

## **2026 Resolutions**

### ***Resolution 1-26: Standard of Care Regulatory Model in Ohio***

WHEREAS, this resolution seeks to support the modernization of the Ohio Pharmacy Practice Act by transitioning from a highly prescriptive, task-based regulatory system to a standard of care regulatory model; and

WHEREAS, Ohio's pharmacy laws currently rely on detailed statutory and regulatory language specifying what pharmacists may or may not do which struggles to keep pace with modern pharmacy practice, restricts professional judgment, creates regulatory inefficiency, and creates unnecessary barriers to patient access; and

WHEREAS, a standard of care regulatory model would expect pharmacists to practice consistently with their education, training and competence, follow nationally recognized care models, maintain ethical standards and remain subject to licensure requirements and disciplinary oversight; and

WHEREAS, a standard of care regulatory model removes restrictions on how a pharmacist practices and is therefore different than provider status which expands how pharmacists are recognized and reimbursed for clinical services; and

WHEREAS, the standard of care regulatory model is consistent with how physicians, nurse practitioners, and other healthcare professionals are regulated and would better reflect current roles and training of pharmacists; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Ohio Pharmacists Association supports a standard of care model that enable pharmacists to provide care consistent with their education, training, and clinical responsibilities, through statutory and administrative policies that broadly define the practice of pharmacy, including, but not limited to, diagnosis, prescribing, advising, recommending, preparing, administering, or dispensing, a drug, device, or treatment, for the cure or relief of a condition or disease.

### ***Resolution 2-26: Expand Student Loan Forgiveness Programs for Pharmacists in Ohio***

WHEREAS, increased programs would improve recruitment and retention of pharmacists, particularly in underserved, rural communities, while also strengthening the accessibility of pharmacists in patient care across Ohio. Similar to new pharmacy practitioners, medical students graduating with higher educational debt are less likely to consider serving in underserved areas or practicing in primary care, exacerbating the ongoing shortage of primary care physicians. (1) Particularly in rural areas, the current supply of physicians is expected to meet only 68% of demand by 2037 (2), further supporting the role for pharmacy student loan forgiveness programs and practice in these areas; and

WHEREAS, loan forgiveness programs allow pharmacists to expand and advance their profession. Higher educational debt for new pharmacy practitioners increasingly limits their pursuit of jobs aligned with their interests, pursuit of additional education and training, and ability to change jobs. (1) Expanding programs would reduce financial stress for pharmacists and ultimately result in enhanced quality and safety in patient care; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Ohio Pharmacists Association supports the inclusion of pharmacists in state student loan forgiveness programs, recognizing the significant financial burden from pursuing pharmacy education and the indispensable role of pharmacists in enhancing patient's access to care.

**Resolution 3-26: *Former OPA Executive Director, Dave Burke Appreciation***

Resolved, that the Ohio Pharmacists Association in the Annual Conference:

Expresses appreciation to Dave Burke for his service as OPA Executive Director. During his tenure, OPA was instrumental in growing Medicaid dispensing fees and protecting the Medicaid single pharmacy benefit manager; defeating legislation to mandate dispensing in all circumstances; and mandating lunch breaks for pharmacists. Dave also stabilized and modernized OPA operations and finances and expanded OPA memberships through establishment of the new Ohio Employers Council, the addition of pharmacy technician members, and leading development of a new student membership supported by Ohio's colleges of pharmacy. As a former legislator, OPA was fortunate to have Dave's advocacy and passion make a difference for pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and student pharmacists, and the patients they serve.

Conveys appreciation for his service on behalf of the entire membership.

**Resolution 4-26: *Expressions of Appreciation***

Resolved, that the Ohio Pharmacists Association in the Annual Conference:

Expresses to retiring President Dana Wilkerson the sincere gratitude and appreciation of the entire OPA membership for her efforts made during her term of office and for the work she has done for the Association and the profession; her professional leadership will provide inspiration and guidance to those who will serve the profession for many years to come;

Conveys on behalf of the entire membership, appreciation to all Ohio Pharmacists Association officers, trustees, committee, task force, and SIG chairs and members, Executive Director/CEO Sara Kilpatrick, Former Executive Director Dave Burke, and staff, and other friends of the Association who have so unselfishly devoted their efforts to the continuing progress of the profession;

Expresses thanks and sincere appreciation to all contributors, sponsors, and exhibitors at this 148<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference; the donations of their time and money have added to the success of the meeting; members are urged to support the contributors, sponsors, and exhibitors in expression of our appreciation; and Expresses special thanks to the advertisers in the *Ohio Pharmacist*, our official publication, to the OPA website, to the *Ohio Pharmacy Newslines*, and to the Annual Conference program, whose loyalty and dedication have made possible the production and distribution of the journal/web to Association members for their continued education and information; members are urged to continue their support of these Ohio Pharmacists Association advertisers.

**Resolution 5-26: *Update the title of Executive Director to Chief Executive Officer***

WHEREAS, Article IV Section 2 G of the Ohio Pharmacists Association bylaws defines the duties and responsibilities of the Executive Director; and

WHEREAS, the House of Delegates desires to update the title of Executive Director to Chief Executive Officer; and

WHEREAS, there are historical documents and records identifying the Executive Director; therefore be it

RESOLVED the officer of Executive Director may henceforth be known as the Chief Executive Officer of the Association, shall maintain all of the rights and responsibilities of the previous title, and either title shall be interpreted to refer to the Executive Director.