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Meeting Minutes
NCMS Legislative Cabinet
(Joint meeting with NCMS PAC Board)
May 6, 2015
6:15PM

Attendance:

Legislative Cabinet Members: John Reynolds, MD, chair; Jeff Runge, MD; Conrad Flick, MD; Bill Ferrell, MD; John Mangum, MD; Rob Clark, MD; Lyndon Jordan, MD; Kristi Woods, MD; Michael Zarzar, MD; William Ferrell, MD; Robert Schaaf, MD (president); Docia Hickey, MD (president-elect); Dev Sangvai, MD (immediate past president); Mary Ann Contogiannis, MD (guest);

NCMS PAC Board Members: Sharon Foster, MD, chair; Chip Hedrick, PA; Matt Martin, MD; Rachel Keever, MD; Clyde Brooks, MD; Rebecca Hayes, MD; David Cook, MD (also member of the Legislative Cabinet); Lindsey de Guehery, MD; Randall Williams, MD

Staff: Robert Seligson; Jennifer Gasperini; Steve Keene; Chip Baggett; Dave Horne; Alan Skipper; Elaine Ellis; Conor Brockett

Call to Order:

Dr. Reynolds called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM. He thanked members for their participation and outlined the purpose of the committee and its role in the NCMS policy development process. This was a joint meeting of the NCMS Legislative Cabinet and the NCMS PAC Board of Directors. One goal of the PAC Board is to stay informed about legislative priorities of the NCMS and the performance of individual legislators who are involved in the issues. Dr. Reynolds turned the meeting over to the NCMS PAC Board for their treasurer's report and opening statements (this meeting was held in conjunction with the NCMS PAC Board meeting).

(PAC Board opening remarks, Treasurer's report: Sharon Foster, MD, Chair; Chip Hedrick, PA)

HB 543 (Medical Board fee changes):

Dr. Reynolds first recognized Steve Keene to provide a brief summary on the status of HB 543. This legislation would make updates to the Medical Board's application and renewal fees and make changes to certain other NCMB policies, as well as changes to the NC PHP program as a result of the 2013 state audit of this program. Steve reported the legislation has passed the House and awaits action in the Senate. The NCMS staff continue to work in coalition with the Medical Board and PHP toward passage of this bill.

Next Generation ACO Program:

Dr. Reynolds recognized Dave Horne to explain the Next Generation ACO program and the staff's current efforts underway to work with the legislature to clarify that Next Generation ACO participants are exempt from NC State insurance licensure requirements. Next Generation ACOs must sign a letter of intent to apply for the program this month.

HB 562 (Gun legislation):

Dr. Reynolds then recognized Chip Baggett to provide an overview of the General Assembly's recent debate over gun legislation (HB 562) which includes a section that would prohibit a physician from asking a patient in written form about lawful gun ownership. The legislation would also prohibit

1 physicians from reporting any information about lawful gun ownership to any government official or
2 agency. Chip then noted that the NCMS opposes this legislation and has been working in coalition with
3 the NC Psychiatric Association, NC Pediatric Society and NC Academy of Family Physicians to remove
4 Section 15 (physician provisions) from the legislation.
5

6 **Medicaid Reform:**

7 Dr. Reynolds recognized Chip Baggett to provide an update on the NC Medicaid reform debate in the
8 General Assembly. Chip noted NCMS is currently working closely with other provider groups and the NC
9 Hospital Association represented at the NCGA to put together a framework that would outline guiding
10 principles for any Medicaid reform legislation that would be considered this year. The document does
11 not speak to every aspect of what would most likely be included in legislation, but is intended to serve
12 as a beginning point without being conclusory as to how the final bill will be formed in the legislative
13 process.
14

15 **Other legislative issues:**

16 Dr. Reynolds recognized Jennifer Gasperini to discuss the last agenda item, other legislative issues.
17 Jennifer noted that the committee had been provided with a list of third tier priority legislative issues
18 relating to healthcare, along with links to the legislative text for each item. Jennifer raised a member's
19 concern with the current Biosimilars legislation (HB 195/SB 197) which would require notification by a
20 pharmacist to a physician after a substitution for an interchangeable biosimilar has been made. This
21 member, a rheumatologist, would like the committee to consider taking a position that would support a
22 requirement that this notification is made prior to the substitution. No committee members provided
23 specific comments or feedback on this issue, but were encouraged to email staff with any comments
24 following the meeting.
25

26 The staff then took questions and comments from the committee.
27

28 **Adjourn:**

29 The committee adjourned at 7:25PM.
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32

33 Respectfully submitted,
34 Jennifer Gasperini