



## Speaker's Update

August 4, 2020

Dear Delegates,

I hope you are all doing well and staying healthy as we continue to care for our patients through the COVID-19 pandemic.

### November 2020 Virtual HOD & Previously Submitted Resolutions

If your CO submitted any resolutions for the May 2020 HOD, expect an email tomorrow from Tom Shoemaker. You will recall from the May Speaker's Update that all resolutions previously submitted for consideration at the May 2020 HOD are being returned to the authoring body for review. We ask that your constituent organization review these previously submitted resolutions in the context of the current healthcare environment and the profession's position within this evolving ecosystem. You should consider the following information and actions after review of your resolutions:

- If your resolution is still relevant and needs no further edits, please have your constituent organization reaffirm the resolution by submitting it under your new leadership's signature and sending to [HODstaffadvisor@aapa.org](mailto:HODstaffadvisor@aapa.org) by the respective deadline below.
- If your resolution(s) needs to be revised due to the new environment (i.e. pandemic, healthcare disparities and inequities, etc.), please make the appropriate edits and resubmit the resolution by the respective deadline below, again with the appropriate leadership signature.
- If you would like more time to work on the resolution(s) or feel it will require debate by the House, you can submit the resolution by the appropriate deadline for consideration at the 2021 HOD.
- **Deadlines:**
  - **Bylaws Resolution Deadline – August 22, 2020**
  - **Non-bylaws Resolution Deadline – September 21, 2020**

The House Officers continue to discuss, research, and determine how best to conduct **essential** business at a virtual HOD meeting in November. We plan to have the full Title Change Investigation presentation and a question and answer session between delegates and the various presentation contributors. We have concluded, however, that we will not be able to effectively run a full HOD with reference committee testimony, deliberation, and recommendations. To that end, the House Officers have charged the Standing Rules Committee to prepare any special rules they believe will be necessary to conduct essential business in a virtual meeting. The House Officers anticipate that any special rules for a virtual meeting will be distributed for review and a vote to approve will be conducted prior to the meeting.

In full transparency, the House Officers will place all resolutions and all recommendations associated with the 2019-20 Five-Year Policy Review (i.e. reaffirm, expire, or amend) on a

consent agenda. The House Officers have asked the Standing Rules Committee to consider a special rule that all resolutions removed from the consent agenda via extraction automatically be referred to the 2021 HOD, where we can properly debate and act on the resolution. Those resolutions or recommendations that delegates consider not requiring debate can become policy with a vote to approve the consent agenda. This will allow us to move forward with essential policy updates.

### **New Resolutions for Consideration at the 2020 Virtual HOD in November**

If your constituent organization believes it essential to have new policy based on our current healthcare environment, you can submit new resolutions for consideration in November. Any special rules that are enacted for the November HOD will apply to new resolutions as well. You should submit new resolutions by the following deadlines to be placed on the November consent agenda:

- **Bylaws Resolution — August 22, 2020**
- **Non-Bylaws Resolution — September 21, 2020**

### **2021 House of Delegates Meeting**

With the new leadership year, the House Officers have begun the usual planning process for the annual HOD meeting in May 2021. We are currently reviewing the policies up for five-year review and will communicate those assignments to the appropriate bodies in the next month.

The House Officers and staff are making plans to extend the May 2021 HOD to account for the extra business that needs to be accomplished with the cancellation of the in-person meeting in 2020. While details are still being finalized, we anticipate that the 2021 HOD will be in session Friday, May 21 through Monday, May 24.

As in other years, new resolutions for consideration at the 2021 HOD must be in the correct format (see [Resolution Guidelines](#) and [Policy Paper Guidelines](#)) and submitted by the following deadlines:

- **Bylaws Resolution — February 20, 2021**
- **Non-Bylaws Resolution — March 22, 2021**

### **Call for HOD Volunteers**

Are you interested in becoming more involved in the HOD? If so, please visit the [HOD Volunteer page](#) to learn about volunteer needs in the HOD, which currently include:

- Reference Committees -- Chair or Member
- Reference Committees -- Recording Secretary
- Credentialing Committee -- Member
- Tellers
- New Delegate Mentors

If you do have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the HOD Staff advisor, Tom Shoemaker via [tshoemaker@aapa.org](mailto:tshoemaker@aapa.org) or the House Officers via [houseofficers@aapa.org](mailto:houseofficers@aapa.org).

My best wishes for all of you to remain safe and healthy.

*William Reynolds*

William Reynolds, Jr., MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA  
Speaker of the House and Vice President, AAPA