Report of the House Committee on Bylaws

To the House of Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The members of the House Committee on Bylaws are as follows:

Jerome Craig Cohen, MD, FACP, Chair Broome
Frank G. Dowling, MD, Ex-Officio Secretary
Robert Allan Frankel, MD Kings
Timothy Francis Gabryel, MD Erie
Kira A. Geraci-Ciardullo, MD MPH Westchester
Robert B. Goldberg, DO New York
Robert Alan Hesson, MD Tompkins
Nina I. Huberman, MD, MPH Bronx
William R. Latreille, Jr., MD, FACP, AME, Ex-Officio Speaker
Joseph R. Sellers, MD, FAAP, FACP President
Barry B. Cepelewicz, MD, Esq General Counsel
Troy J. Oechsner Executive Vice Pres
Sandra Bennett Staff

At the 2021 annual meeting of the House of Delegates, the following resolution was referred to the House Committee on Bylaws for review and report back to the House of Delegates in 2022:

Resolution 2021-1, Create MSSNY IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section

The Reference Committee on Bylaws met virtually on August 6, 2021 to hear testimony, and a transcript was prepared and reviewed by the Committee. The Committee wishes to thank all who provided comments.

Original Resolution 2021-1, Create MSSNY IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section, provided as follows:

RESOLVED, that the following additions (underlined) and deletions (struck through) be made to the MSSNY Bylaws:

Article IV, House of Delegates
Section A, Composition
(p) delegate representing the IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section; and

Section A, last paragraph:
The IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section is authorized to be represented in the House of Delegates by a minimum of one delegate and, according to the rolls of the Medical Society of the State of New York sixty days prior to the annual meeting, one additional delegate for each additional 400 members over 100, up to a maximum of three delegates.
Article V, Council

Section A, Composition, Third Paragraph

Four councilors shall be elected annually by the House of Delegates, each for a term of three years. Two three councilors, one representing the young physicians section, and one representing the IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section shall be elected every third year by the House of Delegates for a term of three years.

Section A, Sixth Paragraph

Except for the councilor representing the medical student section, the councilor representing the resident and fellow section, the councilor representing the young physicians section, and the councilor representing the Organized Medical Staff Section, and the councilor representing the IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section, Councilors shall be assigned to specific county societies as liaison for the Council in accordance with the provisions of Article VI, Section B, paragraph 8.

Article VIII, Special Sections

Section E IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section

Membership in the MSSNY IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section shall be open to those paid members of the Medical Society of the State of New York who have obtained their medical school education outside the United States, or who are members in good standing of an ethnic medical association. Conduct, rights and privileges of IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section membership shall be governed by the Bylaws of the MSSNY. The IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section may establish its own bylaws so long as they are not in conflict with the Bylaws of the Medical Society of the State of New York and are approved by the MSSNY Council.

The IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section shall hold meetings in order to conduct such business as may be necessary. They shall establish a Governing Council to be elected by the constituents of the IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section. Any paid member of the Section may participate in meetings of the Section.

The IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section is authorized to be represented in the House of Delegates by a minimum of one delegate and, according to the rolls of the Medical Society of the State of New York sixty days prior to the annual meeting, one additional delegate for each additional 400 members over 100, up to a maximum of three delegates. The method of electing the delegates representing the IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section shall be determined by the Council.

The IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section is authorized to be represented on the MSSNY Council by one Councilor with voice and vote. The IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section Councilor shall be elected by the constituents of the IMG/Ethnic Medical Associations Section. The duties of the IMG/Ethnic
Medical Associations Section Councilor shall be as outlined in the MSSNY Bylaws, Article IV, Sections A and B.

Fiscal Note: $5,000 - $10,000 per annum, based on budget line set for other MSSNY sections.

At the reference committee session, we did not hear any testimony against this request. There was strong testimony that this is potentially a membership opportunity, not only to collaborate with ethnic medical societies, some of which are quite large and impressive, but to also encourage them to become members in the greater house of medicine. We also heard strongly felt testimony that this would be a great way to increase the diversity of our medical society.

During our Executive Session, there was a sense that some groups were being left out. Discussion focused on the concept of possibly developing a second, separate section for Black and other minority physicians. We concluded that this would not be in the spirit of the resolution and the testimony we heard, and we are cognizant of avoiding splintering MSSNY into smaller and smaller subgroups. However, as we are in very strong favor of inclusion of ethnic and racial groups and are focused on recruiting MSSNY members from these groups, we propose an amended resolution, with title change, as follows:

RECOMMENDATION 1:
The House Committee on Bylaws recommends that the title of this resolution be changed to

Create MSSNY IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section

RECOMMENDATION 2:
The House Committee on Bylaws recommends that Resolution 2021-1, Create MSSNY IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section, be amended as follows:

RESOLVED, that the following additions (underlined) and deletions (struck through) be made to the MSSNY Bylaws (amendments in heavy underline):

Article IV, House of Delegates
Section A, Composition
(p) delegate representing the IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section; and

Section A, last paragraph:
The IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section is authorized to be represented in the House of Delegates by a minimum of one delegate
and, according to the rolls of the Medical Society of the State of New York sixty days prior to the annual meeting, one additional delegate for each additional 400 members over 100, up to a maximum of three delegates.

Article V, Council

Section A, Composition, Third Paragraph

Four councilors shall be elected annually by the House of Delegates, each for a term of three years. Two councilors, one representing the young physicians section, and one representing the organized medical staff section, and one representing the IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section shall be elected every third year by the House of Delegates for a term of three years.

Section A, Sixth Paragraph

Except for the councilor representing the medical student section, the councilor representing the resident and fellow section, the councilor representing the young physicians section, and the councilor representing the Organized Medical Staff Section, and the councilor representing the IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section, Councilors shall be assigned to specific county societies as liaison for the Council in accordance with the provisions of Article VI, Section B, paragraph 8.

Article VIII, Special Sections

Section E. IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section

Membership in the MSSNY IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section shall be open to those paid members of the Medical Society of the State of New York who have obtained their medical school education outside the United States, or those paid members of the Medical Society of the State of New York who are members in good standing of an ethnic or racial minority medical association. Conduct, rights and privileges of IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section membership shall be governed by the Bylaws of the MSSNY. The IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section may establish its own bylaws so long as they are not in conflict with the Bylaws of the Medical Society of the State of New York and are approved by the MSSNY Council.

The IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section shall hold meetings in order to conduct such business as may be necessary. They shall establish a Governing Council to be elected by the constituents of the IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section. Any paid member of the Section may participate in meetings of the Section.

The IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section is authorized to be represented in the House of Delegates by a minimum of one delegate and, according to the rolls of the Medical Society of the State of New York sixty days prior to the annual meeting, one additional delegate for each additional 400 members over 100, up to a maximum of three delegates. The
method of electing the delegates representing the IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section shall be determined by the Council.

The IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section is authorized to be represented on the MSSNY Council by one Councilor with voice and vote. The IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section Councilor shall be elected by the constituents of the IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section. The duties of the IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section Councilor shall be as outlined in the MSSNY Bylaws, Article IV, Sections A and B.

Fiscal Note: $5,000 - $10,000 per annum, based on budget line set for other MSSNY sections. NOTE: This estimate was based on the 2021 MSSNY budget. The cost of additional staff resources must also be considered.

RECOMMENDATION 3:
The House Committee on Bylaws recommends that the amended resolution, Create MSSNY IMG/Ethnic and Racial Minority Medical Associations Section, be adopted by the House of Delegates.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerome Craig Cohen, MD, Chair