

1 REPORT OF THE AMA YOUNG PHYSICIANS SECTION GOVERNING COUNCIL

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3 AMA-YPS Report A
4 (November 2021)
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6 Subject: AMA Advocacy Efforts
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8 Presented by: Laura Faye Gephart, MD, MBA, Chair
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10 Referred to: AMA-YPS Reference Committee

11 At the 2005 Annual Meeting of the AMA Young Physicians Section (YPS) Assembly, the AMA-YPS
12 Governing Council (GC) was directed to report annually on the section's advocacy efforts. The
13 AMA advocates at the federal and state level to assist physicians in building a better future for
14 medicine, removing obstacles to patient care and confronting health crises. Some focus areas for
15 AMA advocacy efforts include:
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- 17 • [Access to care](#);
 - 18 • [Administrative burdens](#);
 - 19 • [Judicial advocacy](#);
 - 20 • [Maternal health](#)
 - 21 • [Payment reform](#); and
 - 22 • [Public Health](#).
- 23

24 In addition, the AMA has been the leading physician and patient ally amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
25 Ongoing advocacy efforts include: continuation of temporary telehealth provisions that support
26 patient care and alignment of coverage, payment and coding; reduction of limitations for
27 international medical graduates and those with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival status; and
28 coverage for costs associated with COVID-19 vaccine administration, testing services and safety
29 protocol implementation. More information can be found at [COVID-19 Advocacy Efforts](#).

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31 Moreover, the AMA Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) has worked with state legislatures, medical
32 societies, and coalitions to advance state legislative and regulatory issues that affect the practice of
33 medicine. The [State Advocacy](#) webpage provides comprehensive resources that include the scope
34 of practice research and advocacy overview; the "Confidential Care to Support Physician Health
35 and Wellness" issue brief; and the ARC staff directory and resource listing. Additionally, numerous
36 AMA legislative priorities and accomplishments are detailed in the [AMA's Top Advocacy Issues for
37 2021](#).

38 **ADVOCACY CONFERENCES AND EDUCATION**

39 The AMA provides opportunities to better understand issues impacting health care and enhance
40 one's knowledge on ways to engage in advocacy efforts.
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43 **State Advocacy Summit.** The State Advocacy Summit provides an opportunity for physician
44 leaders, national experts, state legislators and regulators, and medical society staff to discuss
45 concerns and opportunities associated with legislative issues of importance to medicine. Highlights
46 from the 2021 State Advocacy Summit are available [online](#). Information for the 2022 State
47 Advocacy Summit, which is scheduled for January 13-15, is available at [https://www.ama-
49](https://www.ama-
48 assn.org/health-care-advocacy/access-care/state-advocacy-summit)

50 **AMA National Advocacy Conference.** The National Advocacy Conference provides an
51 opportunity to hear from AMA leadership, industry leaders and members of Congress on efforts to
52 improve health care and advocate on issues impacting physicians and patients. Highlights from the
53 2021 National Advocacy Conference are available [online](#). Details for the 2022 National Advocacy

1 Conference, which is scheduled for February 14-16, are available at [https://www.ama-](https://www.ama-assn.org/advocacy/physician-advocacy/national-advocacy-conference)
2 [assn.org/advocacy/physician-advocacy/national-advocacy-conference](https://www.ama-assn.org/advocacy/physician-advocacy/national-advocacy-conference).
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4 **AMPAC Political Education Programs.** The AMPAC Campaign School is available to physicians,
5 physician spouses, residents, and medical students interested in becoming more involved in
6 politics. The curriculum for the virtual AMPAC Campaign School covers strategy, vote targeting,
7 social media, paid advertising and public speaking.
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9 The AMPAC Candidate Workshop prepares physicians information on making a run for public
10 office. At the Candidate Workshop, Republican and Democratic political experts provide insights
11 about politics and the sacrifices needed to mount a competitive campaign. Topics such as making
12 the decision to run, fundraising, media advertising, and public speaking will be addressed in the
13 workshop.
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15 More information on the AMPAC Political Education Programs may be obtained by visiting
16 <http://www.ampaonline.org/get-involved/political-education> or sending an email to
17 politicaleducation@ama-assn.org.
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19 **AMA YOUNG PHYSICIANS SECTION**

20 The policy activities of the AMA-YPS contribute to the AMA's advocacy efforts and enhances
21 discussions on significant issues impacting patients and physicians. During the June 2021 Special
22 Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates (HOD), the following YPS resolutions were considered:
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- 24 • Resolution 012: Increasing Public Umbilical Cord Blood Donations in Transplant Centers (Not
25 recommended for consideration)
- 26 • Resolution 023: Pandemic Ethics and the Duty of Care Active Support (Adopted)
- 27 • Resolution 024: AMA Bylaws Language on AMA Young Physicians Section Governing Council
28 Eligibility Active Support [Substitute Resolution 024 adopted to read as follows: RESOLVED,
29 that the American Medical Association amend the relevant AMA Bylaws to: (1) clarify eligibility
30 of membership in the YPS to be until December 31 of the year of their 40th birthday or
31 December 31 of the eighth year following completion of their graduate medical education,
32 whichever comes later, and (2) reflect that a person who is elected to the Young Physician
33 Section chair-elect position when an eligible member of the Section can complete the chair-
34 elect, chair, and immediate past chair positions even if they have aged out of the Section.]
- 35 • Resolution 112: Fertility Preservation Benefits for Active-Duty Military Personnel (Not
36 recommended for consideration)
- 37 • Resolution 711: Opposition to Elimination of "Incident-to" Billing for Non-Physician Practitioners
38 (Adopted)
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40 More information on YPS policy activities can be found in the June 2021 YPS Assembly Meeting
41 [Delegates Report](#)¹.

¹ Resolution 012 (Increasing Public Umbilical Cord Blood Donations in Transplant Centers) and Resolution 112 (Fertility Preservation Benefits for Active-Duty Military Personnel) were not recommended for consideration during the June 2021 Special Meeting of the AMA HOD. These resolutions are being evaluated for possible resubmission at a future HOD meeting.