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**Pennsylvania Medical Society  
House of Delegates  
Report**

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**Reference Committee E**

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**Presented by: Timothy D. Pelkowski, MD, Chair**

October 2017

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**CONSENT CALENDAR**

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Mr. Speaker, your reference committee recommends the following consent calendar:

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**Recommended for Adoption**

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1. Resolution 17-506: Transparency within the Functioning of the Pennsylvania Medical Society

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**Recommended for Adoption as Amended or Substituted**

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2. Resolution 17-502: Financing For Student and Resident Delegates

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26

Resolution 17-504: Use the PAMED Special Purpose Funds to Support Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the PAMED House of Delegates

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28

3. Resolution 17-503: Practicing Physician Declining Membership Analysis

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**Recommended for Referral to the Board for Decision**

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4. Resolution 17-505: PAMED Support and Provide Financing to Locate and Retain an Independent Healthcare Law Firm To Review Employment Contracts

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**Recommended Not for Adoption**

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5. Resolution 17-501: Full and Open Survey of PAMED To Prioritize Members' Needs

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**Recommended for Filing**

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6. Report 6, Board of Trustees

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7. Report 7, Board of Trustees

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8. Report 8, Board of Trustees

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1. RESOLUTION 17-506: TRANSPARENCY WITHIN THE FUNCTIONING OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MEDICAL SOCIETY

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RECOMMENDATION:

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Mr. Speaker, your reference committee recommends that Resolution 17-506 be adopted.

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Resolution 17-506 requests that the Pennsylvania Medical Society disseminate agenda action forms, executive summary of issues, and discussion items for upcoming board meetings to the county medical societies.

While this is a current practice, your reference committee heard testimony that the number of individuals receiving this information is limited and could be expanded.

2. RESOLUTION 17-502: FINANCING FOR STUDENT AND RESIDENT DELEGATES  
RESOLUTION 17-504: USE THE PAMED SPECIAL PURPOSE FUNDS TO SUPPORT DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE DELEGATES TO THE PAMED HOUSE OF DELEGATES

1 RECOMMENDATION A:

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3 Mr. Speaker, your reference committee recommends that Resolutions 17-  
4 502 and 17-504 be amended by substitution as follows:

5  
6 Resolved, That the Pennsylvania Medical Society explore multiple  
7 funding avenues, collaborative relationships, and engagement  
8 opportunities as methods by which to engage students, residents, fellows,  
9 and physicians in the annual House of Delegates meeting.

10  
11 Resolution 17-502 requests that the Pennsylvania Medical Society contribute at least equally with the  
12 counties (50%) to the cost of the attendance of medical students, residents, and fellows to the House of  
13 Delegates meeting.

14  
15 Resolution 17-504 calls on the Pennsylvania Medical Society to provide full financial support beginning  
16 with the 2018 House of Delegates, using the special purpose funds, for lodging and travel expenses for all  
17 county and medical specialty sections delegates and alternate delegates for the next 3 years.

18  
19 Your reference committee heard extensive testimony for both Resolution 17-502 and 17-504 that ultimately  
20 spoke to the spirit of engagement of all membership types across Pennsylvania at the House of Delegates.  
21 In addition, your reference committee heard testimony regarding the challenges of financing the cost of  
22 attendance coupled with limited funding resources at the county and state medical society levels. The topic  
23 is complex and a multitude of ideas were shared; therefore, your reference committee believes that this  
24 multifaceted issue should be studied further.

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26 RECOMMENDATION B:

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28 Mr. Speaker, your reference committee recommends that Resolution 17-  
29 502 and 17-504 be referred to the board for study as amended.

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31 3. RESOLUTION 17-503: PRACTICING PHYSICIAN DECLINING MEMBERSHIP ANALYSIS

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33 RECOMMENDATION A:

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35 Mr. Speaker, your reference committee recommends Resolution 17-503  
36 be amended by substitution as follows:

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38 Resolved, That the Pennsylvania Medical Society petition the American  
39 Medical Association to release to its membership in its annual report all  
40 aggregate survey data for the given year pertaining to reasons physicians  
41 are either leaving or not joining the American Medical Association.

42  
43 Resolution 17-503 directs the Pennsylvania Medical Society to petition the American  
44 Medical Association to study the reasons for membership decline among practicing  
45 physicians in the Life Stage categories, "Mature" and "Senior".

46  
47 The author offered this amendment because the survey has been completed, but the data  
48 has not been released by the American Medical Association.

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50 RECOMMENDATION B:

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52 Mr. Speaker, your reference committee recommends that Resolution 17-  
53 503 be adopted as amended. (Original fiscal note: \$2,500 - \$5,000;  
54 amended fiscal note: \$0)

1 4. RESOLUTION 17-505: PAMED SUPPORT AND PROVIDE FINANCING TO LOCATE AND  
 2 RETAIN AN INDEPENDENT HEALTHCARE LAW FIRM TO REVIEW EMPLOYMENT  
 3 CONTRACTS

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 5 RECOMMENDATION:

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 7 Mr. Speaker, your reference committee recommends the following be  
 8 referred to the Board of Trustees for decision in lieu of Resolution 17-505:  
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10 RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Medical Society Board of Trustees explore additional  
 11 methods to assist member physicians in reviewing prospective employment contracts.  
 12

13 Resolution 17-505 requests that the Pennsylvania Medical Society allocate \$1 million from its endowment  
 14 fund to support physicians in contract negotiations by retaining a law firm to review contracts and give  
 15 advice to physicians who are anticipating possible employment as a benefit of membership.  
 16

17 Your reference committee appreciates the author's intent, but cannot support the resolution in its original  
 18 format because it may run afoul of the IRS's 501(c)6 private inurement prohibition and, if adopted, may  
 19 compromise the Pennsylvania Medical Society's 501(c)6 status. The provision requires that no part of the  
 20 Pennsylvania Medical Society's net earnings inure to the benefit of any individual.  
 21

22 5. RESOLUTION 17-501: FULL AND OPEN SURVEY OF PAMED TO PRIORITIZE MEMBERS'  
 23 NEEDS

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 25 RECOMMENDATION:

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 27 Mr. Speaker, your reference committee recommends that Resolution 17-  
 28 501 not be adopted.  
 29

30 This resolution calls on the Pennsylvania Medical Society to conduct an anonymous survey of 100% of its  
 31 members to determine what membership believes are the most important issues on which leadership should  
 32 focus, what great challenges members are facing and need addressed, and identify the greatest concerns  
 33 that hinder members' ability to deliver care.  
 34

35 Your reference committee is sensitive to the author's desire to provide additional focus to the Pennsylvania  
 36 Medical Society's limited resources. However, the committee does not feel it is the duty of the House of  
 37 Delegates to manage how the staff and leadership of the Pennsylvania Medical Society obtain data and  
 38 input. Additionally, the Pennsylvania Medical Society has conducted several robust surveys and seeks input  
 39 from members on a very regular basis.  
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41 6. REPORT 6, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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 43 RECOMMENDATION:

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 45 Mr. Speaker, your reference committee recommends that the  
 46 recommendations in Report 6 of the Board of Trustees be adopted and the  
 47 remainder of the report be filed.  
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49 7. REPORT 7, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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 51 RECOMMENDATION:

52 Mr. Speaker, your reference committee recommends that the  
 53 recommendations in Report 7 of the Board of Trustees be adopted and the  
 54 remainder of the report be filed.

1 8. REPORT 8, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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RECOMMENDATION:

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Mr. Speaker, your reference committee recommends that the  
recommendations in Report 8 of the Board of Trustees be adopted and the  
remainder of the report be filed.

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Respectfully submitted,

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David Lucas, MD, MBA

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Aasta D. Mehta, MD

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John P. Williams, MD

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Hans T. Zuckerman, DO

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Timothy D. Pelkowski, MD, Chair

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