



• 2025 • LEGISLATIVE & REGULATORY PRIORITIES



MAOPS advocates for the osteopathic profession through legislative processes, including working directly with legislators during the General Assembly to educate them on healthcare related issues. MAOPS is also invested in regulatory processes by monitoring proposed rules, providing input and ensuring osteopathic physician representation. The following priorities are based on MAOPS policies, historical knowledge of what to expect and relevance.



PAIN MANAGEMENT, OPIOIDS, & CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

- Monitor the implementation of the state's new prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) to ensure its use as a tool for patient care and appropriate pain management.
- Support efforts to curb prescription drug misuse while maintaining physician autonomy in decision-making regarding their patients' pain management.
- Support access to, and payment for, patient treatment for substance misuse.
- Advocate for appropriate payment for alternative pain management treatments including osteopathic manipulative medicine.
- Support appropriate regulation of emerging synthetic and natural drugs to ensure public safety (including those sold over-the-counter containing THC or other mood-altering components - natural or synthetic).



LICENSURE & REGISTRATION

- Oppose examination requirements and/or topic-specific continuing medical education for annual license renewal.
- Support an increase in medical license and BNDD registration renewal periods.



TECHNOLOGY

- Support advancement of physician and patient use of telemedicine in a safe manner, while ensuring the appropriate standard of care is met and payment parity exists between telemedicine and in-person visits.
- Support efforts to ensure that electronic health records (EHR) and electronic prescribing are used efficiently without burdening physicians.
- Mandates for use and payment penalties associated with EHRs and electronic prescribing will be opposed.



PAYOR REFORMS

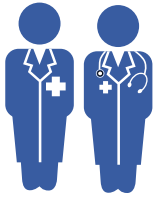
- Support legislation ensuring physicians can prescribe the medications and treatments they feel are necessary for their patients without undue burdens presented by payors or regulators.
- Advocate for improved prior authorization processes to expedite appropriate patient treatment and reduce unnecessary burden on physicians and patients.
- Support increased payor transparency to prevent surprise billing and other payment issues.
- Support enhanced transparency and licensure requirements for physicians employed by payers, including those participating in peer review processes.

See reverse for additional priorities.





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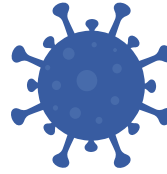
ACCESS TO CARE

- Support elimination of non-compete clauses in employment contracts which are counterintuitive to the worsening physician shortage, especially in rural areas.
- Support physician-led healthcare access and efforts that provide patients enhanced access to high-quality, affordable physician-led healthcare.
- Support enhanced physician network adequacy ensuring patient access to specialty and subspecialty services and to minimize out-of-network billing of patients.
- Support initiatives to promptly credential physicians ensuring patient access and appropriate physician payment.
- Support efforts to allow physician employment of physical therapists.
- Supports efforts to promote quality rural healthcare and patient access to physicians in rural areas including in emergency departments.



PHYSICIAN & MEDICAL STUDENT WELLNESS

- Support efforts encouraging physicians and medical students to seek mental health care, including through the state's physician health programs, without fear of licensure repercussions.
- Support enhancement of the safety of the physician workplace, including stronger penalties for those who threaten or violate healthcare worker safety.



VACCINATIONS

- Support vaccination requirements following CDC guidelines.
- Educate legislators about current misinformation regarding vaccinations.
- Encourage vaccination of patients and healthcare workers.



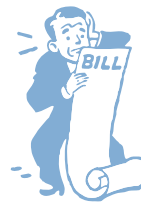
SCOPE OF PRACTICE

- Support increased provider transparency regarding credentials so that patients know the level of training of their care provider.
- Support physician-led healthcare teams.
- Closely monitor and oppose scope of practice expansion of non-physician providers beyond their education and training.



OSTEOPATHIC ADVANCEMENT

- Pursue DO representation on state regulatory boards, task forces and committees, especially the Board of Healing Arts, to maximize the profession's voice.
- Monitor legislation and regulation to ensure DOs and osteopathic medical students are not inadvertently or purposefully misrepresented.
- Support state-level increases in postgraduate training programs, especially those with osteopathic recognition.



INTERFERENCE LAWS

- Actively monitor legislation to ensure preservation of the patient-physician relationship.
- Oppose legislation that interferes with the patient-physician relationship and ensures physician decision-making ability and accountability.

