Reference Committee I recommends that the following Consent Calendar be adopted. The item number listed below corresponds with the item number in the attached report.

**RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION**

(1) Report A of the Board of Governors – Recommendation A-1  
(4) Report A of the Board of Governors – Recommendation A-4  
(7) Resolution 19-101, Local Safe Kid Coalitions  
(13) Resolution 19-107, FMA Support for Removing Barriers for Medicare Patients to Colorectal Cancer Screening Act

**RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION AS AMENDED OR SUBSTITUTED**

(11) Resolution 19-105, Advertisement of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems  
(15) Resolution 19-109, Success: Supporting Climate Change Efforts

**RECOMMENDED FOR NOT ADOPTION**

(2) Report A of the Board of Governors – Recommendation A-2  
(3) Report A of the Board of Governors – Recommendation A-3  
(9) Resolution 19-103, Education Regarding Recreational Marijuana

**RECOMMENDED FOR REFERRAL TO BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR STUDY AND REPORT BACK**

(8) Resolution 19-102, Initial Assessment and Treatment Recommendations by Specialists  
(12) Resolution 19-106, Opposing Sexual Orientation Therapy  
(14) Resolution 19-108, Online Database for Physicians and Patients Interested in Stem Cell Therapy

**RECOMMENDED FOR FILING OR REAFFIRMATION**

(6) Remainder of Report A of the Board of Governors – Recommendation A-6
Mr. Speaker, Reference Committee I- Health, Education and Public Policy has considered each of the items referred to it and presents the following report. The Committee’s recommendation on each item will be submitted separately and I respectfully suggest that each item be acted upon before going to the next.

REPORT A OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The informative report, as presented in the Delegate Handbook, contained five recommendations from the Board of Governors for the House to consider. The report also included a summary of major actions taken by the Board on issues related to health, education and public policy and informational items reported to the Board on the same topics.

(1) **Board Recommendation A-1: 2011 Policies for Sunset and Reaffirmation**

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that **Board Recommendation A-1 be adopted**.

Background: In keeping with the FMA’s seven-year policy review mechanism, the Board of Governors distributed policies adopted in 2011 to the appropriate FMA councils for review and a recommendation to reaffirm or sunset. The Board found that the 2011 policies, as presented in the FMA Delegate Handbook, Board Report A-1, pages 9-24 are still relevant and should be reaffirmed for an additional seven years; and further, that the policies presented in the FMA Delegate Handbook, Board Report A-1, pages 25-30 are either out of date, newer or similar policies exist, or the objective has been accomplished, therefore the policies should sunset. The Committee reviewed the report and concurs with the Board.

There was limited testimony and the reference committee agrees with the board recommendations.

(2) **Board Recommendation A-2: Resolution 18-103, Protection of Physician Communication**

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that **Resolution 18-103 from the 2018 House of Delegates not be adopted**.

The Resolution reads as follows:

> RESOLVED, That our Florida Delegation to the American Medical Association will submit a resolution to study and evaluate those issues involving prohibitions placed on physician communication that prevent physicians from providing excellent care to their patients, their families, and themselves; and be it further
RESOLVED, The resolution will make recommendations protecting physicians who professionally use information and their knowledge to optimize care for patients; and be it further

RESOLVED, The resolution should include a provision that will, when necessary, employ the services of our Litigation Center to protect affected physicians; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the resolution should include the right of physician communication be evaluated by our American Medical Association’s Council of Ethical and Judicial Affairs, and be clearly incorporated in to our Code of Medical Ethics.

There was no testimony in opposition to the board’s recommendation, therefore the reference committee recommends not adoption.

(3) Board Recommendation A-3: Resolution 18-114, Sober House and Needle Exchange Programs

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 18-114 from the 2018 House of Delegates not be adopted.

The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association work with the Florida Department of Health to standardize policies and procedures that will encourage community support and appropriate regulation and placement of sober houses and needle exchange programs utilizing statistical evidence and strategic placement to optimize the positive impact and minimize the negative impact to surrounding communities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association advises the state legislature to consider providing an avenue for local engagement from elected officials, law enforcement and the community at-large prior to the development of new sober homes and needle exchange programs, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association send a letter to each county commission in the state recommending support of the development of sober houses and needle exchange programs following the recommendations to be articulated by the Florida Department of Health related to appropriate placement and community involvement.

There was no testimony in opposition to the board’s recommendation, therefore the reference committee recommends not adoption.

(4) Board Recommendation A-4: Resolution 18-116, USMLE – Step 2 – Transfer of Jurisdiction Over Required Clinical Skills Examinations to US Medical Schools

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 18-116 from the 2018 House of Delegates be adopted.
The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association support the American Medical Association's efforts to eliminate the Step 2 Clinical Skills component of the United States Medical Licensing Examination for graduates of Liaison Committee on Medical Education-accredited medical schools.

RESOLVED, That the FMA support legislation to eliminate Step 2 Clinical Skills from the requirements for licensure.

There was no testimony in opposition to the board’s recommendation, therefore the reference committee recommends adoption.

(5)  Board Recommendation A-5: Resolution 18-313, Minimizing Lead in School Drinking Water

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 18-313 from the 2018 House of Delegates be adopted as amended.

The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLVED, That the FMA supports statewide legislation to mandate that all Florida schools, kindergartens, pre-schools, and child care centers filter their drinking water and ice machines with NSF/ANSI filters or an equivalent technology for lead removal and that these filters be maintained and changed on a regularly scheduled basis per manufacturer’s recommendations; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the FMA supports the AMA in seeking federal legislation that changes the EPA’s lead in drinking water action level from parts per billion to 1 part per billion; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the FMA supports the training of school officials to raise awareness of the potential occurrences, causes, and health effects of lead in drinking water; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the FMA supports open communication with students, parents, school board staff, and the larger community including physicians about monitoring programs, potential risks, the results of testing, and remediation actions.

There was no testimony in opposition to the board’s recommendation of adopting as amended Resolution 18-313, therefore the reference committee recommends adoption as amended.

(6)  Board Recommendation A-6:

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that the remainder of Report A of the Board of Governors be filed for information.

(7)  RESOLUTION 19-101, LOCAL SAFE KID COALITIONS, John J. Lanza, MD, PhD, MPH, FAAP, FHPS
Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 19-101 be adopted.

The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLVED, That the FMA supports the development of local Safe Kids coalitions that provide leadership in their communities and work to reduce unintentional childhood injury and death by identifying and targeting the most common injury problems in their local areas, and, by combining the resources of their diverse membership, they can plan and implement strategies to address those problems by educating adults and children, creating safe environments, conducting research, and by advocating for effective policies; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the FMA encourages physicians to partner with their local Safe Kids coalitions that are reaching out to their communities with injury prevention messages, safety devices, and hands-on training.

The committee only heard testimony from the author of the resolution. The committee felt this was a worthwhile cause and therefore recommends adoption.

Recommendation:

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 19-102 be referred to the Board of Governors for study and report back.

The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLVED, that the FMA communicate to the various specialty societies, either directly or through their representatives, the concern regarding the increasing and, at times, risky use of nurse practitioners and physician assistants for initial evaluation of patients referred to specialist physicians, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the FMA encourage the various specialty societies to develop and adopt appropriate clinical guidelines to ensure patients referred to specialist physicians have their initial assessment, diagnostic evaluation, and formulation of a treatment plan performed by the specialty physician rather than a non-physician practitioner.

The Committee heard mixed testimony in both support and opposition of this Resolution. The physicians in support believe that when a patient is referred to a specialist, the patient needs to be seen by the specialty physician and not a mid-level practitioner. Proponents of this Resolution feel this would ensure the highest quality of care. The opposition argued that this Resolution could restrict access to care and may result in patients receiving delayed care. While all testifiers agreed that it would be ideal for physicians to have the ability to see every patient and perform every step of the treatment plan, the opposition reasoned that this is
unfortunately not a realistic goal. They felt it was okay for a mid-level practitioner to see a
patient and then consult with the physician. The Committee discussed in depth both sides of
this issue and was very sensitive to the division between physician groups. As a result of the
divide and the compelling arguments from both sides, the Committee recommends that this
issue be referred to the Board of Governors for study and report back.

(9) RESOLUTION 19-103, EDUCATION REGARDING RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA, Palm Beach
County Medical Society

Recommendation:

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 19-103 not be adopted.

The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLVED, The FMA Committee on Medical Education, Science, & Public
Health compile data on medical marijuana and the cost in terms of
increased accidents, suicides, ER visits, productivity and increased
insurance premiums.

The Committee heard mixed testimony on this Resolution. The intent of this resolution was to
educate the public on the adverse effects of marijuana use. However, due to federal restrictions
on research and testing, the potential benefits and/or adverse effects of marijuana use has not
been established. Florida law currently requires the Consortium for Medical Marijuana Clinical
Outcomes Research, through the Medical Marijuana Research Board, to conduct rigorous
scientific research that contributes to the body of scientific knowledge on the effects of the
medical use of marijuana. This consortium will have the capabilities to access this data and
information and make it available to the public.

(10) RESOLUTION 19-104, FMA ENDORSEMENT OF ABMS VISION FOR THE FUTURE COMMISSION
FINAL REPORT, Florida Academy of Family Physicians

Recommendation:

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 19-104 be referred to the
Board of Governors for study and report back.

The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLVED, The FMA send a letter to the ABMS by August 31, 2019,
urging it, and its subsidiary boards, to move quickly to:

- implement the specifics and the spirit of the ABMS Vision for the
Future Final Report regarding Assessment Recommendation
which states “Continuing certification must change to
incorporate longitudinal and other innovative formative
assessment strategies that support learning, identify knowledge
and skills gaps, and help diplomates stay current. The ABMS
Boards must offer an alternative to burdensome highly-secure,
point-in-time examinations of knowledge.”
abandon Continued Certification processes characterized by high-stakes summative outcomes (pass/fail examinations), specified timeframes for high-stakes assessment, or require burdensome testing formats (such as testing centers or remote proctoring) that are inconsistent with the desired goals for continuing certification,

- develop innovative formative Continued Certification processes grounded in adult learning principles (e.g. frequent, spaced learning with timely feedback; repeated for reinforcement; gap analysis to aid focus) and support diplomates in their commitment to continuing professional development aimed at keeping current and improving patient care, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the FMA submit a resolution at the 2019 AMA Interim Meeting requesting the AMA to send a similar letter to the ABMS by November 30, 2019.

The Committee heard mixed testimony on this Resolution. Those in support of this Resolution agree that physicians need lifelong learning, but do not believe in high stakes testing. Both the FMA and AMA have multiple policies on this issue and there was testimony suggesting that due to the report issued by the Vision of the Future Commission, the AMA believes they are making progress with the concerns they have with the ABMS. It is important to note that the Commission didn’t recommend abolishing the high stakes exam, just having alternatives. Several speakers argued that the FMA needs to press the ABMS on completely getting rid of all high stakes testing. Given the complexities involved, the Reference Committee felt it was best for this resolution to be referred to the Board of Governors for study and report back.

(11) RESOLUTION 19-105, ADVERTISEMENT OF ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS, Medical Student Section, Orange County Medical Society, and Seminole County Medical Society

Recommendation 1:

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 19-105 be adopted as amended by insertion and deletion:

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association support the prohibition of legislation to prohibit electronic nicotine delivery system advertisements on websites and online/mobile applications that are directed towards minors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association support the prohibition of legislation to prohibit billboard ads for tobacco products, including electronic nicotine delivery systems, on any outdoor billboard located within 1,000 feet of a school or public playground.

The original resolution reads as follows:

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association support the prohibition of electronic nicotine delivery system advertisements on websites and
online/mobile applications that are directed towards minors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association support the prohibition of billboard ads for tobacco products, including electronic nicotine delivery systems, on any outdoor billboard located within 1,000 feet of a school or public playground.

The Committee heard testimony in support of this Resolution. The author and supporters are concerned about the increase of advertisements and the usage by minors of electronic nicotine delivery systems.

(12) RESOLUTION 19-106, OPPOSING SEXUAL ORIENTATION THERAPY, Medical Student Section

Recommendation:

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 19-106 be referred to the Board of Governors for study and report back.

The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association oppose the practice of sexual orientation change efforts directed toward minors.

The Committee heard testimony mostly in support of this resolution. There is concern with the increase risk of suicides and mental health of patients under 18 who are undergoing sexual orientation change efforts. The need to clarify language and determine the best way to ensure the intent of the resolution is captured without unintended consequences, coupled with the complexity of the topic warrants further study. For these reason the reference committee recommends referral to the board for study and report back.

(13) RESOLUTION 19-107, FMA SUPPORT FOR REMOVING BARRIERS FOR MEDICARE PATIENTS TO COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING ACT, Florida Chapter, American College of Surgeons; American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists, District XII; Florida Society of Clinical Oncology; Florida Society of Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgeons; Florida Society of Ophthalmology; Florida Society of Otolaryngology - Head & Neck; Florida Society of Pathologists; Florida Vascular Society

Recommendation:

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 19-107 be adopted.

RESOLVED, that the Florida Medical Association send letters urging support and co-sponsorship of the Removing Barriers to Colorectal Cancer Screening Act (HR 1570/S 668) to each member of the Florida Congressional delegation.

The Committee heard testimony only in support. It was noted the passage of this bill would substantially reduce out of pocket costs for many patients who undergo colonoscopies. This in turn would make patients more likely to take advantage of this life saving procedure.
Recommendation:

Mr. Speaker your Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 19-108 be referred to the Board of Governors for study and report back.

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association create standard criteria that will evaluate the training and expertise of physicians that provide high quality, reputable, and trustworthy stem cell therapies; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association create an online database that will direct physicians and patients to those physicians that meet the criteria established by the Florida Medical Association.

The Committee heard majority opposition on this resolution, however there was a consensus that guidelines need to be clarified. The FMA is not equipped to create standard criteria regarding a particular medical therapy. Creating such criteria and creating an online database that directs patients only to those physicians who agree to abide by such criteria could present antitrust problems for the FMA. The committee felt it would be best for the FMA to support criteria developed by an entity with the expertise to do so, such as the FDA. Given that developing criteria on stem cell therapy is not within the purview of the FMA, and the potential legal problems involved, the Committee felt that this resolution should be referred to the board.

Recommendation 1:

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that Resolution 19-109 be adopted as amended by insertion and deletion as follows:

The Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association support and publish place on their website educational resources on the links between environmental degradation and tangible health problems, such as air pollution, insect-borne diseases, and heatstroke.

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association support legislative advocacy, with a focus on legislation that focuses on the health imperative of addressing climate change.

The original resolution reads as follows:

RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association support and publish educational resources on the links between environmental degradation and tangible health problems, such as air pollution, insect-borne diseases, and heatstroke; and, be it further
RESOLVED, That the Florida Medical Association support legislative advocacy, with a focus on the health imperative of addressing climate change.

The Committee heard testimony primarily focused on the concern of the fiscal note. It was stated there is already data collected and resources available that can be used. This would eliminate the need for the FMA to incur any costs and would allow support of current FMA policy. The committee felt the amended language would alleviate the concern, and address the intent of the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I wish to publicly thank each member of the Reference Committee:

Dr. Jon Burdzy
Dr. Ruple Galani
Dr. Steven Gayer
Dr. Rohan Joseph
Dr. Himangi Kaushal
Dr. Claudia Mason
Dr. Robert Raggi
Dr. Deborah Trehy

I would also like to thank Shari Hickey and Chandra Prine, FMA Staff, for their support of the Reference Committee and the members of the FMA who attended our meeting and presented testimony.

Recommendation:

Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of Reference Committee I be adopted.
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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tra'Chella Johnson Foy, M.D., Chair</td>
<td>Duval County Medical Society</td>
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<td>Jon Burdzy, D.O.</td>
<td>Lee County Medical Society</td>
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<td>Ruple Galani, M.D.</td>
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<td>Steven Gayer, M.D.</td>
<td>FL Society of Anesthesiologists</td>
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<td>Rohan Joseph, M.D.</td>
<td>Capital Medical Society</td>
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<td>Himangi Kaushal, M.D.</td>
<td>Fl. Ch., American College of Physicians</td>
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<td>Claudia Mason, M.D.</td>
<td>Palm Beach County Medical Society</td>
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<td>Robert Raggi, M.D., J.D.</td>
<td>Broward County Medical Association</td>
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<td>Deborah Trehy, M.D.</td>
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