

## The SOMA Policies

In this document you will find a record of all approved SOMA resolutions since the Fall of 2014. The resolved statements from these resolutions make up the "SOMA Policies". For questions, please contact the SOMA Parliamentarian at [parliamentarian@studentdo.org](mailto:parliamentarian@studentdo.org).

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### **Resolution: F-18-05**

Subject: OPPOSING TARGETED REGULATION OF ABORTION PROVIDERS (TRAP LAWS)

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association oppose the Targeted Regulations of Abortion Providers (TRAP laws) that impede and discriminate against a physician's ability to provide appropriate care to patients seeking family planning services, including abortion; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the American Osteopathic Association oppose the Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers (TRAP laws) that impede and discriminate against a physician's ability to provide appropriate care to patients seeking family planning services, including abortion; and, be it further.

### **Resolution: F-18-06**

Subject: CHILDCARE SERVICES FOR RESIDENCY/FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

RESOLVED, that Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) supports an increase in the number of residency/fellowship institutions that offer child care services; and, be it further,

RESOLVED, that Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) supports an increase in the accessibility of information regarding child care services at residency and fellowship institutions.

### **Resolution: F-18-07**

Subject: PROMOTING AVAILABILITY OF EPINEPHRINE AUTOINJECTORS IN PUBLIC SPACES

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) organizes an educational campaign to promote an increase in availability and usage of epinephrine autoinjectors in public spaces and to raise awareness about the benefits of such availability.

### **Resolution: F-18-09**

Subject: ADVANCING NUTRITION-FOCUSED EDUCATION WITHIN OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL SCHOOL CURRICULA DURING DIDACTIC YEARS

RESOLVED, that Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) encourages Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) to incorporate adequate levels of nutrition-focused education within COM curricula of didactic years.

**Resolution: S-18-01**

Subject: CONSTITUTION REVISIONS

RESOLVED, that the following changes be made to the SOMA Constitution: (see full text).

**Resolution: S-18-02**

Subject: BYLAWS REVISIONS

RESOLVED, that the following changes be made to the SOMA Bylaws: (see full text).

**Resolution: S-18-04**

Subject: INCREASED RESOURCES AND ACCESSIBILITY FOR LGBTQ PERSONS IN FEDERALLY FUNDED HALFWAY HOUSES

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) recommends that the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) supports and advocates for increased awareness of, inclusion of, and resources for the LGBTQ population within government-funded halfway homes; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA recommends that the AOA supports and advocates for the increased monitoring and regulation of government-funded halfway homes in respect to discrimination against sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression.

**Resolution: S-18-08**

Subject: ADOPTION OF EXPEDITED PARTNER THERAPY (EPT) POLICY AND ADVOCACY FOR NATIONAL LEGALIZATION

RESOLVED, that Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) endorse the use of Expedited Partner Therapy in accordance with the evidence and guidelines as outlined by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC); and be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA support legalization of Expedited Partner Therapy in all states in accordance with the evidence and guidelines as outlined by the CDC; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) endorse the use of Expedited Partner Therapy in accordance with the evidence and guidelines as outlined by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the AOA support legalization of Expedited Partner Therapy in all states in accordance with the evidence and guidelines as outlined by the CDC.

**Resolution: S-18-12**

Subject: COMBATING PHARMACEUTICAL EVERGREENING TO DECREASE HEALTHCARE COSTS AND INCREASE QUALITY, COMPETITION

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) will advocate for and support all efforts to combat evergreening, defined as the practice of extending the patent on a drug by filing a new patent for a marginal modification in shape, dose, or color in such a way that no efficacious benefit is made, in the pharmaceutical sector; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) will advocate for and support all efforts to combat evergreening defined as the practice of extending the patent on a drug by filing a new patent for a marginal modification in shape, dose, or color in such a way that no efficacious benefit is made, in the pharmaceutical sector.

**Resolution: S-18-14**

Subject: ADVOCATING FOR THE REPEAL OF THE DICKEY AMENDMENT, AND PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH ON FIREARM VIOLENCE

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) and the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) take an official policy stance that firearm violence is a public health crisis; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA recommends that the AOA stand by its policy (HR 450-A/15 FIREARM VIOLENCE) and therefore support and lobby for the removal of the Dickey Amendment and any other restriction on research entities, such as the Centers for Disease Control or the National Institutes of Health, from researching firearm violence as a public health issue.

**Resolution: S-18-16**

Subject: RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND ETHICAL MEDICAL PRACTICE

RESOLVED, that it is the position of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) that if a physician has an ethical, moral or religious belief that prevents them from providing a medically approved service or counseling regarding such, the physician must refer the patient to another provider or assist them in accessing care and must not abandon the patient; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that it is the position of SOMA that it is unethical for a physician to withhold information from a patient especially for the purpose of affecting the patient's autonomy or decision making, regardless of the provider's moral or religious beliefs; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and SOMA release a statement that our organizations will stand against any efforts of the HHS Division on Conscience and Religious Freedom that would infringe upon patient autonomy or allow for the discrimination of, abandonment of, or withholding information from patients who choose lawful elective procedures or therapies that conflict with a healthcare provider's religious and/or moral beliefs, including, but not limited to: gender affirming therapies and/or procedures, abortion, physician-assisted death, and contraception use.

**Resolution: S-18-17**

Subject: PHYSICAL HEALTH: INTRINSIC ASPECT OF MENTAL HEALTH FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) recognize physical wellness as an integral component of mental health; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA advocates to the established Mental Health Awareness Task Force that physical wellness and activities be incorporated into their efforts to support overall wellbeing.

**Resolution: S-18-18**

Subject: RECOGNIZING SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS' RIGHTS

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) work with the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) to advocate for the legal protection of sexual assault survivors' rights as defined by the Survivors' Bill of Rights Act of 2016 which include but are not limited to, the right to:

1. Receive a medical forensic examination free of charge, which includes but is not be limited to HIV/STD testing and treatment, pregnancy testing and treatment, access to emergency contraception, treatment of injuries, and collection of forensic evidence;
2. Preservation of a sexual assault evidence collection kit for at least the maximum applicable statute of limitation;

3. Notification of any intended disposal of a sexual assault evidence kit with the opportunity to be granted further preservation;
4. Be informed of these rights and the policies governing the sexual assault evidence kit.

**Resolution: S-18-20**

Subject: COMPREHENSIVE GUN VIOLENCE REFORM

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) advocate to the AOA to join physician organizations like the American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American College of Physicians, and American Psychiatric Association in the call for Congressional legislation that:

1. Labels violence caused by the use of guns as a national public health epidemic;
2. Funds appropriate research at the CDC as 1 part of the 2018 federal budget; and
3. Establishes constitutionally appropriate restrictions on the manufacturing and sale, for civilian use, of large-capacity magazines and firearms with features designed to increase their rapid and extended killing capacity.

**Resolution: S-18-21**

Subject: OPPOSING IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT AT SENSITIVE LOCATIONS

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) and the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) oppose the presence and actions of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) at healthcare facilities as they are defined as ICE sensitive locations; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the AOA lobby and advocate for federal policies that reinforce hospitals and other healthcare facilities as sensitive locations and discourage any ICE officials or officers from carrying out actions in these areas; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the AOA encourage healthcare facilities to clearly demonstrate and promote their status as sensitive locations, educate their employees on their rights in these instances, and ensure the privacy and safety of some of our most vulnerable populations while also decreasing their barriers to care; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that SOMA advocate to, and collaborate with, the AOA to create a document that clearly explains our rights and the rights of our patients in these difficult situations as to be available on the AOA website or distributed to healthcare facilities across the nation to be used for display or educational purposes.

**Resolution: S-18-22**

Subject: PROMOTION OF ORGAN DONATION EDUCATION AND REGISTRY  
ACCESSIBILITY AMONG OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL SCHOOLS

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) promote education concerning organ donation and organ donation registration during the month of April.

**Resolution: F-17-01**

Subject: QPR CERTIFICATION TRAINING AMONGST OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL SCHOOLS

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) support the establishment of a Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR) Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Prevention at each College of Osteopathic Medicine; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) implement a Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR) Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Prevention at leadership conferences as an optional workshop for chapter leaders, providing them with resources to bring back to their campus.

**Resolution: F-17-02**

Subject: CANNABIS RECLASSIFICATION: EFFECT ON RESEARCH

RESOLVED, the Student Osteopathic Medical Association and American Osteopathic Association support a review of the classification of cannabis under the Controlled Substance Act of 1970, to facilitate advancement in clinical, public health, patient safety, and health policy research involving medical cannabis use.

**Resolution: F-17-04**

Subject: STANDING AGAINST RESTRICTIVE HOUSING AND SOLITARY CONFINEMENT  
FOR JUVENILE INMATES OF PRISON SYSTEMS IN THE US

RESOLVED, that the official position of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) is that youth incarceration is meant to be rehabilitation and that the use of juvenile solitary confinement and/or restrictive housing imparts serious psychological and physical harms; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association stand against the use of solitary confinement and/or restrictive housing of juveniles in prison systems; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association recommends the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) adopts these or equivalent positions

**Resolution: F-17-05**

Subject: ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH INSURANCE

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) advocates for and supports an expanded and improved “Medicare for All” single payer health care system in the United States defined as a single public insurer providing health insurance to include coverage for all medically necessary services including doctor, hospital, preventive care, long term care, mental health care, reproductive health care, dental care, vision care, and prescription drug and medical supply costs for all residents of the United States with no out-of-pocket costs or copays; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) advocates for and supports an expanded and improved “Medicare for All” single payer health care system in the United States defined as a single public insurer providing health insurance to include coverage for all medically necessary services including doctor, hospital, preventive care, long term care, mental health care, reproductive health care, dental care, vision care, and prescription drug and medical supply costs for all residents of the United States with no out-of-pocket costs or copays.

**Resolution: F-17-06**

Subject: CHANGE TO NATIONAL STUDENT OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION BUDGET FISCAL YEAR

RESOLVED, that the Constitution of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association be amended such that Article XI, Section 2, Fiscal Year, shall read:

The fiscal year of this Association shall be from July June 1st through June 30th May 31st of each year. The books of account of the Association shall be closed as of the last day of June May in each year.

**Resolution: F-17-07**

Subject: CHANGE TO NATIONAL STUDENT OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION BUDGET PUBLICATION

RESOLVED, that the Constitution of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association be amended such that Article XI, Section 1, Annual Budget, shall read:

The National Treasurer shall submit, by July 1st by June 1st, a National SOMA Budget Proposal to the Board of Trustees, who may accept, reject, or amend the budget proposal. After the budget has been accepted, it shall be distributed to each constituent

chapter and published on the National SOMA website presented at the annual Fall Convention to the chapter leaders and available to all chapters upon request. All funding policies shall be outlined in the Governing Policies.

**Resolution: F-17-08**

Subject: URGE CONGRESS TO RETAIN DACA PROTECTIONS

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) supports DACA medical students, residents and physicians; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) supports and urges Congress to pass legislation that would retain DACA protections; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA recommends the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) to adopt these or equivalent position.

**Resolution: F-17-09**

Subject: INCREASING THE EDUCATION AND PREVENTATIVE PRESCRIBING OF NALOXONE USE FOR OPIOID OVERDOSE

RESOLVED, the American Osteopathic Association supports preventative prescribing of Naloxone and the education and training of its use for patients at risk of overdose, family members, and caregivers, in order to prevent opioid related deaths.

**Resolution: S-17-04**

Subject: INCLUSION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING IN OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL SCHOOL CURRICULA

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) supports the inclusion of healthcare-related human trafficking identification and response training in all osteopathic medical schools and graduate medical education curricula

**Resolution: S-17-06**

Subject: STANDING AGAINST SEXUAL ORIENTATION CHANGE EFFORTS (SOCE)

RESOLVED, that SOMA opposes the use of Sexual Orientation Change Efforts (SOCE), which is based on the assumption that homosexuality is a mental disorder that should be changed; and, be it further



RESOLVED, that the AOA opposes the use of SOCE, which is based on the assumption that homosexuality is a mental disorder that should be changed.

**Resolution: S-17-07**

Subject: IMPROVING HUMAN SEX TRAFFICKING AWARENESS THROUGH SOMA

RESOLVED, that Student Osteopathic Medical Association promote the implementation of an annual awareness event, preferably during the month of January, hosted by local chapters to promote education regarding the role of the physician in human trafficking intervention in accordance with AOA policy H401-A/14 Human Trafficking— Awareness as a global health problem.

**Resolution: S-17-11**

Subject: CREATION OF A SECRETARY ON THE SOMA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLVED, that SOMA shall replace the role of Web Content Director with that of Secretary; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Constitution of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association be amended such that Article VII, Section 7, Subsection 1, Members of the Board of Trustees shall read:

The Board of Trustees shall be comprised of the Elected National Officers, as well as the appointed National Board of Directors Chair and National Secretary. Each member will have control of one vote. The AOA Student Trustee and the Chairperson of the SOMA Foundation shall serve as an ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees and shall attend all meetings of the Board of Trustees but shall not have a vote on the Board of Trustees

; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Bylaws of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association be amended such that Article II, Section 1 “Appointed Members of the National Board of Directors” shall read:

1. National Board of Directors Chair (shall also serve on the Board of Trustees);
2. Convention Director;
3. Community Outreach Director;
4. Health Disparities Director;
5. Membership and Alumni Affairs Director;
6. Strategic Partnerships Director;
7. Osteopathic Practice & Principles Director;
8. Professional Development Director;
9. Political Affairs Director;
10. Senior Pre-SOMA Director;
11. Junior Pre-SOMA Director;

12. Public Relations Director;
13. Research Director;
- ~~14. Web Content Director~~

; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the duties of the Web Content Director shall be aligned under the purview of the Public Relations Director and Secretary; and be it further

RESOLVED that the constitution be amended such that Article VII, Section V shall read:

“Appointed members of the National Board of Directors and Board of Trustees shall be appointed by the incoming elected national officers at the Spring SOMA Convention as outlined in the governing policies.”

and be it further,

RESOLVED the rules of appointment be suspended for one year to allow the incoming Board of Trustees to select an interim Secretary.

RESOLVED, that the Constitution of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association be amended to add “in an elected position” to the eligibility for the National President in Article VII, Section 2 “Eligibility for Elected Office”.

**Resolution: F-16-02**

Subject: ABOLISHMENT OF PATIENT LOAD RESTRICTIONS TO INCREASE PHARMACOLOGICAL OPIOID ADDICTION TREATMENT ACCESS

RESOLVED, that the AOA advocates to states to not lower opioid addiction treatment numbers below the 275 maximum patient load allowed under the Comprehensive Addiction Recovery Act (2016).

**Resolution: F-16-03**

Subject: REINSTATEMENT OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH DIRECTORSHIP

RESOLVED, that Community Outreach Director be added to Article II, Section 1, of the SOMA National Bylaws; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that current National Board of Directors and Region Trustees collaborate to realign the goals listed on the Responsibility and Resource (R&R) sheet of Community Outreach Director so that they properly align with the current goals of SOMA; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Community Outreach Director 1 coordinate between AOF, SOMA Foundation, the National Board of Directors, and Region Trustees to provide comprehensive

collaboration on community outreach events on both a regional level and at National Conferences; and be it further

**Resolution: F-16-04**

Subject: INCLUSION OF LGBTQ HEALTH TOPICS IN MEDICAL SCHOOL CURRICULA

RESOLVED, that SOMA supports LGBTQ health topics being included in all osteopathic medical school curricula; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA lobby COCA to assess the curricula of osteopathic medical schools and their inclusion of health topics specific to the LGBTQ community; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA recommends upon completion of the assessment, if appropriate, COCA establish guidelines for osteopathic medical schools to integrate material about the specific healthcare needs of the LGBTQ community into the standard medical school curriculum.

**Resolution: F-16-06**

Subject: REWORDING OF THE OSTEOPATHIC OATH TO BE INCLUSIVE OF THE "DEATH WITH DIGNITY" ACT

RESOLVED, that SOMA recognize the need to alter portions of the osteopathic oath in an effort to give osteopathic physicians the liberty to practice in harmony with the "Death with Dignity" act, should their state allow them to do so and should they choose to do so.

**Resolution: F-16-07**

Subject: INTERSTATE OPIOID DATABASE

RESOLVED, that the AOA support an integrated national opioid database that allows authorized personnel in any state to access a patient's prescription history, regardless of their residing state.

**Resolution: F-16-09 (late)**

Subject: A CLEARLY ARTICULATED PROTOCOL FOR SLEEP FACILITIES AND SAFE TRANSPORTATION IN ALL PHYSICIAN RESIDENCIES

RESOLVED, that the AOA supports the provision of safe transportation for residents; who may be too fatigued to safely return home and, be it further

RESOLVED, that AOA ask all physician residency programs to create and make publicly available via the internet and in internal literature, such as resident physician program handbooks, a clearly articulated protocol for the use of their sleep facilities and transportation services for residents.

**Resolution: F-16-10 (late)**

Subject: SOMA NATIONAL PHILANTHROPIC WORK AS PART OF STRATEGIC PLANNING

RESOLVED, that SOMA encourage the Strategic Planning Committee include national philanthropic work as a pillar of the next strategic plan; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Committee define the 1 purpose, process, and goals of this national philanthropic work; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the relationship between nationally-driven SOMA philanthropic work and the SOMA Foundation be clarified.

**Resolution: S-16-01**

Subject: REMOVAL OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH DIRECTORSHIP FROM SOMA NATIONAL BYLAWS

RESOLVED, that Article II, Section 1, Line 2, "2. Community Outreach Director" be stricken from the SOMA National Bylaws; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA support community outreach efforts through encouraging appointment of local community outreach directors by member chapters, promoting Regional Projects via Region Trustees, and strengthening SOMA's relationships with the SOMA Foundation and the American Osteopathic Foundation (AOF) by cooperating on community outreach events both locally and nationally.

**Resolution: S-16-04**

Subject: EXPANDING GENDER IDENTITY OPTIONS ON PHYSICIAN INTAKE FORMS TO BE MORE INCLUSIVE OF LGBTQ PATIENTS

RESOLVED, that the OOA support the inclusion of a two-part demographic inquiry on patient intake forms, requesting patients indicate their "Sex" (assigned at birth) and "Gender Identity," separately; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the “Gender Identity” question provide the following four options: “Male,” “Female,” “Transgender,” and “Additional category (please specify).”

**Resolution: S-16-08**

Subject: PROPOSED CREATION OF A MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE WITHIN THE AOA

RESOLVED, that the American Osteopathic Association creates a Mental Health Task Force consisting of physicians, legislative advocates, mental health experts, residents and/or students with the following goals:

1. Identify and collaborate with already-existing national mental health initiatives
2. Create a D.O. Day of Mental Wellness in May, to coincide with the annual Mental Awareness Health Month, and work with the AOA staff to create resources regarding mental health (existing services, ways to stimulate mental health conversations with coworkers, etc.)
3. Issue white papers to the Bureau of State Governmental Affairs to assist State Societies with mental health information, common ways that medical boards handle mental health issues, and ways to advocate for better practices among state medical boards
4. Collaborate with State Divisional Societies, Specialty Society Affiliates, and Non-Practice affiliates on other relevant mental health initiatives
5. Submit reports each July for the next three years to the AOA Board of Trustees

**Resolution: S-16-13**

Subject: AOA SUPPORT EDUCATION ON AND PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR ACADEMIC DRUG ABUSE

RESOLVED, that the AOA, will support and promote community education regarding academic drug abuse; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the AOA will support CME of physicians to ensure appropriate diagnosis, dosing, and treatment of conditions which utilize drugs abused for academic performance; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA advocate to the AOA that they will provide all necessary resources to both COCA and AACOM to recommend education on the long-term sequelae of academic drug abuse, and to develop and implement curriculum requirements to ensure the safety and well-being of osteopathic medical students.

**Resolution: S-16-15**

Subject: CALL TO EXPAND ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLVED, that ARTICLE II, Section 2, of the SOMA Bylaws be modified with the following changes:

Section 2. Applicant Eligibility Criteria.

In order to be eligible to serve in any National Board of Directors position, applicants shall be active members of this Association and shall currently or have previously served as the president or NLO of a local SOMA Chapter or have served as a delegate or alternate for attended two SOMA National Conventions and be nominated by their Chapter President or NLO. National Board of Directors Chair, Convention Director, Membership and Alumni Affairs Director, Strategic Partnerships Director, and Senior Pre- SOMA Director applicants shall currently or have previously served as National Officers. For the positions of Convention Director, Membership and Alumni Affairs Director, and Strategic Partnerships Director, it is recommended (but not required) that applicants have currently or previously served as National Officers.

**Resolution: S-16-19**

Subject: TELECONFERENCE IMPLEMENTATION FOR GME INTERVIEWS

RESOLVED, that the AOA and its representatives to the ACGME Accreditation Review Committee encourage residency directors to evaluate the implementation of teleconferencing for GME interviewing in order to allow for equal access to applicants regardless of socioeconomic status.

**Resolution: S-16-20**

Subject: SUPPORT FOR TITLE X FUNDED FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES

RESOLVED, that the official position of the Student Osteopathic 1 Medical Association (SOMA) shall be that Title X funded family planning services are critical components of public health and primary health care; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA shall advocate for Title X funded family planning services; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA recommends the AOA to adopt these or equivalent positions.

**Resolution: S-16-21**

Subject: FORMALIZING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOMA AND THE SOMA FOUNDATION

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) Constitution, Article VII National Officers, Section 7. Board of Trustees, Subsection 1. Members of the Board of Trustees shall be amended as follows:

“The Board of Trustees shall be comprised of the Elected National Officers, as well as the appointed National Board Liaison. Each member will have control of one vote. The AOA Student Trustee **and the Chairperson of the SOMA Foundation** shall serve as ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees and shall attend all meetings of the Board but shall not have a vote.”; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) Bylaws shall be amended by adding the following:

#### ARTICLE IX- SOMA Foundation

Section 1. Definition. The SOMA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization incorporated in the State of Illinois and is designated as a 509(a)(3) supporting organization with SOMA acting as the supported organization.

Section 2. Appointing the Foundation Chairperson. The current Board of the SOMA Foundation shall interview candidates during the fall meeting of the House of Delegates and select an incoming Foundation Chairperson in accordance with their established Bylaws. The SOMA Board of Trustees will at their discretion approve and appoint the nominated incoming Foundation Chairperson.

#### **Resolution: F-15-01**

Subject: AOA SUPPORT FOR NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

RESOLVED, that the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) supports repealing the ban on federal funding for syringe exchange programs; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the AOA supports patient education of such programs.

#### **Resolution: F-15-03**

Subject: HEALTH INSURANCE AVAILABILITY TO OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL STUDENTS

RESOLVED, that the AOA utilize its resources to advocate for subsidized and more affordable healthcare for Osteopathic Medical Students for the duration of their education.

#### **Resolution: F-15-04**

Subject: NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS' INCLUSION OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND LOAN REPAYMENT

RESOLVED, that SOMA recommend that the AOA advocate for the inclusion of Emergency Medicine by the National Health Service Corps for the purpose of scholarships and loan repayment

**Resolution: F-15-05**

Subject: PROTECTING AMERICAN CONSUMERS BY INCLUSION OF ADDED SUGAR INFORMATION TO FDA NUTRITION AND SUPPLEMENT FACT LABELS

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) officially adopt the position that the FDA should modify the Nutrition and Supplement Fact labels to include added sugar content. In addition, SOMA should strongly support the FDA's proposal for Percent Daily Value of added sugar based on maximum daily limit and as a percentage 1 of total calories; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA recommend the American Osteopathic Association support the FDA's proposal of July, 2015, as a supplement to their March 2014 proposed rule, to modify the Nutrition and Supplement Fact labels and include added sugar content along with the inclusion of maximum Percent Daily Value for added sugar based on a percentage of total calories, and that the AOA add this to their advocacy agenda for public health so consumers can make informed dietary choices and reduce their intake of added sugar.

**Resolution: F-15-07**

Subject: CALL TO ACTION FOR AOA TO RECOMMEND THAT COCA AND AACOM PROVIDE MINIMUM CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS THAT ALLOW ALL OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL STUDENTS ACCESS TO COURSEWORK IN BUSINESS MEDICINE

RESOLVED, that SOMA shall advocate to the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) to encourage the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) and COCA to develop and implement curriculum requirements that will ensure all osteopathic students have access to coursework in business medicine that includes a minimum base knowledge regarding: managerial accounting, establishing a practice, insurance provider systems, clinical administration, and the financial costs of providing health care.

**Resolution: F-15-11**

Subject: ADVOCATE FOR HARM REDUCTION MODALITIES TO BE AVAILABLE AT BOTH STATE AND FEDERAL LEVELS FOR PEOPLE WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS



RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) will officially adopt the position that increased harm reduction modalities should be available at the state and federal level to benefit people with substance abuse disorders; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the SOMA recommend the American Osteopathic Association advocate for increased harm reduction modalities at both state and federal levels.

**Resolution: F-15-13 (late)**

Subject: CREATION OF SOMA PARLIAMENTARIAN FROM RESOLUTIONS DIRECTOR

RESOLVED, that the position of Resolutions Director, currently an appointed member of the SOMA National Board of Directors, be dissolved; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the position of National Parliamentarian be created as an elected national officer as a member of the SOMA Board of Trustees, to assume the duties and responsibilities of the current Resolutions Director; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the National Parliamentarian be elected via special election by the SOMA House of Delegates at the 2016 Spring SOMA Conference for the 2016-17 term of office; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the position be elected for subsequent terms of office in accordance with Article VII, Section 3, of the Constitution of this association; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Constitution of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association be amended as follows:

ARTICLE VII - National Officers

Section 1. Elected National Officers. The Elected National Officers shall consist of:

1. A National President who shall be the Chairman of the Board of Trustees;
2. A National Vice President who shall also serve as the Speaker of the House of Delegates;
3. A National Treasurer;
4. **A National Parliamentarian;**
5. Regional Trustee (one from each region).

Section 2. Eligibility for Elected Office. All Officers must be active members of the Association. Candidates for National President shall currently or have previously served on the Board of Trustees. Candidates for National Vice President shall currently or have previously served on the Board of Trustees or National Board. ~~Candidates for National Parliamentarian shall currently or have previously served on the Resolutions Committee.~~

Candidates for the position of Region Trustee **and National Parliamentarian** shall currently or have previously served as the president or NLO of a local SOMA Chapter or have served as a delegate or alternate for two SOMA National Conventions and be nominated by their Chapter President or NLO. **Additionally, the Region Trustee must be a student from within the region they will represent.**, ~~in addition to being from the region.~~

#### ARTICLE XIII - Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws and Governing Policies

Section 2. Amendment Submission. Any member(s) of the Association may author an amendment to these Constitution and Bylaws or Governing Policies with required three (3) member co-sponsorship(s) by submitting the amendment accompanied by a brief explanation to the ~~National Vice President~~ **National Parliamentarian** and the National SOMA Office at least twenty-one days prior to the next meeting of the House of Delegates. Governing Policy Amendments submitted to the Board of Trustees shall be submitted at least twenty-one days prior to the date of vote on the amendment;

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Bylaws of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association be amended as follows:

#### ARTICLE I - Resolution

Section 1. Resolution Submission. Any member(s) of the Association may author a resolution by submitting the resolution, with member co-sponsorship(s), to the ~~Resolutions Chair~~ **National Parliamentarian** at least twenty-one days prior to the next meeting of the House of Delegates.

Section 8. Resolution Committee.

2. Chair. The ~~Resolutions Director~~ **National Parliamentarian** shall serve as the Chair of the House of Delegates Resolution Committee. The Chair shall appoint all members of the House of Delegates Resolution Committee from the above nomination list and any other members who he/she feels necessary to complete the business of the Resolution Committee. The Chair of the Resolution Committee shall also act as SOMA Delegate to the AOA House of Delegates.

#### ARTICLE II – National Board of Directors

Section 1. Appointed Members of the National Board of Directors.

1. National Board of Directors Chair (shall 1 also serve on the Board of Trustees)
2. Community Outreach Director
3. Convention Director
4. Health Disparities Director

5. Membership and Alumni Affairs Director
6. Strategic Partnerships Director
7. Osteopathic Practice & Principles Director
8. Professional Development Director
9. Political Affairs Director
10. Senior Pre-SOMA Director
11. Junior Pre-SOMA Director
12. Public Relations Director
13. Research Director
14. Web Content Director
- ~~15. Resolutions Director~~

**Resolution: F-15-14(late)**

Subject: ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS POSITIONS

RESOLVED, that the eligibility criteria for the positions of Convention Director, Membership and Alumni Affairs Director, and Strategic Partnerships Director be changed to recommend (without specifically requiring) prior service on as a National Officer of SOMA; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Article II, Section 2 of the SOMA Bylaws be amended as follows to reflect this change:

Section 2. Applicant Eligibility Criteria. In order to be eligible to serve in any National Board of Director position, applicants shall be active members of this Association and shall currently or have previously served as the president or NLO of a local SOMA Chapter or have served as a delegate or alternate for two SOMA National Conventions and be nominated by their Chapter President or NLO. National Board of Directors Chair and Senior Pre-SOMA Director applicants shall currently or have previously served as National Officers. **For the positions of Convention Director, Membership and Alumni Affairs Director, and Strategic Partnerships Director, it is recommended (but not required) that applicants shall have currently or previously served as National Officers.**

**Resolution: Res-S-15-01**

Subject: DO DAY ON THE HILL AS A MANDATORY SESSION FOR SPRING CONVENTION

RESOLVED, that SOMA make DO day on the Hill a required attendance session for elected voting delegates, without penalty in outstanding circumstances to be determined by the Board of Trustees.

**Resolution: Res-S-15-04**

Subject: ATTENDANCE AT SOMA CONVENTIONS

RESOLVED, That Article III, Section 9, Subsection 1 of the SOMA Bylaws be altered to read as follows:

“1. President and NLO Attendance. National SOMA requires that, at a minimum, the local chapter President and the National Liaison Officer (or their proxies) attend Fall and Summer Conventions, and that one outgoing and one incoming officer (or their proxies) attend Spring Convention. Other local officers and local chapter members are also encouraged to attend the spring and fall conventions. Any exceptions to this policy shall be offered on a case-by-case basis by the Region Trustee for said chapter.”

**Resolution: Res-S-15-07**

Subject: CALL TO ACTION FROM AOA TO ENCOURAGE STANDARDIZATION OF THE ADMISSIONS NON-DISCRIMINATION CLAUSE ADOPTED BY EACH OF THE 35 CAMPUSES OF THE AOA AFFILIATED COLLEGES OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE TO INCLUDE RACE, RELIGION, COLOR, SEX, GENDER IDENTITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, DISABILITY, VETERAN OR MILITARY STATUS, NATIONAL ORIGIN, AND CREED.

RESOLVED, that the Student Osteopathic Medical Association supports the standardization of the nondiscrimination clause across all 35 osteopathic medical schools to ensure that no present or future osteopathic medical student be discriminated against based on race, religion, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, veteran or military status, national origin or creed.

**Resolution: Res-S-15-09**

Subject: HEALTH CARE AS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT

RESOLVED, that SOMA declare that health care is a human right as a fundamental principle, and so be it

RESOLVED, that the American Osteopathic Association amend their Code of Ethics to include a section declaring health care to be an essential safeguard to human life and dignity and that health care is a fundamental right.

**Resolution: Res-S-15-13**

Subject: PROTECTING AMERICAN STUDENTS FROM PROFIT-DRIVEN FOREIGN MEDICAL SCHOOLS

RESOLVED, the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) officially adopt the position that federal student loans should be reserved for medical schools that meet the accreditation standards of the COCA or the LCME; and be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA recommend the American Osteopathic Association include the Foreign Medical School Accountability Fairness Act in its advocacy agenda.

**Resolution: Res-S-15-20 (Late)**

Subject: CREATION OF ELECTION DEADLINES FOR CHAPTER POSITIONS

RESOLVED, that annual chapter elections must be held on or before February 1st or four weeks before the annual Spring Convention (whichever comes earlier), without penalty in outstanding circumstances, to be determined by the Board of Trustees; and

RESOLVED, that the SOMA National Board will draft a letter on or before September 2015 to administrators/SGAs disclosing this development and demonstrating justification of this requirement.

**Resolution: Res-S-15-21 (Late)**

Subject: REPLACE 'NATIONAL BOARD LIAISON' WITH 'NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLVED, That ARTICLE II, Section 1 and Section 2 of SOMA Bylaws be modified with the following changes:

ARTICLE II – National Board of Directors

Section 1. Appointed Members of the National Board of Directors.

~~1. National Board Liaison (shall also serve on the Board of Trustees)~~

**1. NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIR (SHALL ALSO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES)**

2. Community Outreach Director

3. Convention Director

4. Health Disparities Director

5. Membership and Alumni Affairs Director

6. Strategic Partnerships Director

7. Osteopathic Practice & Principles Director

8. Professional Development Director

9. Political Affairs Director

10. Senior Pre-SOMA Director

11. Junior Pre-SOMA Director

12. Public Relations Director

13. Research Director

14. Web Content Director

15. Resolutions Director

Section 2. Applicant Eligibility Criteria. In order to be eligible to serve in any National Board of Director position, applicants shall be active members of this Association and shall currently or have previously served as the president or NLO of a local SOMA Chapter or have served as a delegate or alternate for two SOMA National Conventions and be nominated by their Chapter President or NLO. Chairperson of the National Board NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIR, Convention Director, Membership and Alumni Affairs Director, Strategic Partnerships Director, and Senior Pre-SOMA Director applicants shall currently or have previously served as National Officers.

**Resolution: Res-F-14-01**

Subject: ESTABLISHING A CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD CONSISTING OF PRESIDENT, NATIONAL LIAISON OFFICER, VICE PRESIDENT, AND TREASURER

RESOLVED, that Article III, Section V be amended to state: "Each chapter shall elect as chapter officers: a President, a National Liaison Officer, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, to serve as the Executive Board, except where the Region Trustee deems the chapter unable to elect a complete Executive Board due to extenuating circumstances. The Chapter may elect more positions, as it deems necessary. Any officer may hold a position in more than one student organization as long as a conflict of interest between the two positions does not occur. If a conflict does arise, it shall be the responsibility of the Region Trustee to settle the dispute in a manner that he/she deems necessary. If further measures 1 are deemed necessary the National SOMA President, with consultation by his/her counsel, shall determine the final decision regarding appropriate actions."; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this change shall go into effect after the conclusion of the 2015 Spring SOMA Convention; and be it further

RESOLVED, that new SOMA chapters have six (6) months to elect these officers after said chapter's charter has been granted by the SOMA House of Delegates.

**Resolution: Res-F-14-02**

Subject: CLARIFICATION OF AN UNINTENTIONAL TYPOGRAPHICAL EXCLUSION OF THE ELIGIBILITY OF THE ELECTED NATIONAL TREASURER

RESOLVED, that Article VII, Section 2, Sentence 3 be amended to state: "Candidates for National Vice President and National Treasurer shall currently or have previously served on the Board of Trustees or National Board."

**Resolution Res-F-14-04**

Subject: CLARITY REGARDING MATCHING SERVICE LISTING OF AOA RESIDENCIES WITH ACGME PRE-ACCREDITATION STATUS

RESOLVED, that SOMA will pursue clarity from the AOA regarding the timelines of residency program transition between the NRMP and NMS matching services; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that SOMA encourage the AOA to openly distribute information regarding the match transition and its implications to osteopathic medical students applying to those residency programs, starting in the period leading up to the pre-accreditation eligibility of AOA residency programs

**Resolution: Res-F-14-05**

Subject: REMOVE FDA BAN ON ANONYMOUS SPERM DONATION FROM MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN

RESOLVED, that SOMA recommends that the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) call for an end to the five-year deferment period for anonymous sperm donation for men who have sex with men, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the AOA supports lobbying measures with the intention of amending this policy.

**Resolution: Res-F-14-07 (Late)**

Subject: DELINEATING SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE POSITION OF RESOLUTIONS DIRECTOR

RESOLVED, that Article I, Section 8, heading 2 be amended to the following: "Chair: The chair of the House of Delegates Resolution Reference Committee shall be appointed as a National Board position to be titled Resolutions Director, and as such shall be required to meet all relevant applicant criteria for eligibility to that board. The Chair shall appoint all members of the House of Delegates Resolution Reference Committee from the above nomination list and any other members who he/she feels necessary to complete the business of the Resolution Reference Committee. The Resolutions Director shall also act as SOMA Delegate to the AOA House of Delegates."; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Article 1, Section 8, subsection 2 be amended to the following: "Vice Chair: The position of Vice Chair of the House of Delegates Resolution Reference Committee will be filled by the current National Vice President. Should the Vice President choose not to fill this role, the Chair will retain the ability to nominate an alternate Vice Chair at his discretion from current 1 members of the Board of Trustees and National Board. The Vice Chair shall act as the SOMA Alternate Delegate to the AOA House of Delegates"; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Article II, Section 1 shall be amended to list Resolutions Director as a standing position on the National Board of Directors.

**Resolution: Res-F-14-08**

Subject: SEPARATION OF TITLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND BENEFITS DIRECTOR

RESOLVED, the National SOMA Membership and Benefits Director position will be dissolved and the roles and responsibilities thereof will be respectively split between the two newly created National Board positions of Membership and Alumni Affairs Director and Strategic Partnerships Director; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Article 1, Section 1 and 2 of the SOMA Bylaws will be edited to reflect this change as listed below.

Bylaws of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association

ARTICLE II – National Board of Directors

Section 1. Appointed Members of the National Board of Directors.

1. National Board Liaison (shall also serve on the Board of Trustees)
2. Community Outreach Director
3. Convention Director
4. Health Disparities Director
- ~~5. Membership and Benefits Director~~
5. Membership and Alumni Affairs Director
6. Strategic Partnerships Director
7. Osteopathic Practice & Principles Director
8. Professional Development Director
9. Political Affairs Director
10. Senior PreSOMA Director
11. Junior PreSOMA Director
12. Public Relations Director
13. Research & Development Director
14. Website Director

Section 2. Applicant Eligibility Criteria. In order to be eligible to serve in any National Board of Director position, applicants shall be active members of this Association and shall currently or have previously served as the president or NLO of a local SOMA Chapter or have served as a voting delegate for two consecutive SOMA National Conventions and be nominated by their Chapter President or NLO. Chairperson of the National Board, Convention Director, ~~Membership and Benefits Director~~ Membership



and Alumni Affairs Director, Strategic Partnerships Director, and Senior PreSOMA Director applicants shall currently or have previously served as National Officers.

**Resolution: Res-F-14-09**

Subject: APPOINTMENT OF THE NATIONAL BOARD LIAISON

RESOLVED, that the National Board Liaison shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees Elect prior to the Spring Convention to then take part in National Board appointment during the Spring Convention

**Resolution: Res-F-14-10**

Subject: CREATION OF STANDING COMMITTEE FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR LONG-TERM VISION OF SOMA

RESOLVED, that the SOMA Strategic Planning Committee be formed as a standing committee of SOMA, with members to said committee being appointed by Board of Trustees.