



Arizona Medical Board

9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona 85258

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FINAL MINUTES FOR JOINT LEGISLATION AND RULES COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE Held on Wednesday, November 25, 2015 9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona

Committee Members

Jodi A. Bain, Esq., Chair

R. Screven Farmer, M.D.

Robert E. Fromm, M.D., M.P.H.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Ms. Bain called the meeting to order at 7:01 a.m. The following Committee members participated telephonically: Ms. Bain, Dr. Farmer and Dr. Fromm.

ALSO PRESENT

Carrie Smith, Assistant Attorney General ("AAG"); Patricia E. McSorley, Executive Director; Kristina Fredericksen, Deputy Director; Mary Bober, Board Operations Manager; and Amanda Schwabe, Board Coordinator.

B. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one addressed the committee.

C. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PROPOSED STATUTE AND/OR RULE ADJUSTMENT TO ALLOW FOR CONSIDERATION OF DELINQUENT RENEWALS

Ms. McSorley presented to the Committee members for consideration a new proposal for an amendment to the Board's renewal statute that would allow physicians to file a late renewal of an expired license, rather than fully reapply as currently required. Ms. McSorley stated that the AMB has been experiencing issues with physicians who miss their renewal deadline and then are required to reapply pursuant to statute. This has caused a hardship on the physicians and their patients because they are required to stop practicing during the reapplication for licensure, and the reapplication must then be presented to the Board for review prior to the license being granted because often, the physician has practiced on an expired license, which is a professional conduct violation. Most of the time, issues with renewal are attributable to physicians who have failed to maintain current contact information with the Board. The proposed statutory change would further extend the deadline to reapply another four months, include additional late fees and allow the physician to begin practicing again immediately after reapplying. Committee members discussed the merits of the proposal, including reviewing information provided by Board staff regarding how other state boards approach lapsed licenses. Committee members discussed the fact that a different approach might be taken for physicians who maintained active clinical practice as compared to those who may have chosen not to practice. Committee members discussed whether there was anything in the Board's current practice that could be adjusted to assist licensees in remembering to renew their licenses. Committee members agreed that this was an issue that the Board should pursue for the current legislative session. Committee members discussed the merits of setting forth automatic disciplinary results (advisory letters, civil penalties) in the Board's statutes.

Ms. Bain suggested placing this matter on the next Board meeting agenda for further discussion by the full Board. Committee members were in consensus to recommend that the Board approve changing the Board's statutes as discussed.

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 a.m.



Patricia E. McSorley
Patricia E. McSorley, Executive Director