Crunch Time - Last Week of Legislative Hearings on Bills

It is the final week at the Arizona Legislature for non-budget bills to pass out of committees, which also means the demise of many of the 1,289 bills introduced. Thanks to the hard work of the AOMA Legislative Affairs Committees, staff, and exceptional strategic advocacy by lobbyist Steve Barclay, JD, all of the bad bills AOMA opposed are either dead or impacts mitigated. AOMA also supports a number of significant bills heading for passage that will be beneficial for physicians and patients.

The most notable bills defeated would have made it more onerous and expensive to get a vaccination, while easier to bypass school vaccine requirements, and a bill to allow controversial and broad scope of practice expansion for pharmacists to prescribe medications, order tests, diagnose conditions, and extend chronic medications.

On a positive note, AOMA’s “going home bill” SB 1354, sponsored by Senator Carter, passed out of the House Appropriations Committee last week that would provide a $50 million appropriation to address the physician shortage through graduate medical education, loan forgiveness/repayment, incentives to hire retired physicians in teaching programs, etc. HB 2166 also passed out the Senate Finance Committee yesterday that would end health plan “copay accumulators” used to exclude copay assistance from third parties provide to chronically ill patient to help with their deductibles for out-of-pocket expenses. There are also a number of public health bills addressing texting while driving, vaping, maternal fatalities, diabetes, etc.

For more information about the bills the AOMA is working on, please visit the Advocacy Resource Center to view the Bill Tracking Sheet or call the AOMA office at 602-266-6699.

AOMA Annual Convention is Right Around the Corner

The AOMA 97th Annual Convention is less than two weeks away. This is the largest annual medical conference in Arizona and will be held April 10-14, 2019 at the Hilton Scottsdale
Resort & Villas.

Online registration is available until April 8, 2019 at [www.az-osteo.org/2019Conv](http://www.az-osteo.org/2019Conv).

The theme of the 2019 Convention is *Leading the Way*. The AOMA designates this five-day CME event for 38.25 hours of AOA Category 1-A credit and has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 credits™. Application has been filed for AAFP Prescribed credits. Determination of credits is pending.

**AOMA House of Delegates**

The AOMA House of Delegates will meet during the AOMA Annual Convention, Friday, April 12, 2019 from 4 to 6 p.m. AOMA members are welcome to attend.

Click [here](http://www.az-osteo.org) for more information about the AOMA House of Delegates, or if you have questions or need assistance, please contact AOMA at 602-266-6699 or send an email to communications@az-osteo.org.

**AOA Names Kevin Klauer, DO, as Chief Executive Officer**

Kevin Klauer, DO, EJD, FACEP, will join the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) as chief executive officer on or before May 31, 2019. Dr. Klauer will be the first osteopathic physician to lead AOA operations since 1981.

Dr. Klauer joins the AOA from TeamHealth, a leading clinician services organization, where he most recently served as chief medical officer for hospital-based services, chief risk officer and executive director for the patient safety organization. He also is an assistant clinical professor at Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine and a clinical assistant professor at The University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Medicine. A 1992 graduate of Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Klauer is board certified in emergency medicine and holds an executive juris doctorate from Concord Law School. He is a member of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) board of directors, where he is also medical editor in chief for *ACEP Now*, the ACEP’s monthly publication.

Welcome, Dr. Klauer!

**AOMA Online Directory**

*Do you know that the AOMA website features an online member directory and public physician search?*

Potential patients frequently call the AOMA office looking for an osteopathic physician. One of the many benefits of AOMA membership is patient referral. Through the Find a Physician search on the AOMA homepage, patients and other physicians can find you! Check it out at
And be sure to keep your practice information current. Login to your AOMA Member account and update your profile. Or call the AOMA office at 602-266-6699.

Thank you to the following organizations that have sponsored the AOMA Online Member Handbook and Directory: A.T. Still University, Midwestern University, and Mutual Insurance Company of Arizona (MICA).

Arizona Board of Osteopathic Examiners
The Arizona Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (Board) currently has vacancies for physician members.

Click here information about the appointment process and responsibilities while serving on the Board. Serving on the Board is an important and rewarding opportunity to protect the public and the integrity of the osteopathic medical profession.

Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association Names New President & CEO
The Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association (AzHHA), has named Ann-Marie Alameddin as its President and CEO, effective April 2, 2019. Ms. Alameddin, AzHHA's Vice President of Strategy and General Counsel since 2015, succeeds Greg Vigdor, who is retiring after six years. A third-generation Arizonan, Ms. Alameddin is well-known in healthcare circles around the state. She holds Master's degree from the University of San Francisco with a focus on healthcare and bioethics, and a Juris Doctorate and health law certificate from Arizona State University.

Welcome, Ms. Alameddin.
AOA OMED 2019 - Share Your Research

Call to Disseminate Research
The American Osteopathic Association is issuing a Call to Disseminate Research to all Osteopathic Specialty Colleges for OMED 2019, October 25-28, 2019, in Baltimore. The AOA seeks to integrate research into the osteopathic specialty colleges’ didactic sessions. The AOA will cover travel costs and provide an honorarium for speaker(s). Applications will be accepted through May 1, 2019.

Call for Research Abstracts
The American Osteopathic Association announces its Call for Research Abstracts for OMED 2019. The submission deadline is Monday, July 15, 2019 at 11:59 p.m. CST.

For questions, please contact Gloria Dillard, AOA Assistant Director of Grants at 312-202-8006.

Keep current on all the latest news from AOMA!
And confirm your email address with AOMA.
Login and update your profile! www.az-osteo.org

Patients are Looking for YOU!
Update Your Profile!
One of the benefits of AOMA membership is the Find a Physician public directory search. Make sure your practice information is up to date by logging in to your member profile on the AOMA website. When you do, prospective patients and potential referring physicians will be able to find you.

Join AOMA
Not an AOMA Member?
Join today and be a part of the 97-year tradition of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association!
Membership in AOMA is an affordable vehicle to keep abreast of national and local issues, protect your professional practice, enhance your specialized skills, further your career, and be a part of the future of osteopathic medicine in Arizona.
Refer a new AOMA member and receive at $100 credit. Go to www.az-osteo.org/Recruit

Arizona Vaccine News
AzDHS Immunization Program Website
AIPO Training
CDC Immunization Schedules

AOMA Calendar of Events- www.az-osteo.org