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3 Title: Establish a Senior Section for MSMS Members
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5 Introduced by: Ved Gossain, MD, for the Ingham County Delegation
6
7 Original Author: Ved Gossain, MD, and Jaime Aragonés, MD
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9 Referred To: Reference Committee C
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11 House Action: **DISAPPROVED**
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13
14 Whereas, the U.S. population of individuals aged 65 years and older represents 16 percent
15 of the population today, but is expected to grow to be 21.6 percent by 2040, and
16

17 Whereas, the progressive growth in the over 65 and above cohort will continue to require
18 lifelong learning and “careering” for many people, including physicians, and
19

20 Whereas, the American Medical Association’s (AMA) Senior Physicians Section (SPS) was
21 established in 2012 with the mission of engaging physicians 65 years of age and above, both active
22 and retired, to introduce and promote ideas, policies, products, and services that are of relevance
23 to senior physicians- including helping to foster healthy aging and lifelong learning, and
24

25 Whereas, the SPS provides leadership in addressing the issues germane to the seniors and,
26 by presenting these ideas in the form of resolutions to the AMA House of Delegates, has ignited a
27 change in the policies for the senior constituency in the AMA, and
28

29 Whereas, the AMA SPS was recently reviewed by the AMA Council on Long Range Planning
30 and Development and was recommended for continuation through 2027, and
31

32 Whereas, the current members of the AMA Governing Council of the AMA SPS strongly
33 encourage that every state medical society should have a senior physician section to advocate on
34 behalf of senior physicians, senior patients, and their needs, and
35

36 Whereas, MSMS currently recognizes the need for medical students, resident physicians,
37 and young physicians to have a designated section to address the specific needs of those
38 physicians at that point in their lives and careers, but does not have a designated section for those
39 physician members at the opposite end of their careers; therefore be it
40

41 RESOLVED: That the MSMS Constitution and Bylaws be amended by **addition** to establish a
42 Senior Physicians Section as follows:
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44 ARTICLE VII—HOUSE OF DELEGATES

45 Section 1. - COMPOSITION—The House of Delegates shall be the legislative body of the
46 Society and shall consist of delegates elected by component societies, recognized specialty
47 societies, delegates from the Residents and Fellows, Students, Young Physicians, Organized
48 Medical Staff, **Senior Physicians**, and International Medical Graduates Sections, and other

49 sections as shall from time to time be approved by the House of Delegates, delegates-at-
50 large and ex officio members, as prescribed by the Bylaws.

51
52 12.10 COMPOSITION—The House of Delegates shall be composed of members elected by
53 the component societies, a delegate from each recognized specialty society, a delegate
54 from the Resident and Fellow Section, one delegate from the Organized Medical Staff
55 Section, **a delegate from the Senior Physicians Section**, a delegate from the Young
56 Physicians Section, a delegate from the International Medical Graduates Section and one
57 voting at-large delegate for every 50 MSMS student members to be selected by the MSMS
58 Medical Student Section. These student delegates and alternate delegates must be
59 members of the MSMS Medical Student Section. All other delegates and alternate delegates
60 must be voting members of MSMS.

61
62 Each component society shall be entitled to send to the House of Delegates each year one
63 delegate for each fifty voting members (active, life, and active emeritus) and one delegate
64 for each additional major fraction thereof. Any component society having less than fifty
65 members shall be entitled to send one delegate.

66
67 The president of a component medical society that all or part of which is located more than
68 400 miles by road from the site of the House of Delegates may designate a Regional
69 Director of its region to serve as a delegate to the House of Delegates, provided that no
70 member of the component medical society will otherwise be present in person serving as a
71 delegate in any capacity. In the case of such designation of a single Regional Director by
72 two or more component societies, said Regional Director shall have only one vote on all
73 matters before the House of Delegates.

74
75 12.30 ELECTION - CERTIFICATION—Each component society shall elect the number of
76 delegates to which it is entitled. The number of delegates shall be determined by the State
77 Society as of December 1, preceding the House of Delegates meeting. The component
78 society shall also elect an equal number of alternate delegates and shall designate the order
79 or seniority thereof. Promptly after election the secretary of the component society,
80 recognized specialty society, Resident and Fellow Section, Medical Student Section, Young
81 Physicians Section, International Medical Graduates Section, **Senior Physicians Section**, or
82 Organized Medical Staff Section shall certify the names of its delegates and alternate
83 delegates to the Secretary of this Society.

84
85 12.40 SEATING - TENURE—A delegate becomes a member of the House of Delegates when
86 the Speaker is notified in writing of the delegates election by the secretary of the
87 component society, specialty society, Resident and Fellow Section, Medical Student Section,
88 Young Physicians Section, International Medical Graduates Section or Organized Medical
89 Staff Section. Such certification shall be submitted by February 1 of each year. The delegate
90 shall remain a member of the House of Delegates until the Speaker is notified, in writing, by
91 the secretary of the component society, specialty society, Resident and Fellow Section,
92 Medical Student Section, Young Physicians Section, International Medical Graduates
93 Section, **Senior Physicians Section**, or Organized Medical Staff Section that the delegate
94 has been replaced. The delegate shall remain a member of the House of Delegates
95 regardless of whether or not an alternate substitutes for him/her at any meeting of the
96 House.
97

98 12.50 SEATING OF ALTERNATE DELEGATES—An alternate delegate may substitute for a duly
99 certified delegate at any regular or special meeting of the House of Delegates provided that
100 such substitution is authorized in writing by the secretary of the component society,
101 specialty society, Resident and Fellow Section, Medical Student Section, Young Physicians
102 Section, International Medical Graduates Section, **Senior Physicians Section,** or Organized
103 Medical Staff Section.

104
105 **20.80 SENIOR PHYSICIANS SECTION - "To provide representation for the interests of**
106 **senior physicians within the structure of the Michigan State Medical Society, there**
107 **shall be a section on senior physicians, composed of physicians over 65 years of age**
108 **and who are active or active emeritus members of MSMS.**

109
110 **The purpose of the Section will be to provide a forum within the organizational**
111 **structure of the Society for the study and consideration of matters of special interest**
112 **or significance to senior physicians in Michigan.**

113 **At its annual meeting, the Section shall elect a chair, a vice-chair, a secretary and at**
114 **least two at-large members. It shall also elect one delegate and one alternate delegate**
115 **to the MSMS House of Delegates, each of whom shall serve for a term of two years.**
116

117
118 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: \$4,000-\$8,000

Relevant MSMS Policy: See Above

Relevant AMA Bylaws:

Senior Physicians Section B-7.9

The Senior Physicians Section is a delineated Section.

7.9.1 Membership. All active physician members of the AMA age 65 and above shall be members of the Senior Physicians Section.

7.9.2 Elections. Membership on the Governing Council shall be determined through election by members of the Senior Physicians Section. All members of the Senior Physicians Section shall be entitled to vote in elections of Governing Council members. Ballot distribution and the voting process shall be conducted pursuant to election procedures adopted by the Governing Council and approved by the Board of Trustees.

7.9.2.1 Election of Officers. The Governing Council shall elect the Section Chair-Elect from among the Governing Council members.

7.9.3 Cessation of Membership. If an officer or Governing Council member ceases to be an active member of the AMA prior to the expiration of the term for which elected, the term of such officer or member shall terminate and the position shall be declared vacant.

Source:

<https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2020/demo/p25-1144.pdf>