

Consent Calendar for the Reference Committee

2021 IAFP Congress of Delegates

THIS REPORT IS NOT POLICY AND IT WILL NOT BECOME POLICY UNTIL ACTED UPON BY THE IAFP CONGRESS OF DELEGATES

Mr. Speaker, your Reference Committee has considered each of the items referred to it and submits the following report. The committee's recommendations on each item will be submitted as a consent calendar and voted on in one vote. An item or items may be extracted for debate. All page references herein are to the 2021 Congress of Delegates' Handbook unless otherwise indicated.

Recommendation: Reference Committee recommends the following consent calendar for adoption:

Item 1- Adopt SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION #21-01 entitled "Opposing Physician Assistant Name Change"

Item 2- Adopt SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION #21-02 entitled "AAFP Ethics Consultation Team"

Item 3- Adopt SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION #21-03 entitled "AAFP Reference Committee Membership Review"

Item 4- Adopt RESOLUTION #21-04 entitled "Prevention of Death and Injury by Firearm"

Item 5- Adopt the SUBSTITUTE RECOMMENDATION #2 of the Chairman of the Board

Item 6- Reaffirm as current policy RECOMMENDATION #1 and #3 of the Chairman of the Board

Item 7 – File for information the following items:

- Report of the Chairman of the Board (except the recommendations)
- Report of the President
- Report of the President-Elect
- Report of the AAFP Delegation
- Report of the Treasurer & Financial Statement
- Report of the Speaker of the Congress
- Report of the Nominating Committee
- Report of the IAFP Foundation
- Report of the IAFP Political Action Committee
- Report of the Commission on Education and CME
- Report of the Commission on Health Care Services
- Report of the Commission on Legislation
- Report of the Commission on Membership and Communications
- Report of the Research Day Committee

**INDIANA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS
REPORT OF THE REFERENCE COMMITTEE**

French Lick, IN

July 25, 2021

*This report is not policy and it will not become policy until
acted upon by the IAFP Congress of Delegates.*

Item 1 - Mr. Speaker, your reference committee first considered RESOLUTION 21-01 entitled “Opposing Physician Assistant Name Change”, the resolved portion reading:

~~RESOLVED, that the Indiana Academy of Family Physicians oppose any effort of the Physician Assistants in Indiana to change their name officially to Physician Associates, and be it further~~

~~RESOLVED, that the Indiana Academy of Family Physicians continue to oppose any effort of the Physician Assistants to have independent practice in Indiana.~~

Mr. Speaker, testimony was heard regarding this resolution. While there was testimony expressing confusion regarding the resolution, all testimony ultimately stood in support for the resolution. Much of the testimony regarded state statute that prohibits physician assistants from officially changing the name of their profession. In response, attendees of the reference committee recommended that the resolution be altered to express the IAFP’s opposition towards the alteration of current state statute.

RECOMMENDATION: The reference committee recommends that Substitute Resolution 21-01 be Adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Indiana Academy of Family Physicians oppose any legislation for the amendment or modification of Indiana statute defining Physician Assistant, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Indiana Academy of Family Physicians continue to oppose Physician Assistants to have independent practice in Indiana.

Item 2 - Mr. Speaker, your reference committee next considered RESOLUTION 21-02 entitled “AAFP Ethics Consultation Team”, the resolved portion reading:

~~RESOLVED, that the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Board of Directors appoint annually a group of individuals to serve as an ethics consultation team (to be named and organized logistically by the AAFP), and be it further~~

~~RESOLVED, that the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) ethics consultation team consist of roughly equal parts non-physician members with backgrounds in medical ethics and a diverse group of AAFP members (who may or may not have specific training in medical ethics); and be it further~~

~~RESOLVED, that the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) ethics consultation team be tasked with reviewing and commenting on AAFP Congress of Delegates resolutions to~~

provide factual and historical context on any relevant ethical matters in the resolutions, and be it further

~~RESOLVED, that the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) ethics consultation team be made available to provide consultative service to the AAFP Board of Directors between and during their regular meetings, the AAFP Commission Chairs as needed during their work, and for any other special issue review as directed by the AAFP Executive Vice President and Senior Leadership.~~

Mr. Speaker, testimony was heard from attendees both in favor and in opposition of the resolution. Those in support for the resolution believe that this team would be able to prepare answers for specific societal issues that may occur or be presented. The concern of the resolution largely surrounded the ability of the IAFP to demand change to AAFP policy as well as the ways in which the Ethics Consultation Team would be selected. In response to this it was recommended that the IAFP submit the resolution to be discussed by the AAFP Congress of Delegates.

RECOMMENDATION: The reference committee recommends that Substitute Resolution 21-02 be Adopted:

RESOLVED, that the IAFP delegation submit a resolution to the American Academy of Family Physicians congress of delegates to perform the following:

- The AAFP Board of Directors appoint annually a group of individuals to serve as an ethics consultation team (to be named and organized logistically by the AAFP), and be it further
- That the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) ethics consultation team consist of roughly equal parts non-physician members with backgrounds in medical ethics and a diverse group of AAFP members (who may or may not have specific training in medical ethics), and be it further
- That the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) ethics consultation team be tasked with reviewing and commenting on AAFP Congress of Delegates resolutions to provide factual and historical context on any relevant ethical matters in the resolutions, and be it further
- That the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) ethics consultation team be made available to provide consultative service to the AAFP Board of Directors between and during their regular meetings, the AAFP Commission Chairs as needed during their work, and for any other special issue review as directed by the AAFP Executive Vice President and Senior Leadership.

Item 3 - Mr. Speaker, your reference committee next considered RESOLUTION 21-03 entitled "AAFP Reference Committee Membership Review", the resolved portion reading:

~~RESOLVED, that the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) develop an explicit policy wherein there is a process to review Reference Committee membership prior to each year's Congress of Delegates in order to assure that each reference committee has a balanced and diverse membership.~~

Mr. Speaker, testimony was heard both in favor and in opposition of the proposed resolution. Those in favor believe that this process will help to create a more diverse and cohesive representation on the reference committee that represents a larger portion of the IAFP membership. Those in opposition expressed concerns surrounding the creation of the process for determine the reference committee.

RECOMMENDATION: The reference committee recommends that Substitute Resolution 21-03 be Adopted:

RESOLVED, that the IAFP Delegation submit a resolution to the AAFP COD directing the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) to develop and publish an explicit policy to determine and review reference committee membership prior to each year's Congress of Delegates in order to assure that each reference committee has a balanced and diverse membership.

Item 4 - Mr. Speaker, your reference committee next considered RESOLUTION 21-04 entitled "Prevention of Death and Injury by Firearm" ,the resolved portion reading:

RESOLVED, the Indiana Academy of Family Physicians (IAFP) supports legislation that will prevent deaths and injuries by firearms, and be it further

RESOLVED, the Indiana Academy of Family Physicians (IAFP) supports measures to help family physicians further address the public health epidemic of gun violence in their practices and communities

Mr. Speaker, testimony was heard and the testimony was in support for the resolution. In particular, the attendees of the reference committee recommended that the resolution focus on the importance of public health and the utilization of an evidence based approach to supporting this resolution.

RECOMMENDATION: The reference committee recommends Resolution 21-04 be Adopted

Item 5 - Mr. Speaker, your reference committee next considered the second recommendation of the Chairman of the Board. The recommendation reads as follows:

~~Another recommendation would be a stronger emphasis and presence of our Academy in promoting the accomplishments of both the Academy and its members to the media.~~

Mr. Speaker, testimony was heard in favor of the recommendation of the Chairman of the Board. Attendees of the reference committee recommended that the IAFP expand the scope of its communication to the media, This includes the promotion of the achievements and work of family physicians in Indiana. Furthermore, it was recommended that the recommendation include a larger scope of media coverage through both media and social media.

RECOMMENDATION: The reference committee recommends that the Substitute Recommendation of the Chairman of the Board be Adopted:

Another recommendation would be a stronger emphasis and presence of our Academy in promoting the accomplishments, scope, and breadth of both the Academy and its members to all forms of media.

Item 6 - Reaffirm as current policy:

Recommendation #1 from the report of the Chairman of the Board:

One of my recommendations would be for the Academy to continue to fight for graduate medical education spending for Family Medicine residencies throughout the state of Indiana.

Recommendation #3 of the Chairman of the Board:

The last recommendation is for the Academy to continue to be a proponent in the science of vaccinations, particularly for Covid, as well as public safety measures in the face of any future pandemics.

Mr. Speaker, this concludes the Report of the Reference Committee. I wish to thank those who appeared before the Reference Committee to give testimony.

I would also like to thank Brian Johnson, MD, David Burkhart, MD, and Chelsea Kolodziej, DO for serving on the committee and assisting with the preparation of this report.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shane Avery, MD
Reference Committee Chair