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Title: MSMS Annual House of Delegates Date Change
Introduced by: Bryan Huffman, MD, for the Ottawa County Delegation
Original Author: Bryan Huffman, MD
Referred to: Reference Committee C
House Action: **APPROVE**

Whereas, the House of Delegates meeting in late-April or early-May is often on one of the first beautiful summer-like weekends of the year, and often conflicts with college graduations, and

Whereas, physician well-being and a high participation rate are both important issues for MSMS and the House of Delegates (HOD), and

Whereas, the number of fair weather weekends in Michigan is a limited commodity, and

Whereas, as the weather improves, the probability of conflicting weekend events increases for many Michigan physicians; while the weather outside is of little relevance to an indoor meeting, and

Whereas, a massive snowstorm in the middle of winter could significantly inhibit travel of delegates in the winter months, especially from northern Michigan. This historically has been referenced as the main reason against holding the HOD in the middle of winter. A significant storm could inhibit the ability to attain quorum, or disenfranchise delegates traveling from snowy areas, and

Whereas, the ability to travel in winter and early spring in Michigan has greatly improved since MSMS was first formed in the 1800's, and

Whereas, long-term average snowfall results for all regions of the state show substantial snowfall of approximately equal amounts for each of the three main snowfall months of December, January, and February. Snowfall averages for these months range from 12 inches in Detroit, to 20 inches in Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids, and 35-50 inches at Michigan Tech. However, average snowfall for March in these areas is 6.5, 8, and 15 inches, respectively, and 1.7, 2.7 and 15 inches for the month of April, and

Whereas, the likelihood of a major winter storm, which could inhibit travel, falls significantly in March and is quite low for the month of April, and

Whereas, if the HOD date is to be moved, careful analysis should be undertaken to minimize the likelihood of conflicting with other annual events such as spring break, other conferences, or graduation events, and

Whereas, arrangements to secure locations for the HOD are made more than a year in advance to ensure the availability of an appropriate venue; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the MSMS Board of Directors study the feasibility of scheduling an earlier annual date for future House of Delegates (HOD) meetings and report back its recommendations for a vote no later than the 2020 HOD. The study shall include, but is not limited to, consideration of the following: (1) Evaluation of existing commitments; (2) Annual potentially conflicting events such as spring break, other large medical events, or other events which could impede the ability of delegates to attend; (3) Weather considerations in regards to widespread travel limitations; (4) A preference for conducting an indoor

55 weekend meeting in colder weather months in order to open warmer weather weekends for recreation; (5)
56 Suitable venue availability; and, (6) Maximizing participation of MSMS members in future HOD meetings.

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59 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: \$5,000 or more as this resolution requires a Board study
60 which includes additional research and evaluation.

Relevant MSMS Policy:

12.70 MEETINGS – ANNUAL SESSION

The House of Delegates shall meet at least annually at the time and place of the Annual Session of this Society and may hold such number of meetings as the House may determine or its business require, recessing from day to day as may be necessary to complete its business and specifying its own time for the holding of its meeting. The House of Delegates may also be called into session at any time by the Speaker upon a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors, or on petition of twenty-five percent of the Delegates. The purposes of such special session shall be stated in the notice of call and no other business shall be transacted.

Relevant AMA Policy:

Meetings of the House of Delegates. B-2.12

2.12.1 Regular Meetings of the House of Delegates. The House of Delegates shall meet twice annually, at an Annual Meeting and an Interim Meeting.

2.12.1.1 Business of Interim Meeting. The business of an Interim Meeting shall be focused on advocacy and legislation. Resolutions pertaining to ethics, and opinions and reports of the Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs, may also be considered at an Interim Meeting. Other business requiring action prior to the following Annual Meeting may also be considered at an Interim Meeting. In addition, any other business may be considered at an Interim Meeting by majority vote of delegates present and voting.

2.12.2 Special Meetings of the House of Delegates. Special Meetings of the House of Delegates shall be called by the Speaker on written or electronic request by one-third of the members of the House of Delegates, or on request of a majority of the Board of Trustees. When a special meeting is called, the Executive Vice President of the AMA shall mail a notice to the last known address of each member of the House of Delegates at least 20 days before the special meeting is to be held. The notice shall specify the time and place of meeting and the purpose for which it is called, and the House of Delegates shall consider no business except that for which the meeting is called.

2.12.3 Locations. The House of Delegates shall meet in cities selected by the Board of Trustees.

2.12.3.1 Invitation from Constituent Association. A constituent association desiring a meeting within its borders shall submit an invitation in writing, together with significant data, to the Board of Trustees. The dates and the city selected may be changed by action of the Board of Trustees at any time, but not later than 60 days prior to the dates selected for that meeting.

2.12.4 Meetings.

2.12.4.1 Open. The House of Delegates may meet in an open meeting to which any person may be admitted. By majority vote of delegates present and voting, an open meeting may be moved into either a closed or an executive meeting.

2.12.4.2 Closed. A closed meeting shall be restricted to members of the AMA, and to employees of the AMA and of organizations represented in the House of Delegates.

2.12.4.3 Executive. An executive meeting shall be limited to the members of the House of Delegates and to such employees of the AMA necessary for its functioning.