



**Minutes of the Physician Assistant Policy Committee
August 21, 2020**

Members present: Scott Cackler, PA; Kindra Engle; Kit Kuklos; Jonathan Feibel, M.D.

Also present: Jill Reardon, Deputy Director of External Affairs; Kimberly Anderson, Chief Legal Counsel; Cierra Lynch, Stakeholder Liaison; Chelsea Wonski, Legislative Director.

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

I. Approval of minutes

The Draft minutes of the Committee's January 3, 2020 meeting was approved.

II. Introduction of External Affairs Staff

Ms. Reardon introduced the Medical Board's new External Affairs staff, which will also provide support to the PAPC. Cierra Lynch serves as Stakeholder Liaison, Chelsea Wonski serves as Legislative Director, and Ms. Reardon is the Deputy Director of External Affairs.

III. Introduction of Jonathan Feibel, M.D.

Ms. Reardon introduced Dr. Feibel as the newest member of the PAPC, recently appointed by Medical Board President Dr. Schottenstein. Dr. Feibel is an orthopedic surgeon and has served on the State Medical Board of Ohio since 2019.

IV. Legislative Update

House Bill 679, Telehealth: Ms. Wonski stated that this legislation has passed the House, but has not yet been assigned to a Senate committee. The Board's *ad hoc* Telehealth Committee, which is chaired by Dr. Feibel, continues to track the bill's progress and work on proposed amendments to address the Board's concerns.

Senate Bill 246, Occupational Licensing Reciprocity: Ms. Wonski stated that work the Board continues to work on amendments to this bill that would allow the Board to vet out-of-state applicants to the same standard as in-state applicants.

House Bill 747, Off-Label Prescribing: Ms. Wonski stated that this bill would restrict the Board from taking action against a licensing based solely on off-label prescribing.

V. Rule Review Update

Ms. Anderson stated that the rules that the Committee had worked on following the most recent physician assistant legislation are nearly final. These proposed rules would remove the physician assistant formulary. The proposed rules will be brought to the Medical Board for final adoption on September 9, with an anticipated effective date of September 30.

Ms. Anderson stated that the Committee had reviewed proposed rules on light-based medical devices in 2018. In the initial circulation of those proposed rules, some groups expressed concerns about possible anti-trust issues. The proposed rules were sent to the Common Sense Initiative (CSI) for anti-trust review, which was concluded in December 2019.

A number of public comments were received from the regular CSI rule review process, which have been provided to the Committee for review. Several comments, including from the Ohio Association of Physician Assistants, are about how physician assistants are treated in these rules. This matter was discussed by the Medical Board's Policy Committee, which recommended bringing the matter to PAPC for feedback.

Mr. Cackler stated that he had the same concerns as were expressed in the comments. Mr. Cackler stated that the proposed rules conflict with many practices and the added restrictions could delay care. Mr. Cackler stated that the rules are confusing with regard to delegation. Mr. Cackler further stated that the requirements for direct supervision can lead to a delay in therapy if the ordering physician is not the physician assistant's supervising physician.

Ms. Anderson stated that amendments can be drafted to address the concerns about supervision. Other Committee members were invited to provide comments to Ms. Anderson by email by September 4.

VI. PAPC Vacancies

Ms. Reardon stated that there is currently a vacancy on PAPC for a consumer member who is not affiliated with the medical profession. Committee members who know of any possible candidates for that vacancy were asked to inform Ms. Reardon or Ms. Lynch.

IV. Adjournment

Ms. Kindra moved to adjourn. Mr. Cackler seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2:19 p.m.