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

Whereas, ‘Board certified’ de facto means certified by a member board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) and the American Osteopathic Association Specialty Boards (AOA Boards) despite the fact that the law in Maryland recognizes board certification as being certified by ‘ABMS or its equivalent’; and

Whereas, the ABMS and AOA member boards are not the only certifying boards for practicing physicians in Maryland; and

Whereas, the ABMS and AOA member boards have instituted maintenance of certification (MOC) requirements that many practicing physicians find onerous, expensive and irrelevant to their daily practice of medicine; and

Whereas the Maryland Board of Physicians and third party payers only recognize ABMS and AOA board certification as being ‘Board Certified’; and

Whereas, the National Board of Physicians and Surgeons (NBPAS) only certifies current ABMS certified physicians and previously ABMS certified physicians who may have lost their board certification for refusal to adhere to ABMS MOC rules only after candidate physicians prove adequate continuing medical education (CME) within a prescribed period of time similar to the requirement for physician licensure; therefore be it

Resolved, the MedChi endorse the AMA principles on maintenance of certification, as outlined in policy H-275.924.

As amended and adopted by the House of Delegates at its meeting on September 19, 2015.