



Commission on Federal and State Policy 2025 Annual Report

Commission on Federal and State Policy

Resident

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Class of 2025

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Purpose & Scope of Work

The Commission on Federal and State Policy (CFSP) supports the Academy's federal advocacy efforts and assists AAFP chapters with state level initiatives. Its work includes analyzing legislative and regulatory policies that impact family physicians, patients, and the health care system; recommending beneficial policy changes; and producing white papers and position statements to guide the Academy's advocacy efforts. The commission also collaborates with reference committees at the Congress of Delegates to assess proposed resolutions, reviews resolutions from various AAFP bodies, and conducts five-year reviews of relevant AAFP policies.

Activities & Achievements

The Commission on Federal and State Policy began its 2025 work during the Academy's Winter Cluster in January. During this session, commission members reviewed and voted on recommendations for 13 resolutions that came from the 2024 Congress of Delegates, several of which were recommended for implementation. These included measures such as tax incentives for rural family medicine preceptors, the removal of fentanyl test strips from the designation of drug paraphernalia, disallowing discriminatory insurance practices, standardization of FMLA paperwork, and better regulation of pharmacy automatic refill programs. The commission also collaborated with the Commission on Education to explore alternative licensure pathways for international medical graduates.



In May, the commission reconvened during the Summer Cluster to conduct a five-year review of Academy policies. This included reaffirming the “Medicaid, Core Principles” and “Drugs, Physician Dispensing” policies. The commission also updated the “Health Care for All” framework to better express our commitment to universal access, as well as incorporate positions on healthcare costs and current cost drivers.

The Family Medicine Advocacy Summit followed in June, where the commission was well represented. Members participated in advocacy-focused sessions and met with federal policymakers to discuss important issues in family medicine, such as focusing on physician payment reform, preserving access to Medicaid, and supporting student loan programs designed to develop the future generation of family physicians.

Lessons Learned & Value of Serving on CFSP

Resident: Dr. Ciara Voy

The opportunity to serve as a representative on the CFSP has been invaluable. I cannot express how much active participation in the AAFP commission has meaningfully improved my experience as a resident and as a family physician. Organized medicine is a means of staving off burn-out, staying current on the pressing problems of our profession, learning new perspectives, being re-inspired, understanding primary care beyond our own personal experiences, and seeing and furthering the continued innovations and efforts of colleagues. Only a part of what impacts our patients, peers, and profession happens inside clinics and hospitals. Policy and how it is enacted is much of the rest, and primary care physicians are in one of the best possible positions to understand that and to act on the knowledge. By taking part in these efforts, we can better remember why we fell in love with family medicine and its principles in the first place and to prepare to fight for them throughout our careers.

Student: Molly Stegman

Serving on the CFSP has been an incredibly formative experience for me as both a medical student and a member of the AAFP. I had previously engaged with AAFP policy work through Student Congress, but did not completely understand how a resolution was implemented once it passed in the Congress of Delegates or how the AAFP used these resolutions. Through this experience, I was able to see how a resolution is reviewed by legislative affairs staff, presented to the commission, and then approved for implementation. Additionally, through presentations from legislative affairs staff, which provided updates on advocacy efforts and successes, I learned how that policy is then used to affect change at the national level. Overall, it has been such a privilege to serve on the CFSP. I have gained a deeper understanding of the policy process within the AAFP and developed a greater appreciation for the work of both Student Congress and the Congress of Delegates. This experience has strengthened my commitment to health policy and inspired me to continue this advocacy throughout my career as a



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family medicine physician and active member of the AAFP. I would encourage anyone interested in health policy to consider applying for this position. You will not only learn about advocacy within the AAFP, but will gain a better understanding of policy issues affecting the medical system as a whole.