



**PAC**

*Florida Medical Association*

*Information & Questionnaire*

# Candidate Profile



# PAC

Florida Medical Association

## Candidate Profile Information & Questionnaire

### Personal Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ District #: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City : \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP : \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number : \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Number : \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address : \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation : \_\_\_\_\_

Who is your family's physician?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any family members who are physicians? If so, where do they practice, what is their name, specialty and relationship to you?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Campaign Information

Are there any physicians who are currently supporting your campaign? Who are they?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# PAC

Florida Medical Association

## Candidate Profile Information & Questionnaire

### *Campaign Information continued*

What are your reasons for running?

---

---

---

If elected, what are your top 3 priorities?

1. 

---

2. 

---

3. 

---

---

Have you ever held public office before (either elected or appointed)? Please describe.

---

---

---

---

What groups or organizations do you expect to support you in your race? Why?

---

---

---



# PAC

Florida Medical Association

## Candidate Profile Information & Questionnaire

### Campaign Information continued

What groups do you expect to oppose your candidacy? Why?

---

---

---

How much money have you raised to date?

\$ 

---

How much money do you think will be required to win?

\$ 

---

Do you have a written campaign plan?

---

---

Do you have a campaign manager or consultant? If so, please provide their contact information:

---

---

## State Legislative & Executive Branch Candidate Questionnaire

**1).** Each year, physician extenders (nurses, optometrists, psychologists, pharmacists, etc.) seek legislation that would expand their scope of practice and allow them to practice independent of a physician, prescribe drugs, perform surgery and/or perform other procedures that would allow them to practice medicine despite not having the same educational background and training of a medical doctor. The FMA believes that allowing non-physician health care providers to work in areas beyond their level of education and training can seriously



# PAC

Florida Medical Association

## Candidate Profile Information & Questionnaire

endanger patients and is bad public policy. The FMA's primary concern is and must always be ensuring quality care and protecting the patient. Would you oppose all legislative efforts by non-physicians to expand their scope of practice?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

**2).** 'Prior authorization' is a health insurance company cost-control process requiring health care providers to qualify for payment by obtaining approval before providing medical services and prescribing medications. These prior authorization requirements can delay or deny medically necessary care, divert resources from patients and complicate medical decision-making. Prior authorization, if used at all, must be used judiciously, efficiently, and in a manner that prevents cost-shifting onto patients, physicians and other providers. The current prior authorization process suffers from a host of problems - lack of transparency, undefined response times which allow insurers to delay or deny care, unnecessary approval requirements for ongoing treatment plans, unwarranted requirements on physicians with demonstrated track records, to name just a few. Would you support legislation to require health insurers to reform their prior authorization process?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

**3).** Florida has the highest medical liability insurance rates in the country, and has for decades. One of the biggest premium cost drivers is the amount awarded for noneconomic damages. Cognizant of the impact that noneconomic damages have on professional liability insurance rates, the legislature in 1990 expanded the wrongful death act to allow recovery of damages for pain and suffering by parents of adult children, but not when the wrongful death is based on a claim of medical malpractice. There has been an effort during the last two sessions to eliminate the medical malpractice exception to Florida's wrongful death act, which if passed, would adversely affect the accessibility of health care for all Floridians. Would you oppose efforts to expand Florida's wrongful death act and thus increase medical malpractice insurance premiums for physicians, hospitals and other health care providers?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_



# PAC

Florida Medical Association

## Candidate Profile Information & Questionnaire

**4).** Florida is facing a serious physician shortage. One way to help resolve this crisis is for the state to fund additional graduate medical education/residency training slots. Due to a lack of residency training programs in our state, Florida is currently “exporting” physicians who have received their medical degrees from one of Florida’s medical schools. Would you support efforts to increase state funding for graduate medical education programs in an effort to attract more physicians to our state?

☐ Yes ☐ No Comment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

**5).** For at least the last 20 years, the medical malpractice insurance rates in Florida have been the highest in the nation. In 2003, the legislature followed the lead of Texas (a state that has much lower malpractice insurance rates) and enacted a cap on noneconomic damages in medical malpractice cases. Unfortunately, the Supreme Court ignored state and federal precedent and in an example of extreme judicial activism, invalidated the legislatively imposed cap. Indications are that malpractice insurance rates are starting to rise again. Would you support legislation to restore a reasonable cap on noneconomic damages in medical malpractice cases, and give a different Florida Supreme Court the opportunity to correct its earlier decision?

☐ Yes ☐ No Comment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

**6).** The use of telemedicine in Florida has increased exponentially during the COVID-19 pandemic. The federal government recognized the value of telemedicine, and while the public health emergency is in effect, the Medicare program is paying physicians for telemedicine services at the same rate as for in-person visits. Commercial insurers in Florida, however, are free to pay lower rates for telemedicine, despite the fact that adding a telemedicine service to a physician’s practice incurs additional expenses that are over and above what is needed when delivering only in-person care. In order to continue providing telemedicine services to Florida’s patients who have come to appreciate and expect this service, telemedicine rates need to be paid at the same rate as in-person care. Would you support legislation to require health insurance companies to pay for telemedicine visits at the same rate as an in-person visit?

☐ Yes ☐ No Comment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBMIT**

**PRINT**