

Report A of the Board of Governors

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The Board of Governors submits the following report to the House of Delegates. This report contains **one recommendation** and a summary of major actions taken by the Board. The issues in this report relate to public health, medical education, and methods whereby physicians may be assisted in maintaining their professional competence and educational and scientific programs for CME. Other items include specialty society issues, policy review for reaffirmation or sunset, and items relating to the Professionals Resource Network (PRN). Informational items reported to the Board on the same topics are also included in this report.

Recommendation A-1 **2018 FMA Policy Review**

- 1 **That 2018 policies on pages 2 through 12 of this report be reaffirmed or sunset according to**
2 **the FMA's seven-year policy review mechanism.**

Description	Amount	Budget Narrative
		No Fiscal Impact

- 3 **Background:** In keeping with the FMA's seven-year policy review mechanism, policies from 2018
4 were distributed to the appropriate FMA councils for review, with a report back to reaffirm or sunset.
5
6 **Discussion:** After receiving input from FMA's councils and committees, the Board believes that
7 policies listed on pages 2-10 are still relevant and should be reaffirmed for an additional seven years,
8 and further, that the policies listed on pages 11-12 are out of date, newer or similar policies exist, or
9 the objective has been accomplished. Therefore, the policies should be sunset. Sunset policies are
10 maintained in a separate archive system.
11
12 Upon approval by the House of Delegates, the FMA Policy Compendium will be updated accordingly.
13

2018 FMA POLICIES FOR REAFFIRMATION

P 25.001 OFFICE ADVERSE INCIDENT REPORTS

The Florida Medical Association actively pursues legislation that protects the confidentiality of physician office adverse incident reported to the Department of Health. (*Res 00-19, HOD 2000*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2009*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2017*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 10.003 DRIVING AND USE OF CELL PHONES

The Florida Medical Association discourages the use of handheld communication devices and text messaging while operating motor vehicles, except in cases of emergency. (*Res 00-31, HOD 2000*) (*Reaffirmed as amended HOD 2009*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 45.003 FETAL ALCOHOL ABUSE

The Florida Medical Association supports legislation that would provide for voluntary admission of expectant mothers for alcohol abuse. (*BOG October 2010*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 60.001 EXTENDING THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR BLOOD BANKS

The Florida Medical Association opposes legislation that expands the statute of limitations for litigation involving blood banks. (*BOG January 1992*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2002*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2010*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 95.004 FOCUSING PILL MILL RULES ON PILL MILLS

The Florida Medical Association is directed to work with all medical specialties in Florida to define legislative and other language to prevent unintended and substantial negative impact on patients and physician practices related to overly broad definitions and legislation of pain management clinics. (*Res 10-312, HOD 2010*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 248.001 LIABILITY PROTECTION FOR PHYSICIANS CONDUCTING SCHOOL PHYSICALS

The Florida Medical Association supports greater liability protection to physicians who conduct preschool physical examinations free of charge, as well as those who perform participation (athletic) examinations; and further considers recommending to these physicians that they enter outside provider service contracts with the Department of Health in order to gain protection under the state's sovereign immunity. (*BOG January 1987*) (*Reaffirmed 2001*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2009*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 248.002 VOLUNTEER PROTECTION

The Florida Medical Association supports legislation that provides immunity from civil liability for any person who volunteers to perform any service for a nonprofit organization when the person was acting in good faith. (*BOG January 1992*) (*Reaffirmed 2002*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2010*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 248.003 IMMUNITY FOR EXPERT WITNESSES

The Florida Medical Association supports legislation for immunity for those providing expert opinions and testimony for a state agency or licensing board and that the appropriate state agency provide for all defense needs in the event a suit is filed. *(BOG June 1992) (Reaffirmed 2002) (Reaffirmed HOD 2010) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)*

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 249.007 SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY FOR PROVIDERS OF MANDATED EMERGENCY CARE

The Florida Medical Association supports sovereign immunity for providers of mandated emergency care. *(Res 10-306, HOD 2010) (Reaffirmed as amended HOD 2018)*

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 285.026 PROTECTING FLORIDA'S PHYSICIANS FROM MANDATORY HEALTH NETWORK PARTICIPATION

The Florida Medical Association (FMA) is directed to work with any appropriate physician advocacy organization to continue to oppose any legislation that would tie the license to practice medicine in the state of Florida to mandated participation in any health care network, insurance plan or public health care system; forced public service initiatives, mandated emergency room coverage, or affiliation with any public or private third party payer organization; and further, work with any appropriate physician advocacy organization to actively oppose any federal legislation that would tie the allocation of federal funds to state-based requirements of mandated physician participation in any health care network, insurance plan or public health care system, forced public service initiatives, mandated emergency room coverage, or affiliation with any public or private third party payer organization as a condition of licensure; and further, should the federal government make these types of demands on the state of Florida, seek an injunction against such demands in Federal court and will encourage the state of Florida to do the same; and further, work with the Florida Legislature to introduce legislation that prevents the linkage of licensure to the acceptance of any government or private insurance, public health care system, forced public service initiatives or mandatory ER coverage. *(Amended Sub Res 10-309, HOD 2010) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)*

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 305.006 BANKRUPTCY LEGISLATION

The Florida Medical Association strongly opposes changes in Florida law that would eliminate current exemptions from creditors claims to include pension plans, garnishment of wages, and annuities. *(BOG January 1992) (Reaffirmed 2002) (Reaffirmed HOD 2010) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)*

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 340.006 FMA ON ARNP COMPACT

The Florida Medical Association reaffirms its position that health care teams are best led by physicians; and opposes any legislation that would enact into law, directly or indirectly, the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Multistate Compact proposed by the National Council of the State Boards Nursing. The Florida Medical Association's House of Delegates directs the attention of the FMA's Council on Legislation to prevent enactment of the APRN Compact and that the Council on Legislation places the APRN Compact on its watch list of undesirable legislation. The Florida Medical Association will effectively educate the public, legislators, regulators, and healthcare administrators and effectively oppose state legislative efforts aimed at inappropriate scope of practice expansion. *(Res 18-305, HOD 2018)*

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 430.004 DISCIPLINARY RECORDS

1 The Florida Medical Association supports the study of introducing legislation to expunge the
2 records for physicians with minor violations of the Medical Practice Act after no additional
3 violations have occurred within two years. *(BOG January 1992) (Reaffirmed 2002) (Reaffirmed HOD*
4 *2010) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)*

5 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
6

7 **P 450.013 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS PRESCRIBING**

8 The Florida Medical Association opposes legislation expanding the scope of practice of physician
9 assistants. *(BOG January 1992) (Reaffirmed with update 2002) (Reaffirmed HOD 2010) (Reaffirmed*
10 *HOD 2018)*

11 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
12

13 **P 475.006 HALT ATTORNEY REFERRAL FEES**

14 The Florida Medical Association supports consideration of introducing legislation that would make
15 it illegal for attorneys to receive payment in any form for the referral of a client or case to another
16 attorney. *(Res 92-18, HOD 1992) (Reaffirmed 2002) (Reaffirmed HOD 2010) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)*

17 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
18

19 **P 45.001 BINGE DRINKING IN YOUNG ADULTS**

20 The Florida Medical Association recognizes the dangers of binge drinking in young adults,
21 especially on college campuses, and does not support the purchase, consumption or possession
22 of alcoholic beverages by anyone under 21 years of age. *(BOG May 2009) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)*

23 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
24

25 **P 90.013 BOOSTER SEAT LAW SUPPORT**

26 The Florida Medical Association shall continue to work collaboratively with county medical
27 societies, specialty medical societies, the FMA Alliance, and with public health and child-advocacy
28 organizations to support and ensure passage of legislation requiring that all children 4 through 7
29 years of age and less than 4'9" be properly restrained in either a crash-tested, federally-approved
30 children's car seat or booster seat, appropriate for the child's height and weight. *(Amended Res*
31 *10-311, HOD 2010) (Reaffirmed with technical change HOD 2018)*

32 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
33

34 **P 90.023 MEDICAL DIRECTOR AND PHYSICIAN INVOLVEMENT IN TREATMENT FACILITIES**

35 The Florida Medical Association will request that Department of Children and Families modify the
36 existing rules in Chapter 65D-30 by requiring a qualified physician to serve as Medical Director for
37 each and every component of care; ensuring the involvement of a psychiatrist or other qualified
38 physician licensed under Chapter 458 or 459, Florida Statutes, for evaluation and treatment
39 recommendations; determination of admission/discharge; and, overseeing the provision of
40 medically-indicated evidence-based treatment with proper documentation. *(Res 18-105, HOD*
41 *2018)*

42 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
43

44 **P 110.008 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - INTERACTIVE MAPS**

45 The Florida Medical Association supports and promotes the Florida Department of Health's
46 interactive maps as a tool to understand and communicate state and community health data via its
47 website and other electronic means. *(BOG July 27, 2010) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)*

48 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
49

P 125.003 FULL FORCE AND EFFECT ACROSS COUNTY LINES OF ORDERS FOR INVOLUNTARY SUBSTANCE ABUSE EVALUATION AND TREATMENT SERVICES (MARCHMAN ACT)

The Florida Medical Association shall proffer language to the Florida Legislature that Involuntary Evaluation and Treatment Orders shall be administered with full force and effect across county lines. (*Res 10-108, HOD 2010*) (*Reaffirmed 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 130.007 PRESCRIPTION OF STRONG ANALGESICS AND OXYCONTIN

The Florida Medical Association unreservedly condemns unjustified, indiscriminate and reckless prescription of strong analgesics, and supports strong penalties for such unprofessional and/or criminal behavior; and further will undertake efforts to educate physicians on the proper use and abuse of narcotic analgesics, and request that the federal and local agencies implement existing procedures and regulations that strike a right balance between the patient's right to receive pain relief, and prevent the illegal transfer of analgesics to the drug illicit market, while effectively protecting physicians from liability when legitimately prescribing strong analgesics such as Oxycontin. (*Res 01-40, HOD 2001*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2009*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 130.008 ABUSE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

The Florida Medical Association will work with Florida governmental authorities on ways to minimize the abuse of prescription drugs without increasing regulatory burdens on physicians or jeopardizing patient privacy. (*BOG November 2002*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2010*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 130.022 PHARMACISTS PRESCRIBING

The FMA supports the modern healthcare needs of a pharmacy to monitor patient prescriptions for potential side effects and inter medication reactions, potential patient pharmaceutical abuse, and patient education and discourages pharmacists from refusing to fill valid prescriptions unless that denial is made because of potential side-effects or inter-medication reactions. (*Res 18-112, October Board of Governors 2018, Motion 10-18-15*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2023*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 135.015 RESTRICT DENTISTS FROM USING COSMETIC INJECTABLES AND PRESCRIBING SKIN CARE PRODUCTS

The Florida Medical Association expresses its concern over the use of Botulinum toxin and dermal fillers as well as the prescription of tretinoin and hydroquinone products by dentists to the Board of Dentistry and the Florida Dental Association. (*Res. 09-41, HOD 2009*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 155.004 SUPPORTING FLORIDA TRAUMA CENTERS

The Florida Medical Association recognizes the critical importance of Florida's Trauma System to the well-being of its citizens and encourages the continued development of systems of injury prevention and trauma care to improve control of the incidence and effect of the disease or injury; and further endorses enactment of an effective and equitable system of public and private funding to assure that trauma centers and trauma care specialists remain always available to all victims of severe injury; and further remains committed to providing leadership and direction to the entire health science profession to assure that the quality and capability of medical care for any and all

injured Floridians remains unquestionably the best in the world. (Res 09-46, HOD 2009)
(Reaffirmed HOD 2018)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 170.001 ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Florida Medical Association shall make every reasonable effort to consider prudent energy conservation and recycling practices in their daily business practices, including the use of biodegradable and/or recyclable materials in all publications. (Res 91-47, HOD 1991) (Reaffirmed 2001) (Reaffirmed HOD 2009) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 170.002 COLLABORATIVE ON HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The Florida Medical Association supports the concept of the Collaborative on Health and the Environment (CHE) whose central purposes include: (1) providing accurate scientific information to CHE Partners regarding environmental threats to health; (2) creating a shared space within which Partners can develop collaborative relationships that further shared goals; and (3) raising the level of public and professional dialogue about environmental threats to health and the research options, policy options, and citizen initiatives that may contribute to reducing the burden of environmentally related diseases and conditions. (BOG March 2004) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018) (Reaffirmed HOD 2019)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 170.003 PHYSICIANS RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

The Florida Medical Association adopts policy relating to Physicians' Responsibilities for the Environment and Health as follows: (1) physicians are encouraged to educate themselves and their peers about the issues of the environment and public health; (2) physicians are encouraged to conduct research to further the scientific understanding of the environment and health; (3) physicians are encouraged to adopt sound environmental practices in their homes and offices, including reducing pollution, reducing waste and fostering recycling; (4) physicians are encouraged to promote sound environmental practices in their hospitals and communities; and (5) physicians are encouraged to be public spokespersons for environmental stewardship. (BOG July 2004) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 170.012 PHARMACEUTICAL DISPOSAL POLICY

The Florida Medical Association supports efforts to educate public and health care facilities about proper methods of disposing of unused medications, and further supports partnering with interested state agencies, pharmaceutical manufacturers and pharmacies to develop take-back programs to lessen the threat to the environment from unused and expired medications. (BOG May 2009) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 180.001 RISK MANAGEMENT - MEDICAL EXAMINERS

The Florida Medical Association supports inclusion in risk management programs information about the legal requirements of physicians pertaining to child abuse reporting, communicable disease reporting and the signing of death certificates with regard to the authorities of medical examiners. (BOG March 1990) (Reaffirmed 2000) (Reaffirmed HOD 2009) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 250.003 ADULT IMMUNIZATION IN NURSING HOMES

The Florida Medical Association supports efforts to raise adult immunization rates among patients and health care workers in nursing homes. *(BOG March 2000) (Reaffirmed HOD 2009) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)*

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 250.004 HEPATITIS C – PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

The Florida Medical Association supports legislation to increase funding for the prevention of and treatment of those stricken with the disease of Hepatitis C. *(Res 06-15, HOD 2006) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)*

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 250.005 PARTICIPATION IN STATE IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY

The Florida Medical Association seeks legislation requiring all health care professionals who administer vaccines in the state of Florida to participate in the Florida SHOTS program for individual patients less than 18 years of age. *(Res 06-1, HOD 2006) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)*

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 255.002 SUPPORT FROM THE HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY

The Florida Medical Association solicits the support of all appropriate participants of the health care industry, including Florida Hospital Association, Florida Nurses Association and other representative organizations, in rendering voluntary care to the indigent. *(BOG June 1991) (Reaffirmed 2001) (Reaffirmed HOD 2009) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)*

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 285.009 STATE MEDICAL LICENSURE REQUIREMENT

The Florida Medical Association believes that licensure to practice medicine in the state of Florida should be based on training and competence and not on socioeconomic principles. *(BOG February 1987) (Reaffirmed 2000) (Reaffirmed HOD 2009) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)*

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 307.005 MEDICAL MARIJUANA

The Florida delegation to the AMA will submit a resolution to take all necessary steps to remove regulatory barriers to cannabis research and to develop the resources and infrastructure needed to conduct comprehensive research and establish conclusive evidence on short- and long-term health effects of cannabis use and its efficacy regarding relief of manifestations of specific illnesses; the FMA should petition the Florida Department of Health to maintain careful surveillance systems to monitor the long- and short-term health effects of cannabis use, both through the Office of Medical Marijuana and under its other offices for use of marijuana in communities including treatment for cannabis use disorders. *(Res 18-204, HOD 2018)*

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

P 340.007 PHYSICIAN EDUCATION REGARDING CLINICAL TRAINING OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS

The FMA will make available (on their website) information regarding the wide range of training standards utilized by Nurse Practitioners (NPs) and Physician Assistants (PAs) education institutions, the training differences between physicians, and a physician's specific medical and

1 legal responsibilities regarding supervision and on-the-job clinical training of NPs and PAs. (Res
2 18-107, HOD 2018)

3 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
4

5 **P 415.003 AGREEMENT WITH PRN AND MEDICAL SCHOOLS**

6 The Florida Medical Association approves in concept the Professionals Resource Network (PRN)
7 working with the medical schools to codify an agreement between the medical schools and PRN on
8 the waiver of the access fee and student fees for medical schools with 100% FMA faculty
9 membership; and that medical schools without 100% FMA faculty membership would not be
10 granted the waiver of the PRN access fee or student fees. (EC/BOG January 2009) (Reaffirmed HOD
11 2018)

12 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
13

14 **P 420.004 HEALTHY START PROGRAM**

15 The Florida Medical Association supports the "Healthy Start" program and urges the legislature to
16 provide adequate funding for ongoing implementation. (BOG January 1992) (Reaffirmed 2002)
17 (Reaffirmed HOD 2010) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)

18 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
19

20 **P 420.008 PUBLIC HEALTH NEEDS**

21 The Florida Medical Association advocates for state and federal resources to meet current and
22 future public health needs for all Floridians. (BOG February 2002) (Reaffirmed HOD 2010)
23 (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)

24 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
25

26 **p 420.009 CULTURAL DIVERSITY**

27 The Florida Medical Association endorses educational cultural diversity and development of
28 tolerance. (BOG February 2002) (Reaffirmed HOD 2010) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)

29 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
30

31 **P 420.011 ANTIBIOTICS IN ANIMAL AGRICULTURE**

32 The Florida Medical Association supports efforts to preserve the effectiveness of medically
33 important antibiotics used in the treatment of human and animal diseases by reviewing the safety
34 of certain antibiotics for non-therapeutic purposes in food-producing animals. (BOG November
35 2003) (Reaffirmed as amended HOD 2010) (Reaffirmed as amended HOD 2018)

36 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
37

38 **P 420.025 FOOD IRRADIATION PROCESS**

39 The Florida Medical Association supports food irradiation as a safe and effective process that
40 increases the safety of food when accomplished according to governing regulations and considers
41 the value of food irradiation to be diminished unless it is incorporated into comprehensive food
42 safety program based on good manufacturing practices and proper food handling, processing,
43 storage and preparation techniques. (BOG May 2009) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)

44 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
45

46 **P 420.026 POST NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION IN CHAIN RESTAURANTS**

47 The Florida Medical Association urges state and local health agencies, health organizations,
48 physicians, and other health professionals to educate people how to use the nutrition information
49 provided in restaurants to make healthier food choices for themselves and their families; supports

1 state and local policies to require fast food and other chain restaurants with 10 or more units
2 (smaller, neighborhood restaurants could be exempt) to provide consumers with nutrition
3 information on menus and menu boards; recommends that nutrition information in fast food and
4 other chain restaurants include calorie, fat, saturated fat, trans fat, and sodium labeling on printed
5 menus, and at a minimum, calories on menu boards, since they have limited space, and that all
6 nutrition information be conspicuous and easily legible; and urge restaurants to improve quality of
7 their menu offerings – for example, by reducing caloric content; offering smaller portions; offering
8 more fruits, vegetables, and whole grain; using less sodium; using cooking fats lower in saturates
9 and trans fats; and using less added sugars/sweeteners. (*Res 09-20, HOD 2009*) (*Reaffirmed HOD*
10 *2018*)

11 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

12
13 **P 420.027 TANNING BEDS**

14 The Florida Medical Association supports legislation that would prohibit minors from using tanning
15 beds. (*BOG October 2010*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

16 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

17
18 **P 445.004 SCOLIOSIS SCREENING**

19 The Florida Medical Association supports continued state funding for school-based scoliosis
20 screening conducted by persons properly trained and with appropriate instrumentation under
21 supervision of a qualified M.D. or D.O.; and further that screening should be accomplished for the
22 appropriate populations at risk, at appropriate age intervals, using methods with acceptable levels
23 of high sensitivity and high specificity; and further supports working closely with the Florida
24 Orthopedic Society, Florida Academy of Family Physicians, and Florida Pediatric Society for
25 guidance in the continued evaluation of this policy. (*BOG October 1991*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2001*)
26 (*Reaffirmed 2009*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

27 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

28
29 **P 445.005 SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMS**

30 The Florida Medical Association encourages county medical societies to involve physicians as
31 advisors and liaisons to every school board in their respective counties and such physician
32 advisors should begin to identify school populations most in need of health education. (*BOG March*
33 *1992*) (*Reaffirmed as amended HOD 2002*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2010*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

34 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

35
36 **P 445.008 ADVANCE LIFE SUPPORT/AMBULANCE COVERAGE AT VARSITY HIGH SCHOOL**
37 **FOOTBALL GAMES**

38 The Florida Medical Association shall assist county medical societies in working with their local
39 Board of Education and County Commission to assure that advance life support/ambulances and
40 cell phones are onsite at each high school football game, and in developing a program where local
41 physician volunteers, whenever possible, become team physicians for each high school football
42 team. (*Res 99-65, HOD 1999*) (*Reaffirmed 2009*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

43 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

44
45 **P 445.014 MANDATORY PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR GRADES K-12**

46 The Florida Medical Association supports enforcement of rules and regulations and seeks
47 legislation, if necessary, to require Florida schools to include at least 150 minutes of physical
48 education or sports-related activities weekly, during the entire school year, from kindergarten

1 through twelfth grade, except in cases of medical exemption. (Res 09-13, HOD 2009) (Reaffirmed
2 HOD 2018)

3 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
4

5 **P 470.009 SECOND HAND SMOKING AND LOCAL JURISDICTIONS**

6 The Florida Medical Association supports state legislation allowing “local jurisdictions” to promote
7 further restrictions on second hand smoke such as in bars, parks and other venues which currently
8 allow smoking and cause morbidity and death for Floridians and visitors from second hand smoke.
9 (Amend Res 10-315, HOD 2010) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)

10 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)
11

12 **P 485.007 PERTUSSIS EDUCATION AND VACCINATION FOR HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS OF**
13 **NEWBORNS**

14 The Florida Medical Association shall work with the Department of Health (DOH), the Florida
15 Hospital Association (FHA), the Florida Pediatric Society (FPS), the Florida Academy of Family
16 Physicians (FAFP), the Florida Chapter American College of Physicians (Florida Chapter ACP), and
17 the Florida Obstetric and Gynecologic Society (FOGS) to educate women during their pregnancy
18 and post-partum period on the importance of pertussis vaccination for all household contacts of
19 newborns and encourage parents to seek pertussis vaccination (TdaP or DTaP) for all household
20 contacts of newborns through their referred primary care physician or community health
21 department; and further shall work with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and local
22 daycare licensing agencies to educate all daycare administrators and daycare workers on the
23 importance of pertussis vaccination and to encourage pertussis vaccination for all daycare
24 administrators and daycare workers. (Amend Res 10-107, HOD 2010) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)

25 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Reaffirm](#)

2018 FMA POLICIES FOR SUNSET

P 10.005 BANNING TEXTING WHILE DRIVING

The Florida Medical Association supports legislation banning drivers from manually texting or emailing while operating a motorized vehicle. (*Amended Res 10-103, HOD 2010*) (*Reaffirmed HOD 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Sunset: Already law, Ch 316.305, went into effect on October 1, 2019](#)

P 70.007 ESOPHAGEAL CANCER AWARENESS

The Florida Medical Association supports the promotion of April as National Esophageal Cancer Awareness Month. (*BOG October 2010*) (*Reaffirmed with technical amendment HOD 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Sunset](#)

P 90.022 LOCAL ALLIANCES FOR DRUG ENDANGERED CHILDREN

The FMA supports the development of local Drug Endangered Children alliances to reach the goals of: raising awareness of the issue of drug endangered children; providing support, information, and resources to all individuals and organizations that serve and care for drug endangered children; facilitating multi-disciplinary, coordinated provisioning of services and care to drug endangered children; preventing endangerment to children in dangerous drug environments by encouraging intervention at the earliest possible point; and, developing and sustaining a network of experts and professionals including physicians who can be called upon to conduct research, evaluate practices and procedures, and provide accurate advice and information regarding the needs of drug endangered children. (*Res 18-110, HOD 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Sunset](#)

P 130.021 DENIAL OF PRESCRIPTIONS BY WALMART HEALTH & WELLNESS PRACTICE COMPLIANCE OFFICE

The FMA will communicate to Walmart the need for their community pharmacists to collaborate with the local physicians by openly publishing and providing specific “prescribing patterns and other factors” parameters that they are monitoring and offer a time frame for recourse; the FMA requests Walmart discontinue sending, and rescind, physicians’ letters addressing “the physician’s prescribing patterns and other factors” until a more collaborative approach to the opioid crisis can be agreed upon; the FMA request the AMA, state associations, and national specialty societies engage national pharmacist organizations and corporate entities to ensure that physicians and pharmacists are collaborating to more effectively address the opioid crisis while not endangering patients or interfering with physician’s ability to care for patients. (*Res 18-316, HOD 2018*)

[Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Sunset](#)

P 135.006 RITALIN

The Florida Medical Association opposes legislation that places any restrictions on the prescribing of Ritalin for the treatment of attention deficit disorder in children and students; and further supports the following position of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), as recommended in a 1987 AAP report entitled "Medication for Children with an Attention Deficit Disorder." "There are definite indications for drug therapy in the treatment of attention deficit disorder. Careful evaluation of patients is essential for drug treatment. Monitoring and follow-up both at school and at home are vital; all physicians must work in concert with parents, principals, teachers, special educators and school nurses. In view of requests from other professional and school personnel to

1 prescribe medications for hyperkinetic children, all physicians should be cautious of becoming
2 surrogate prescribers of medications. It is important to remember that the overall management of
3 school failure may well be a multi disciplinary venture, but the ultimate responsibility for chemical
4 behavior modifications is the physician's." (BOG March 1992)(Reaffirmed 2002) (Reaffirmed HOD
5 2010) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)

6 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Sunset](#)
7

8 **P 160.004 DO NOT RESUSCITATE ORDER**

9 The Florida Medical Association supports educational programs for all long-term care facilities to
10 promote the identification of patients' DNR-O status; and endorses the use of bracelets to identify
11 patients with DNR-O status in order to provide immediate guidance to emergency medical service
12 first-responders and hospital; emergency physicians and their support staff. (BOG July 1997)
13 (Reaffirmed BOG 2007) (Reaffirmed HOD 2018)

14 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Sunset](#)
15

16 **P 420.044 TEXTING WHILE DRIVING**

17 The Florida Medical Association supports legislation to make texting while driving a primary offense
18 in the State of Florida. (Res 18-310, HOD 2018) (2024 - technical change because of duplicative
19 numbering)

20 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Sunset](#)
21

22 **P 420.045 EPILEPSY TREATMENT AND AWARENESS**

23 The Florida Medical Association will support Epilepsy Awareness Month by highlighting advances in
24 care, new treatment options, and services that are available for patients on the FMA website. (Res
25 18-108, HOD 2018) (2024 - technical change because of duplicative numbering)

26 [Recommendation by the FMA Board of Governors: Sunset](#)
27
28