

**MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
2016 HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**REPORT OF THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE ON
RULES, CREDENTIALS, AND ORDER OF BUSINESS**

To the House of Delegates, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen:

ITEM NUMBER:

1. CREDENTIALS

There are _____ delegates registered and entitled to vote; there are no disputed delegations.

The registration record of this Convention Committee shall constitute the official roll call at each meeting of the House.

Your Committee met to discuss late resolutions and other matters pertaining to the House of Delegates and presents the following recommendation for your approval.

2. LATE RESOLUTIONS

RECOMMENDATION A:

Your Committee recommends that the following resolution be accepted:

LATE A CMS Revalidation of Medicare Billing Privileges
Introduced by Saratoga County Medical Society

Your Committee felt that Late Resolution A is timely and urgent because the issue is timely and merits discussion at the this meeting of the House of Delegates.

LATE B Transfer of Insureds to Other Carriers without Proper Notification
Introduced by Nassau County Medical Society

Your Committee felt that Late Resolution B is timely and urgent because raises a timely and important issue that should be considered at this meeting.

3. REAFFIRMATION CONSENT CALENDAR

Your Committee recommends reaffirmation of the designated current policies in lieu of the following resolutions. The makers of these resolutions have been informed of the Committee's recommendations. Current policies to be reaffirmed in lieu of these resolutions are listed in the attached Appendix.

Resolution 50- Assignment of Benefits

Resolution 58 - Requirement to Include Any Willing Provider On Insurance Panels

Resolution 60 - Out Of Network Coverage Provided In Every Health Insurance Plan

Resolution 61 - Medical Malpractice Tort Reform Provisions

Resolution 112- Make State and Federal Databases Bidirectional

Resolution 113 - Linkage of E-Prescribing Software To I-Stop

Resolution 114 – Interoperability of Electronic Medical Records

Resolution 163 - Universal Immunization of School Children

Resolution 250 - CMS Practice Parameters and Review Criteria

Resolution 256 - Require Co-Pay and Deductible Amounts on Insurance ID Cards
Resolution 262 - Abusive Pre-Certification/Pre-Authorization Practices by Health Insurance Companies

4. ELECTION AND BALLOTING PROCEDURE

Madam Speaker, Members of the MSSNY House of Delegates have been notified of the proposed House Rule prior to the HOD by the Speaker in her letter dated March 10, 2016. Your committee recommends the following set of rules be applied for the 2016 House of Delegates and, going forward, become the standing rule of the House.

A) The Committee on Rules and Order of Business, acting pursuant to its duties and responsibilities under Article VIII, Section 1, Paragraph 2 of the MSSNY Bylaws recommends adoption of the following standing rule for nominations:

Any delegate who wishes to be considered for MSSNY office “from the floor” must:

1. Provide written advance notice of such intention and written support of candidacy from TEN(10) MSSNY HOD delegates by verified email, fax or letter to the Speaker’s office at MSSNY headquarters no later than SEVEN days prior to the Meeting of the Committee on Rules, Credentials and Order of Business which meets Thursday before the opening of the House of Delegates

2. Also comply with MSSNY policies 207.976 and 207.991 which require basic biographical information about a candidate as well as a vision statement

These new rules are necessary since there was no mechanism in place at our House of Delegates meeting to properly evaluate a floor nominee. Given the extensive time delegates have to evaluate the nominating committee recommendations posted on the website, last minute nominations “from the floor” just prior to the election do not allow sufficient time for voting members of the House to properly evaluate these candidates and their qualifications. These requirements are meant to allow adequate time for proper vetting of candidates and to substantiate some support for the candidate. It allows all candidates to comply with existing MSSNY policy.

The Committee was provided information regarding the floor nomination procedures of the other organizations which include:

The Massachusetts Medical Society which states:

Any delegate intending to submit a nomination from the floor for any office is required to provide written notification and ten MSS members’ written support of candidacy by verified email, fax, or signature to the MMS Speakers’ office five business days in advance of the first session of the House of Delegates. The Committee on Nominations will present its slate of nominees at the first session of the House of Delegates. The Speaker will ask for nominations from the floor. (Only those nominations with the required advance notice will be allowed.)

And The AMA: HOD policy all candidates for election are required to complete a conflict of interest/disclosure of affiliations form prior to their election. Council nominees should include their forms with other nomination materials; officer candidates should send their forms to the Office of House of Delegates Affairs by March 15 of each year. The requirement applies to all candidates for election, including those nominated from the floor. (G-610.020[13])

The Committee believes these minimum requirements are fair and reasonable and are not an undue burden for any delegate who may be considering a nomination “from the floor” and will improve the flow of activity in the House, allowing for appropriate and adequate time for

consideration of these additional candidates and their qualifications. This new rule will also streamline the administration involved in creating documents and ballots incorporating additional candidates.

B) The following election and balloting procedures are consistent with the Bylaws of the Medical Society of the State of New York:

The Nominating Committee will present its report and nominations for officers, councilors, trustees, and delegates to the American Medical Association at the Saturday, April 16, session of the House.

The Speaker will:

Acknowledge nominations from the floor, if any

Direct the Secretary to cast one ballot for those whose candidacy is unopposed.

Instruct the members of the House that HALF the full number of AMA delegates is elected each year. The House will be electing 7 AMA delegates in 2016, therefore, twice the number of elected have been nominated for delegates to the AMA. (In addition, one Medical Student shall be elected delegate and one Resident Physician shall be elected alternate delegate for a one-year-term.)

C) Any changes in delegate certification for voting purposes on Sunday morning are to be submitted to the Committee at the Registration Desk on the day prior to the elections. The Committee will be unable to credential any changes in delegates after 4:00 PM on Saturday, April 16, 2016

The Society's annual election balloting will be held on Sunday, April 17, in the Westchester Ballroom of the Marriott Hotel (the MSSNY Production Room). The polls will open at 7:30 a.m. and close at 9:00 AM. Delegates must be wearing their badge in order to vote. Members of this Committee will certify each delegate and will then direct the delegate to a station where the delegate will complete the ballot electronically.

On Sunday morning, at the direction of your Speaker, election results will be made known to the House.

5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Members of the House of Delegates who have a substantial financial interest in a commercial enterprise, which would be materially affected by a matter before the House of Delegates, must publicly disclose that interest before:

- testifying at a reference committee on the matter or
- speaking on the floor of the House of Delegates on the matter

6. LIMITATION ON DEBATE

There shall be a 3-minute limitation on debate per presentation subject to the discretion of the Speaker who may waive the rule for just cause.

Madam Speaker, this concludes the report of the Convention Committee on Rules, Credentials, Order of Business, and we recommend its adoption.

I would like to thank Maria Basile, MD, Co-Chair of the Rules and Credentials Committee, Thakor C. Rana, MD, Paul D. Salzberg, MD, Steven I. Sherman, DO, Sonya Sidhu-Izzo, MD, Myrna Sanchez, MD, Kira A. Geraci-Ciardullo, MD, Speaker; William R. Latreille, MD Vice-Speaker and, on behalf of the Committee, all those who appeared and offered testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

Nameer Haider, MD, Chair, Delegate, Oneida County

Maria Basile, MD, Delegate Suffolk County

Thakor C. Rana, MD, Delegate Bronx County

Paul D. Salzberg, MD, Delegate NYS Academy of Family Physicians

Steven I. Sherman, DO, MD, Delegate Kings County

Sonya Sidhu-Izzo, MD, Delegate Schenectady County

Myrna Sanchez, MD, Delegate, Franklin County