoint substitute medical student regional delegates and alternate delegates as well as temporary substitute medical student regional delegates in accordance with procedures adopted by the Section as all other delegations to the House of Delegates are able to and without being held to a higher threshold of election; and be it further

RESOLVED, that our AMA-RFS immediately forward this resolution to the AMA House of Delegates at the 2025 Interim Meeting.

Your Reference Committee recommends Late Resolution 2 be adopted. The context of this resolution is complex, however in summary, a reinterpretation of the current AMA Bylaws by the current HOD Speakers has meant that the traditional method of filling RFS vacancies with appointments has ceased given a Bylaw that states RFS Sectional Delegates are elected. The AMA Speakers hold that all who sit in the HOD must therefore be elected even if temporarily. This decision has been sent to the Council on Ethics and Judicial Affairs (CEJA) for evaluation and ruling, however their decision will not be received before the Interim Meeting and therefore the GC felt it was necessary to create a resolution directly asking for the conflict within the Bylaws to be resolved. Some concern was expressed by Reference Committee members that the wording of the resolved clauses was somewhat cumbersome, however there is an identical resolution moving forward in the Medical Student Section (MSS) given essentially identical concerns for their Section Delegation and the hope is that the MSS and RFS will be able to jointly present a resolution that will be available for consideration to the HOD as soon as possible to rectify the conflict. In this context and noting that this resolution would also be available for consideration and amendment within the larger HOD as necessary, your Reference Committee recommends Late Resolution 2 be adopted.

(2) LATE RESOLUTION 3 – SUSTAINING ETHICAL
LEADERSHIP THROUGH CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE
AMA JOURNAL OF ETHICS

RECOMMENDATION:

Late Resolution 3 be adopted.

RFS ACTION: Late Resolution 3 adopted.

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

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

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

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

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION AS AMENDED

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

RECOMMENDATION A:

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

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

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.

RECOMMENDATION B:

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

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

C. Special Election

- i. There shall ~~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.

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

RECOMMENDATION C:

The Third Resolve of Late Resolution 1 be amended by addition to read as follows:

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

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

RECOMMENDATION D:

The Fourth Resolve of Late Resolution 1 be amended by addition and deletion to read as follows:

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

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

RECOMMENDATION E:

Late Resolution 1 be adopted as amended.

RFS ACTION: Late Resolution 1 adopted as amended.

ADOPTED LANGUAGE:

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

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

14 **C . Special Election**

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

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

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

32
33 **RESOLVED**, that our AMA-RFS amend our IOPs section IX.D.2.d. by addition and
34 deletion to read as follows:

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

44
45 **RESOLVED**, that this resolution be immediately forwarded to the AMA House of
46 Delegates at the 2025 Interim Meeting.
47

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:

3 B. Timing of Elections and Endorsements.

4 2. The following elections shall be held at during the RFS Interim Business
5 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
15 RESOLVED, that our AMA-RFS amend our IOPs by addition and deletion to read as
16 follows:

17 C. Special Election

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

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

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

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

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

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

33
34 RESOLVED, that our AMA-RFS amend our IOPs by addition and deletion to read as
35 follows:

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

44
45 Your Reference Committee recommends Late Resolution 1 be adopted as amended. To
46 summarize the context of this resolution, the RFS passed numerous changes to the IOPs at
47 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.

Jacob Altholz, MD, Chair

Ashley Glass, DO

Tristan Mackey, MD

Sham Manoranjithan, MD

Helene Nepomuceno, MD

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