INTRODUCED BY: Gun Violence Prevention Task Force


Resolution 15-18, adopted by the MedChi House of Delegates at its meeting on April 29, 2018, required the “Development of a MedChi Task Force Related to Gun Violence Prevention.” The Task Force consisted of the executive committee who believed that the actions of the House superseded the need for the task force given the fact that the House passed clear direction and policy on gun violence.

MedChi took the following actions regarding gun violence prevention and will continue to monitor changes to gun law federally and in Maryland.

The following actions based on resolutions where taken by MedChi and the Task Force:

1. The House passed Resolution 16-18 - Lifting the Ban on Gun Violence Research & Related AMA Strategies. MedChi sent a letter to the AMA requesting a report. We expect a report in November.

2. As the result of MedChi Resolution 17-18 - Support Gun Buyback Programs in Order to Reduce the Number of Circulating Unwanted Firearms, MedChi’s AMA Delegation submitted a resolution that was adopted at the AMA House of Delegates in June as follows:

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association supports the institution concept of gun buyback programs as well as research to determine the effectiveness of the programs in reducing firearm injuries and deaths. (New HOD Policy).

3. As the result of MedChi Resolution 18-18 - Increasing the Legal Age of Purchasing Ammunition and Firearms from 18 to 21, MedChi’s AMA Delegation submitted a resolution to the AMA. As a result of MedChi’s resolution, AMA Policy H-145.985 was adopted as amended. The amendment includes the age 21 provision.

4. In July 2018, MedChi’s Ethics Committee held a forum open to all members on the issue of gun violence.

The Committee understands the one unresolved resolution from the April House of Delegates meeting is being reworked and will be an action of the House at this meeting. This resolution will address the issue of arming non-law enforcement personnel with firearms in schools.

This concludes the report and work of the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force.

As adopted by the House of Delegates at its meeting on September 22, 2018.