

MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution 34-15

INTRODUCED BY: Anne Arundel and Howard County Medical Society

SUBJECT: Alternative Specialty Board Certification Recognition

1 Whereas, ‘Board certified’ de facto means certified by a member board of the American Board
2 of Medical Specialties (ABMS) and the American Osteopathic Association Specialty Boards
3 (AOA Boards) despite the fact that the law in Maryland recognizes board certification as being
4 certified by ‘ABMS or its equivalent’; and
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6 Whereas, the ABMS and AOA member boards are not the only certifying boards for practicing
7 physicians in Maryland; and
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9 Whereas, the ABMS and AOA member boards have instituted maintenance of certification
10 (MOC) requirements that many practicing physicians find onerous, expensive and irrelevant to
11 their daily practice of medicine; and
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13 Whereas the Maryland Board of Physicians and third party payers only recognize ABMS and
14 AOA board certification as being ‘Board Certified’; and
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16 Whereas, the National Board of Physicians and Surgeons (NBPAS) only certifies current ABMS
17 certified physicians and previously ABMS certified physicians who may have lost their board
18 certification for refusal to adhere to ABMS MOC rules only after candidate physicians prove
19 adequate continuing medical education (CME) within a prescribed period of time similar to the
20 requirement for physician licensure; therefore be it
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22 Resolved, the MedChi endorse the AMA principles on maintenance of certification, as outlined
23 in policy H-275.924.
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26 As amended and adopted by the House of Delegates at its meeting on September 19, 2015.
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