Ohio State Medical Association (OSMA) Council Resolution concerning 2020 Emergency Operating Regulations - Resolutions

By official vote of the OSMA Council on March 21, 2020, the Council adopts the following emergency resolution:

Whereas, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine issued Emergency Order 2020-01D Declaring a State of Emergency in Ohio due to the COVID-19 viral outbreak and Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton, MD’s Order dated March 12, 2020 prohibits gatherings of more than 100 people, and

Whereas, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 as a pandemic outbreak, and the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Ohio Department of Health are correspondingly advising social distancing measures to mitigate the severity of the spread of COVID-19, and

Whereas, the OSMA had a regularly scheduled Annual Meeting of its House of Delegates for March 21-22 in Columbus, Ohio at which physicians from all regions of Ohio publicly gather to elect OSMA officials and debate public policy and such public meeting is now prohibited, and

Whereas, the OSMA Constitution and Bylaws contain no provisions for how to conduct the Annual House of Delegates meeting in case of emergency when the meeting cannot be conducted in person, and

Whereas, the OSMA Council has all authority of the House of Delegates in between meetings of the House of Delegates and, therefore, has further authority pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 1702.11 to adopt emergency regulations, operative only during an emergency, to govern, among other items, OSMA meetings and elections, therefore be it

Resolved, that the OSMA Council adopts the emergency regulations, detailed below, to govern the debate and adoption of OSMA policy resolutions that would have been completed at the regularly scheduled OSMA Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates had the meeting not been canceled due to the COVID-19 state of emergency; and be it further

Resolved, that these emergency regulations are in effect until the OSMA completes the organizational business that would have been conducted at the regularly scheduled 2020 Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates.

2020 OSMA Emergency Regulations - Resolutions

The OSMA Council adopts the following process for disposing of all policy resolutions that were properly submitted for consideration at the 2020 OSMA Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates:
The Council appoints two Resolution Committees. The committees shall be formed using the committee structure that would have been used at the 2020 Annual House of Delegates.

1. House of Delegates is given a defined time to “virtually” comment on resolutions that have been posted online. OSMA staff to develop comment process/structure.

2. Resolutions Committees meet virtually to consider HOD comments and develop a consent calendar.

3. Consent calendar is posted online and any delegate may make extractions from the consent calendar. All requests for extraction must offer either an alternate action or amendment language with sufficient explanation of intent behind the extraction request.

4. HOD votes on the consent calendar by virtual vote using Election Buddy. Results are posted online.

5. All extracted resolutions are automatic referrals to Council for further action and report back to HOD 2021.