1.**Resolution to update ACP policy on the treatment of the opioid epidemic**

Whereas the opioid epidemic is a national health crisis

Whereas treatment requires multiple modalities

Whereas the current state laws seem to be directed at restricting prescribing of opioids

Whereas many rehab facilities are prohibitively expensive

Whereas patients with addiction may not have insurance

Whereas patients with addiction may not be able to afford rehab facilities

Be it resolved that the ACP update its policy to advocate for mandatory government funding and/or insurance coverage of drug treatment facilities, that meet appropriate accreditation, quality metrics, and standards of care and

Be it further resolved that ACP support laws that provide patient access to drug treatment centers and

Be it further resolved that ACP oppose laws aimed at punishment of physicians who prescribe controlled substances according to appropriate medical guidelines and standard of care

2.

**Resolution to preserve independent medical staffs**

Whereas independent medical staffs help to prevent conflict of interests between corporate owned hospitals and employed physicians

Whereas many hospital systems are transitioning to an employed model

Whereas limiting hospital staff privileges to employed physicians only can limit access to care

Whereas maintaining continuity of care between a patient and a physician is beneficial to a better health outcome for the patient and

Whereas many health systems are systematically preventing physicians from seeing their patient in the hospital and

Whereas many hospital systems are limiting staff privileges to employed physicians only

Be it therefore resolved that the ACP support the policy that hospitals and hospital systems should never prevent physicians from joining hospital staffs, or admitting their patients, solely based on economic considerations, providing they meet all other clinical and ethical requirements and

Be it further resolved that the ACP send a letter to the Hospital Association requesting them to support the same policy

3.

**Resolution to prevent extending drug patents**

Whereas prescription drug costs are rising and

Whereas the price of generic medications is increasing and

Whereas patients not being able to afford medications impacts their care and

Whereas pharmaceutical companies will change indications for medications to extend patents and

Whereas the drug itself has not changed its chemical structure and

Whereas curtailing drug costs is essential for reducing health care expenditures and

Whereas allowing more medications to become generic will reduce burden of cost, therefore

Be it resolve that the ACP seek legislation or lobby appropriate regulatory agencies, in the most appropriate legal manner, to prevent an extension of a drug patent based on new indications if it does not represent a significant change in the chemical structure of the medication

4.

**Resolution to reevaluate the current ”firewall” between the C3 and C6 division**

Whereas advocacy is vital to accomplishing the mission of the ACP and

Whereas IRS tax code has strict requirements on actions organizations can take and

Whereas the ACP has previously received a letter of clarification on the nature of the activities that can be done and

Whereas laws and requirements have changed over the past 20 years and

Whereas the current political environment requires a more aggressive approach to advocacy and

Whereas many organized medical organizations have a less restrictive posture towards advocacy

Be it hereby resolved that the Board of Regents, in consultation with appropriate legal counsel, reevaluate the current ”firewall” between the C3 and C6 divisions of the ACP with the goal of a more integrated approach to advocacy and

Be it further resolved that the Board of Regents, in consultation with appropriate legal counsel, seek clarification from the IRS on how permissive the organization can be towards advocacy and political activity

5.

**Resolution on preventing the creation of rebranded prescription generic medications**

Whereas the cost of pharmaceuticals has increased and

Whereas patients rely on low cost medications to treat their conditions in an affordable manner and

Whereas pharmaceutical companies will rebrand prescription generic medications with a new name and label them as branded generics and

Whereas this rebranding of prescription generic medications allows insurance companies and pharmacy benefit managers to charge a higher price for prescription generics and

Whereas the insurance companies and pharmacy benefit managers can exclude certain branded generics from a formulary and

Whereas these actions negatively impact patient care by preventing the patient from being able to afford prescription generic medications therefore

Be it resolved that the ACP contact the appropriate government agencies and support legislation and regulations that would prevent pharmaceutical companies from rebranding prescription generic medications that are then sold as higher cost brand name prescription medications