

**Montana Pharmacy Association  
Annual Convention  
May 3-5, 2002  
Great Falls, Montana  
2002 Resolutions(Proposed).**

**Resolution 2002-1**

**Past President--Introduced by Lee Ann Bradley, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, Mike Bertagnolli has faithfully and effectively served as MPA President this year;  
BE IT RESOLVED, that the membership of MPA give its sincere thanks to Mike for this dedicated service.

**Action by Membership:\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Resolution 2002-2**

**Convention Dedication--Introduced by Bill Fitzgerald, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, Don Vaupel, R.Ph. graduated from the School of Pharmacy at Montana State University in 1938, and;

WHEREAS, Don Vaupel, R.Ph. hold Montana Board of Pharmacy Certificate # 1416, and;

WHEREAS, Don Vaupel, R.Ph. bought his first drug store in Havre, Montana in 1948, and;

WHEREAS, Don Vaupel, R.Ph. ultimately owned drug stores in Havre (2), Chester (1), Harlem (1), Glasgow (1), Great Falls (3), Helena (1), Bozeman (1), Livingston (1), Laurel (1) and Billings (3), and;

WHEREAS, Don Vaupel, R.Ph. received the Pharmacist of the Year Award in 1985, and;

WHEREAS, Don Vaupel, R.Ph. trained many, many young pharmacists in the state of Montana including Tony Francisco, Bill Fitzgerald, Ken Bergum, Walt Fellows, Tony Filicetti, Wesley Lamey and many more;

BE IT RESOLVED that MPA recognize and thank Don Vaupel, R.Ph. as being the oldest registered pharmacist practicing in the state of Montana;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that MPA dedicate the 2002 Annual Convention to Don Vaupel, R.Ph.

**Action by Membership:\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Resolution 2002-3**

**Convention Location--Introduced by Mike Bertagnolli, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, the the Best Western Heritage Inn has cordially welcomed the Montana Pharmacy Association and the 112th MPA Convention;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA appreciates the hospitality of the Best Western Heritage Inn.

**Action by Membership:\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Resolution 2002-4**

**Tri-State Convention Committee--Introduced by Mike Bertagnolli, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, the MPA participated in the Tri-State Pharmacy Convention in 2000 and 2001, and;

WHEREAS, the first Tri-State Pharmacy Convention in 2000 was a great success, and;

WHEREAS, the 2001 Tri-State Pharmacy Convention was also great success;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA hold its 2003 Annual Convention in conjunction with the Tri-State Pharmacy Convention, Thursday, June 12 thru Sunday June 15, 2003 in Coeur d' Alene, Idaho.

**Action by Membership:\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Resolution 2002-5**

**APhA Delegates--Introduced by Mike Bertagnolli, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, Mike Bertagnolli and Lori Morin served as Delegates to the 2002 APhA Convention in Philadelphia, PA, and;

WHEREAS, Jean Carter attended as an Alternate Delegate and Marcie Bough attended as a Student Delegate;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the MPA membership extend its thanks to Mike, Lori, Jean and Marcie for their efforts.

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

**Resolution 2002-6**

**ASHP Delegates--Introduced by Mike Bertagnolli, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, Lee Ann Bradley and Jean Carter will serve as Delegates to the 2002 ASHP Convention in Baltimore, MD;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the MPA membership extend its thanks to Jean and Lee Ann for their efforts.

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

**Resolution 2002-7**

**4th Most Trusted Profession--Introduced by Mike Bertagnolli, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, the American consumers have voted pharmacists as the 4th most trusted profession, and;

WHEREAS, Pharmacists are still highly trusted by the American people;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA offers its congratulations to all pharmacists whose practice and activities promote this public trust.

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

**Resolution 2002-8**

**Congratulations to the 2000-'01 University of Montana Pharmacy Graduates--Introduced by Lori Morin, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, seventy (23 B.S. students; 45 entry-level PharmD. students; 2 External PharmD students) outstanding students will complete their Pharmacy education, and graduate from the University of Montana School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences on May 18, 2002;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA congratulates these students, welcomes them to the 4th most trusted profession in America, wishes them well in their pharmacy careers, and encourages their membership and participation in MPA.

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

**Resolution 2002-9**

**Patient Counseling Competition--Introduced by Lori Morin, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, Kari Meine participated in this years' Patient Counseling Competition at the American Pharmaceutical Association's Annual Meeting in Philadelphia PA;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA congratulates Kari Meine and wishes her well in her career in 'America's 4th Most Trusted Profession.'

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

**Resolution 2002-10**

**Thanks to the Pharmacy Coordinating Committee--Introduced by Mike Bertagnolli, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, since the Fall of 1998 a group of interested persons has been meeting regularly to identify issues common to all pharmacists and to recommend strategies for solutions, and;

WHEREAS, Lori Morin has ably chaired this group since its inception, and;

WHEREAS, these efforts resulted in proposals for the 57th Montana Legislative Session, and;

WHEREAS, these proposals were supported by the Board of Pharmacy and numerous other stakeholders in Montana, and;

WHEREAS, these efforts led to the introduction and passage of House Bill 279, Revise Pharmacy Practice, in the 57th Montana Legislative Session;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA thanks Lori and all members of the Pharmacy Coordinating Committee, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MPA encourages the Pharmacy Coordinating Committee to continue its important work.

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

**Resolution 2002-11**

**MPA Affiliation with the American Society of Health- System Pharmacists (ASHP)--Introduced by Sarah Miller , R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, the Montana State Pharmaceutical Association and the Montana Society of Health-System Pharmacists have now combined to form the Montana Pharmacy Association (MPA), and;

WHEREAS, the MPA is now an affiliated state society of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP);

BE IT RESOLVED, that the MPA membership looks forward to a long and productive relationship with ASHP.

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

**Resolution 2002-12**

**MPA Resolution on Reimbursement by Medicaid--Introduced by Mike Bertagnolli, R.Ph..**

WHEREAS, the Medicaid program can only attain its goal of providing health care to low-income citizens of Montana if pharmacists are willing to care for patients under the terms and reimbursement levels of Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, all Montana pharmacists are underpaid by Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, the number of Montana pharmacists who deny or limit Medicaid clientele because of poor reimbursement is increasing because in many instances reimbursement fails to cover costs; and

WHEREAS, all other public assistance providers (grocers with food stamps, landlords with rent subsidies, etc.) are reimbursed at prevailing market prices for their goods or services;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA will oppose any further reductions in reimbursement to pharmacists, and;

BE IT RESOLVED, that reimbursement be based on reasonable amount for the product, plus a reasonable dispensing fee, and;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA works with the Department of Public Health and Human Services to develop patient care programs and activities appropriate to the Medicaid program, and

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA will work for increased funding for the Montana Medicaid program in the 58th Montana Legislative Session, starting in January, 2003.

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

**Resolution 2002-13**

**MPA Resolution on the State and University Employees Health Plan, Introduced by Mike Bertagnolli, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, The State Employees Health Plan has reduced reimbursement to pharmacies effective January 1, 2002, and;

WHEREAS, employees were given further financial incentives to use the state's contracted mail service pharmacy, and further financial disincentives to use their hometown pharmacies, and;

WHEREAS, Montana pharmacists and pharmacies have sought nothing more than a level playing field and fair competition among and between all service providers, including those serving employees of the state of Montana, and;

WHEREAS, Montana pharmacists and pharmacies pay income and property taxes in order to fund state government operations and employees;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the position of the Montana Pharmacy Association is that there ought to be a level playing field for all pharmacy providers; and that plan members should not be financially or otherwise penalized for patronizing the pharmacy of their choice;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association communicate its position to the Governor and the State Employees Health Plan Advisory Council on a regular, ongoing basis in 2002 and 2003.

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

**Resolution 2002-14**

**MPA Resolution on Continuing Education, Introduced by Tom Stathos, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, the Montana Board of Pharmacy requires five (5) hours per year of continuing education (CE) received in the group setting of each licensed R.Ph. in Montana, and;

WHEREAS, group CE offers pharmacists an opportunity to meet, learn, interact and discuss pharmacy education and issues in a collegial setting, and;

WHEREAS, Montana is a large state, which makes attendance at group CEs difficult for many pharmacists;

BE IT RESOLVED that MPA offer CE at times and places convenient for its members; and at times and places in addition to the annual convention and fall CE conference, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MPA Board of Directors schedule and present CE in accordance with this Resolution, starting in 2003.

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

**Resolution 2002-15**

**MPA Resolution on Discount RX Cards , Introduced by Mike Bertagnolli, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, the recent proliferation of RX discount cards by insurers such as Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana, drug companies such as Novarits, and random private businesses such as Days Inn represent an administrative nightmare for pharmacies and pharmacists, and;

WHEREAS, the marketing of these cards to senior citizens and other pharmacy customers often is often confusing, and frequently contains promises that are not realized in practice, and;

WHEREAS, local Montana pharmacies routinely offer discounted prices to senior citizens and other, as well as other services including free delivery of prescriptions, and;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the stands opposed to RX discount cards, regardless of their source.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MPA communicates its position on discount RX cards to the State Insurance Commissioner, the Governor, and all candidates for the 58th Montana Legislature, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MPA communicate its position on discount RX cards to the organizations and businesses issuing these cards on a regular and ongoing basis, and;

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

**Resolution 2002-16**

**MPA Resolution on the Use of Tobacco Settlement Funds , Introduced by Randy Kuiper, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, the Montana Pharmacy Association assisted in the development and passage of C-35 in 2000, which created a permanent healthcare trust fund using forty percent (40%) of the Tobacco Settlement dollars, and;

WHEREAS, funding for tobacco education and prevention programs was greatly reduced by the Governor and the 57th Montana Legislature, and;

WHEREAS, an initiative is being organized in 2002 that would earmark portions of the remaining Tobacco Settlement dollars for Tobacco Prevention and Education, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and the Montana Comprehensive Healthcare Association (MCHA);

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association support an initiative in 2002 aimed at directing Tobacco Settlement dollars to tobacco prevention, CHIP and MCHA, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MPA members become active and involved in this effort in their local communities.

**Action by Membership:\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Resolution 2002-17**

**MPA Resolution on Safe medication Use, Introduced by Randy Kuiper, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, Pharmacists are the professionals primarily responsible for safe medication use;

WHEREAS, Pharmacists are the professionals most knowledgeable of the entire medication use process;

WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine has identified medication safety as a major social issue;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association provide leadership in ensuring safe medication use in Montana;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association encourage the University of Montana School of Pharmacy to expand the curriculum so as to enhance the training of future pharmacists in the principles of quality improvement and medication safety;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association commit sufficient resources to provide quality continuing education programs to train members in the principles of safe medication practices;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association encourage pharmacists in all practice settings to establish performance improvement processes that measure both operational and patient outcomes related to medication safety;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association work in conjunction with the Montana Board of Pharmacy to develop rules mandating the adoption of proven practices known to improve medication safety.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association affirms that individual pharmacists have a professional responsibility to ensure medication safety through the use of proven interventions and best practices known to improve medication safety.

**Action by Membership:\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Resolution 2002-18**

**MPA Resolution on Recognition of Pharmacists as Healthcare Providers , Introduced by Randy Kuiper, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, Pharmacists provide valuable health care services known to improve patient care;

WHEREAS, Pharmacists are not currently recognized as independent health care providers by federal payment programs;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association endorses changes in federal and third-party payment programs to define pharmacists as providers of patient care; and issue provider numbers to pharmacists that allow them to bill for patient care services.

**Action by Membership:\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Resolution 2002-19**

**MPA Resolution on Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians, Introduced by Randy Kuiper, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, there is a pharmacists and pharmacy technician shortage in Montana;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association supports federal and state incentive programs for new pharmacy graduates to practice in under served areas;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association provide information and educational programming on strategies used by employers for successful recruitment and retention of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association conduct regular surveys on trends in the pharmacy workforce in Montana, including retention rates for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

**Resolution 2002-20**

**MPA Resolution on the Role of Pharmacists as Providers of Patient Care , Introduced by Randy Kuiper, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, many individuals do not understand the necessary and valuable patient care role that pharmacists provide;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association commit resources to develop a public information program promoting the professional image of pharmacists to the general public, public policy makers, other health care professionals, and health-care decision makers.

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

**Resolution 2002-21**

**MPA Resolution on Medical Information , Introduced by Randy Kuiper, R.Ph.**

WHEREAS, Pharmacists can only provide pharmaceutical care to patients when adequate medical information is provided at the point of care;

BE IT RESOLVED; that the Montana Pharmacy Association advocates that pharmacists have timely access to the intended therapeutic purpose of medications prescribed for patients under their care to provide competent oversight and ensure the safe and effective use of medications.

**Action by Membership:**\_\_\_\_\_.

