



# Student Delegate to the AMA-MSS 2018 Annual Report

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## AAFP Student Delegates to the American Medical Association – Medical Student Section (AMA-MSS)

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Medical Student Delegate

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### Scope of Work

The American Medical Association - Medical Student Section (AMA-MSS) is the medical students' voice and representation for protecting and improving medical education and advocating for the future of medicine. The AMA-MSS represents over 200 allopathic and osteopathic schools nationwide consisting of over 50,000 members. The MSS provides student members with an influential, unified voice on issues and policy of importance to medical students. It provides students a powerful opportunity to advocate for change. As the AAFP Delegates to the AMA-MSS, our purpose is to represent the AAFP and its policies at both, the interim and annual meetings of the AMA. Additionally, we make continual efforts to represent the student voice to the AAFP delegation. We attended two national meetings this past year, the 2017 AMA-MSS Interim Meeting in Honolulu, HI and the 2018 AMA-MSS Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL. During these AMA meetings, students introduced new policy for consideration by all of the delegates. The delegates from each medical school and specialty society discussed and voted on the resolutions for adoption, not for adoption, referral to the AMA House of Delegates or referral for study.

### Discussion and Actions

Throughout this past year, our key actions and discussions have focused on multiple facets of healthcare that are all in the best interest of primary care providers and the patients we serve.

In November at the Interim meeting, we testified on behalf of the AAFP in support of a number of resolutions. One important resolution we testified to focused on the AMA supporting legislation that would designate healthcare facilities as sensitive locations where U.S. immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) actions should not occur. This resolution was adopted in the MSS and HOD, becoming official AMA policy. During the interim meeting, we also provided testimony in support of an increase in GME expansion and advocacy. Additionally, we testified in support of resolutions promoting medical student wellness. These issues are important to us as future family physicians and affects our current family physician members of the AAFP.

In June at the annual meeting in the Medical Student Section, we supported increasing firearm safety to prevent accidental child deaths. The Academy strongly supports legislation restricting unsupervised access to both firearms and ammunition by children. We testified in support of a resolution that expands on-site physician home health care to low-income, frail and chronically ill people. Family physicians are leaders in providing home health care and this resolution ensures ongoing access to care for all populations. We testified to all family medicine issues in support of AAFP policy. Additionally, we went to every MSS region meeting to introduce ourselves and the AAFP. These introductions facilitated questions regarding the primary care perspective on MSS resolutions and exposed students to leadership potential in the Academy.

There were many other items of business that we discussed, contributed to, and voted on, but these were the primary highlights and areas of focus throughout our term this year.

### **Future ideas for the position**

Our goals for the future of this position include establishing a more effective and influential interaction between the AAFP medical student delegates and the AMA MSS regional delegates. In addition to our efforts this year of speaking at each regional meeting, we hope to create an activity at each AMA meeting to specifically caucus about primary care issues as a group. We will strive to include other primary care delegates such as AAP and ACP. We will establish AAFP as one of the leaders within the AMA MSS specifically regarding primary care issues. Finally, we hope to create an event at the AAFP National Conference to help expose students to current primary care issues being discussed at upcoming AMA meetings.

Overall, our goals are to continue the AAFP's mission and well-respected reputation at AMA meetings by being efficient, pro-active members of the AAFP delegation for the benefit of primary care.

### **Closing remarks by Elana Curry.**

Thank you for this incredible opportunity to represent the Academy and fellow medical students at the AMA Medical Student Section and House of Delegates this past year. In this position, I grew as an advocate and future physician. I had the opportunity to learn from AAFP leadership, engage in conversations concerning the betterment of patient care and medical practice, and to testify on behalf of my AAFP colleagues. This is a truly unique experience for a medical student, which will enable me to develop the skills to advocate for my patients, colleagues, and the future of healthcare in our country. I am thankful that the Academy supported my learning and growth and am excited to continue to work together to advance patient care.

### **Closing remarks by Tyson Schwab**

It was an honor to serve as the AAFP delegate and to represent the medical student's voice in family medicine for the past 2 years. The future of family medicine is BRIGHT and literally depends on us. During the past 2 years, I gained a wonderful appreciation for our AAFP leadership and all of the work they do to protect our future. With consistent hard work and passion, we will improve the lives of our patients, our society, and profession. I look forward to continually working with you individually and collectively in the future to further the AAFP's mission and purpose. I encourage you to become involved in state chapter and national AAFP positions. We need you.

Please contact us if you have any questions or comments.



*Note: This report was prepared by the resident or student representative(s) listed and includes their account(s) of the business conducted during their term. This is not an official record of business proceedings from the AAFP or any other entity. To find out more about the business of the AAFP, its congresses, commissions, and current policies visit [aafp.org](http://aafp.org).*