

**Montana Pharmacy Association
Annual Convention
June 7-10, 2007
Coeur D' Alene, Idaho
2007 Resolutions (Proposed).**

Resolution 2007-1

Past President. Introduced by Jim Seifert, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, Vince Colucci has faithfully and effectively served as MPA President this year;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the membership of MPA give its sincere thanks to Vince for this dedicated service.

Action by Membership: PASSED

Resolution 2007-2

Northwest Pharmacy Convention. Introduced by Jim Seifert, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, MPA participated in the Northwest Pharmacy Convention in 2000, 2001, 2003, 2005, and 2006; and,

WHEREAS, the Northwest Pharmacy Conventions have been successful, informative, productive and professionally worthwhile for Montana pharmacists; and,

WHEREAS, MPA will participate in the 2007 Northwest Pharmacy Convention;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA thanks the Washington and Idaho Pharmacists' Associations for establishing the Tri State Pharmacy Convention and the Northwest Pharmacy Convention, and for welcoming the Montana Pharmacy Association to attend and participate annually.

Action by Membership: PASSED

Resolution 2007-3

Congratulations to the 2007 University of Montana Pharmacy Graduates.

Introduced by Jim Smith

WHEREAS, sixty four (64) outstanding students, including Lori Morin and four (4) other external Pharm.D. candidates, completed their Pharmacy education and graduated from the University of Montana Skaggs School of Pharmacy on May 13, 2007;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA congratulates these students, welcomes them to one of America's most trusted professions, wishes them well in their pharmacy careers, and encourages their membership and participation in MPA.

Action by Membership: PASSED

Resolution 2007-4

APhA Patient Counseling Competition. Introduced by Lori Morin, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, Shelly Thompson, a U of M Pharmacy Student, participated in this years' Patient Counseling Competition at the American Pharmacists' Association Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA congratulates Shelly and wishes her well in her career in

‘One of America’s Most Trusted Professions.’

Action by Membership: PASSED

Resolution 2007-5

Thanks to Tobey Schule, R.Ph. Introduced by Jim Seifert, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, Tobey Schule, R.Ph., co-owner of Sykes Pharmacy in Kalispell, was invited by United States Senator Max Baucus to provide testimony to the Senate Finance Committee in February, 2006 on the implementation of Medicare Part D; and, WHEREAS, Tobey Schule was invited back and appeared again before the Senate Finance Committee in Washington, DC on May 2, 2007; and, WHEREAS, Tobey Schule described the difficulty he and other pharmacists experienced with the implementation of Medicare Part D, and offered constructive suggestions for improvement;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA thanks Tobey Schule for his willingness to represent the profession of pharmacy and the Montana Pharmacy Association in the nation’s capitol.

Action by Membership: PASSED

Resolution 2007-6

Average Manufacture’s Price. Introduced by Jim Seifert, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, the standard benchmark for pharmacy reimbursement has been Average Wholesale Price (AWP); and, WHEREAS, the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 requires that reimbursement benchmarked to Average Manufacture’s Price (AMP) in 2006-2007; and, WHEREAS, there are concerns among pharmacists over this transition to a new method of reimbursement, including inadequate amounts, disincentives to dispense generic drugs, and the method by which AMP will be calculated;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA urges the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to delay the transition from AWP to AMP until the concerns expressed by Montana--and other--pharmacists have been resolved; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CMS continue the reporting requirements being used to determine AWP in order to provide this information to state Medicaid programs.

Action by Membership: PASSED

Resolution 2007-7

Provider Status for Pharmacists. Introduced by Jim Seifert, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, pharmacists are increasingly educated in patient care and increasingly competent in providing quality patient care; and,

WHEREAS, numerous studies have demonstrated better health outcomes through the clinical care provided by pharmacists; and,

WHEREAS, these same studies have shown reduced costs of care through the clinical care provided by pharmacists; and,

WHEREAS, these outcomes and these savings can be realized in the Medicare and Medicaid programs by allowing pharmacists to use standard CPT codes for billing

purposes;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA urge CMS to approve use of these CPT codes for billing purposes in 2007.

Action by Membership: PASSED

Resolution 2007-8

Pharmaceutical Pedigrees. Introduced by Jim Seifert, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, pharmacists' interest is to ensure that medication used is both safe and effective; and,

WHEREAS, counterfeit drugs and adulterated drugs pose a danger to the public; and,

WHEREAS, HB536 was introduced in the 60th regular session of the Montana Legislature, provided adequate measures for protecting the public from counterfeit drugs; and,

WHEREAS, HB 536 was vetoed by the Governor on May 4, 2007;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA continue their effort to pass legislation requiring a paper or an electronic pedigree on all drugs marketed outside of normal distribution channels.

Action by Membership: PASSED

Resolution 2007-9

Negotiation Rights for Community Pharmacists. Introduced by Jim Seifert, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, pharmacy benefit managers present a "take it or leave it" position on contracts; and,

WHEREAS, provisions within third party contracts sometimes put patient care at risk; and,

WHEREAS, HR971 would allow for independent pharmacies to collectively negotiate third party contracts;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA support the passage of HR971.

Action by Membership: PASSED

Resolution 2007-10

Prompt Payment for Medicare Part D. Introduced by Jim Seifert, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, delayed payment for claims under Medicare Part D presents an undue hardship upon community pharmacists; and,

WHEREAS, HR1474 would require prompt payment for Medicare Part D claims,

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA support the passage of HR1474;

Action by Membership: PASSED

Resolution 2007-11

Compounded Medications, Federal Regulation of. Introduced by Jim Seifert, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, legislation proposing federal regulation of compounding has been drafted; and,

WHEREAS, said legislation would result in decreased patient access to medication; and, WHEREAS, regulation of pharmacy and medical practice has been historically and appropriately been the jurisdiction of the states, through state pharmacy licensure boards;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA monitor developments in federal legislation proposing to regulate compounded medications;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that MPA urge the Montana Board of Pharmacy to review its administrative rules in the area of compounding and update them as necessary.

Action by Membership: PASSED

Resolution 2007-12

PharmAssist. Introduced by Jim Seifert, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, pharmacy has been a profession that delivers cognitive services with the product dispensed; and,

WHEREAS, payment or reimbursement for these cognitive services by third party payers is not standard or routine; and,

WHEREAS, the Montana Department of Health and Human Services recognizes the value of these services, and has established the PharmAssist program that will recognize and reimburse individual pharmacists as providers of care, using the AMA-approved CPT codes;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA thanks the Montana Department of Health and Human Services for the creation of Montana PharmAssist program; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MPA promote the PharmAssist Program to its members.

Action by Membership: PASSED

Resolution 2007-13

Linkage of Licensure and Association Membership. Introduced by Jim Seifert, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, Association membership is helpful in remaining competent and up to date in the practice and profession of pharmacy; and,

WHEREAS, in order to remain competent pharmacists need interaction with their peers, continuing education, and an interest in their chosen profession;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA initiate discussions with the Montana Board of Pharmacy with the goal of establishing a linkage between annual licensure and annual association membership.

Action by Membership: PASSED

Resolution 2007-14.

One Voice for Pharmacy. Introduced by Jake Thiesse, UM Pharmacy Student (P4), at Convention.

WHEREAS, One voice in pharmacy is necessary to effectively convey the message of our profession; and,

WHEREAS, This approach is similar to that of other successful organizations;

BE IT RESOLVED, That MPA advocate for 'One Voice' in pharmacy; and,

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, That MPA prepare a White Paper to communicate this position.

Action by Membership: PASSED.