BOR Action on BOG Resolutions Now Available

A summary of Board of Regents actions on Board of Governors (BOG) resolutions debated at the November 5-6, 2022, ACP Board of Regents (BOR) Meeting is available below. Resolutions initiated by ACP members and endorsed by a chapter council and the BOG become ACP policy when adopted by the BOR.

If you have an idea you’d like to suggest to ACP, consider submitting a resolution to your Governor or local ACP chapter. Visit your ACP chapter website for more information on how to contact your Governor or chapter staff about proposing a resolution.

Board of Regents Actions Taken on BOG Resolutions, November 5-6, 2022, Meeting

**Adopted and referred for implementation: (Lines 32-111)**

1. F21. Amending the Dues Payment Requirement for Fellowship Eligibility
2. F21. Facilitating Physicians in Providing Medical Care to Their Out-of-State Patients Without Imposing Undue Burdens or Compromising Doctor-Patient Relationships
3. F22. Advocating for the Evaluation and Mitigation of Racial/Ethnic Bias Risk on Clinical Care Decisions
4. F22. Recognizing Political Gerrymandering as a Significant Public Health Problem
5. F22. Promoting Equitable Representation from All ACP Chapters at the ACP Annual Leadership Day Events
6. F22. Supporting Paid Sick Leave for Workers in the United States
8. F22. Asking CMS to Expand Coverage for Insulin Pumps to Patients with Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes

**Adopted as a Reaffirmation: (Lines 114-152)**

1. F21. Promoting a Safety Culture for Reporting Diagnostic Errors
2. F22. Improving Knowledge and Skills Surrounding the Care of Young Adults with Special Healthcare Needs in Internal Medicine Residency
3. F22. Improving Behavioral Health Access for Physicians Through Intentional Stigma Reduction
4. F22. Addressing the Recent Sharp Increases in Medical Liability Insurance Premiums around the Country

**Referred for Study: (Lines 156-177)**

1. F22. Studying How to Accommodate Adequate Paid Parental Leave in American Residency and Fellowship Programs

The Board of Regents approved, as a Consent Calendar, the recommendations regarding the disposition of each of the following 12 resolutions recommended for adoption at the Fall 2022 Board of Governors Meeting:

**BOG Recommended for Adoption/Implementation:**

6. F22. Promoting Equitable Representation from All ACP Chapters at the ACP Annual Leadership Day Events
   
   (RRC referral recommendation: Chapters Subcommittee/ECBOG with input from Division of Governmental Affairs and Public Policy [DGAPP] staff)

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents promote equitable representation from all ACP Chapters at the ACP Annual Leadership Day Events by providing chapter scholarship guidance and allocating equitable scholarship travel funds to support attendance for members including resident and students demonstrating financial need from smaller and more distant ACP Chapters.
8-F22. Supporting Paid Sick Leave for Workers in the United States
(RRC referral recommendation: Health and Public Policy Committee [HPPC])
RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents support the creation of an ACP policy statement that strongly endorses paid sick leave for workers in the United States.

BOG Recommended for Adoption/Implementation with Amendments:

4-F22. Advocating for the Evaluation and Mitigation of Racial/Ethnic Bias Risk on Clinical Care Decisions
(RRC referral recommendation: Clinical Policy and DGAPP staff (1st resolved clause); Clinical Guidelines Committee with input from the Scientific Medical Policy Committee (SMPC) (2nd resolved clause)
RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents, in collaboration with key stakeholders, advocates that all clinical tools, algorithms, or processes have their risks of racial/ethnic bias evaluated and mitigated; and be it further RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents develop, integrate, and iteratively refine a health equity framework into their methods for developing clinical guidelines recommendations.

5-F22. Recognizing Political Gerrymandering as a Significant Public Health Problem
(RRC referral recommendation: HPPC)
RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents adopt policy recognizing political gerrymandering as a significant public health problem, as part of the ongoing effort with other stakeholders to address healthcare disparities and promote health equity.

10-F22. Reducing ACP Plastic Waste
(RRC referral recommendation: Executive Office)
RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents reduce its organizational use of plastic. This includes reducing or eliminating the use of plastic at all in-house, regional and annual ACP meetings, as well as at ACP-sponsored CME events, limiting use of plastic wrap with publications, and making deliberate decisions about choosing sustainable, non-plastic materials for all ACP events and products; and be it further RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents publicize their goals of reducing and/or eliminating plastic waste (e.g., plastic wrap with publications, etc.) and making deliberate decisions about choosing sustainable, non-plastic materials for all ACP events and products; and be it further RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents encourage all medical organizations to reduce their organizational use of plastic. This includes reducing or eliminating the use of plastics in organizational related materials, limiting use of plastic wrap with publications, and making deliberate decisions about choosing sustainable, non-plastic materials for all meetings and products.

12-F22. Asking CMS to Expand Coverage for Insulin Pumps to Patients with Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes
(RRC referral recommendation: Medical Practice and Quality Committee [MPQC])
RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents request CMS to expand coverage for insulin pumps to patients with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes mellitus who require insulin to meet recommended thresholds for glycemic control; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents request CMS to expand coverage for patients with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes mellitus to include evidenced-based use of Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) devices and newer therapies including but not limited to SGLT2 inhibitors and GLP1 agonists.

BOG Recommended for Adoption/Implementation as a Substitute Resolution:

3-F21. Amending the Dues Payment Requirement for Fellowship Eligibility
(RRC referral recommendation: Credentials Committee with input from Membership Committee on the 2nd resolved clause only)

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents amend the current dues payment requirement for Fellowship eligibility from the current 3-years most recent dues payments to 3 out of the 4 years most recent dues payments; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents request that the Credentials Committee study all Fellowship requirement tracks and recommend changes to better reflect what constitutes distinction in professional accomplishments and activities that signify eligibility for election to Fellow.

8-F21. Facilitating Physicians in Providing Medical Care to Their Out-of-State Patients Without Imposing Undue Burdens or Compromising Doctor-Patient Relationships
(RRC referral recommendation: MPQC with input from Ethics, Professionalism, and Human Rights Committee [EPHRC] staff)

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents advocate for changes to allow physicians to legally care for patients across state lines through a system which is not excessively onerous, is patient initiated, requires a pre-existing and ongoing therapeutic relationship with the physician and applies to both federal and commercial payers.

BOG Recommended for Reaffirmation:

10-F21. Promoting a Safety Culture for Reporting Diagnostic Errors

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents:
• Promote a safety culture around patient safety events related to diagnostic errors.
• Promote proper education and training on diagnostic errors reporting systems as part of organizations’ safety culture.
• Promote medical education around diagnostic errors as part of medical schools and internal medicine residency programs curriculum.

1-F22. Improving Knowledge and Skills Surrounding the Care of Young Adults with Special Healthcare Needs in Internal Medicine Residency

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents will create toolkits for internal medicine trainees to supplement their knowledge and skills in congenital diseases, family centered patient care, and how best to navigate the social, legal and financial circumstances unique to young adult patients with special healthcare needs; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents will commit to collaborating with the AAP and AAFP to study ways in which experience with and comfort in caring for this patient population can be incorporated in medical training.
3-F22. Improving Behavioral Health Access for Physicians Through Intentional Stigma Reduction

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents promote and support state chapter efforts by providing resources for state chapters such as the existing knowledge/advocacy toolkit (e.g., letter templates, evidence/background information) to encourage state licensing boards and credentialing organizations (such as medical staff credentialing entities) to use non-stigmatizing language in credentialing processes across health care organizations when inquiring about a history of behavioral health conditions and physician’s competence to practice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents collaborates with other professional organizations (such as ACGME, AAMC, and National Association Medical Staff Services) and relevant stakeholders to advocate for the use of non-stigmatizing language to support physicians seeking mental health care.

13-F22. Addressing the Recent Sharp Increases in Medical Liability Insurance Premiums around the Country

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents address the issue of the recent sharp rise in medical liability insurance premiums around the country, as well as consider ways to work effectively with other national medical organizations including the AMA, relevant medical specialty societies, and other appropriate stakeholders in this process.

BOG Resolutions extracted from the Consent Calendar:

2-F22. Studying How to Accommodate Adequate Paid Parental Leave in American Residency and Fellowship Programs

The Board of Regents extracted Resolution 2-F22 to discuss. Following discussion, the Board of Regents VOTED: to refer Resolution 2-F22 to the Education Committee and the Division of Governmental Affairs and Public Policy for study.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents, in conjunction with the ACGME, AOA, AAP, ACOG, ABIM, ABMS, including representation from resident organizations, and other relevant medical organizations, form a task force to study how residency and fellowship training programs in the United States could successfully accommodate a 12-week paid parental leave.

Rationale:
At their November 5, 2022 meeting, the Board of Regents (BOR) voted to refer Resolution 2-F22 to the Education Committee and the Division of Governmental Affairs and Public Policy for study rather than adoption for implementation per the Board of Governors’ recommendation. The BOR is in full support of the intent of Resolution 2-F22; their action is intended to expedite the work of studying how residency and fellowship training programs in the United States could successfully accommodate a 12-week paid parental leave. The study period is recommended to evaluate whether the organizations named are the most appropriate to work with on this issue, determine how best to approach those organizations, and how to address the issue. The BOR emphasized their support of this issue and specified their intention by this action was to prevent potential time loss if the organizations are not the most appropriate or not interested in joining a task force on this issue.