

SERWING

OUR MEMBERS
THE PUBLIC
OUR PARTNERS IN HEALTH CARE



ABOUT THE FEDERATION OF STATE MEDICAL BOARDS

To protect the public from the unprofessional, improper, unlawful or incompetent practice of medicine, each of the states and territories making up the United States defines the practice of medicine within their borders and delegates the authority to enforce the law to a regulatory board.

The FSMB represents the 70 medical and osteopathic boards — commonly referred to as state medical boards —within the United States, including its territories and the District of Columbia.

It assists these boards as they go about their mandate of protecting the public's health, safety and welfare through proper licensing and disciplining of physicians and, in some jurisdictions, other health care professionals.



SERVING OUR MEMBERS SERVING THE PUBLIC SERVING OUR PARTNERS IN HEALTH CARE

Successful organizations thrive over time by placing a premium on SERVING THE ESSENTIAL NEEDS OF STAKEHOLDERS. As the FSMB continues to evolve and adapt — with new technologies, products and initiatives to help advance our mission — we are focused on the fundamentals of GOOD SERVICE and committed to delivering VALUE to our members, the public and our partners in health care.



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We have chosen SERVING

as the theme for our 2019 annual report, highlighting the FSMB's efforts to provide the highest value to our member boards, the public and our partners in health care.

TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS

Medical regulators in the United States are, above all else, public servants — whose work ultimately impacts the health and welfare of patients and families throughout the nation.

The concept of providing committed service to others is central to their success — a guiding principle in their day-to-day activities.

We believe these ideals are equally important at the organizational level: By striving to build a culture that emphasizes delivering exemplary service as a priority, the FSMB increases its effectiveness and impact.

With these thoughts in mind, we have chosen "Serving" as the theme for our 2019 annual report to stakeholders, highlighting the FSMB's efforts to provide the highest value to our three core constituencies: our member boards, the public and our partners in health care.

Our recent activities in serving each of these groups are summarized in three special sections in this year's report, providing examples of how our activities during a busy and productive year translated into tangible benefits:

SERVING OUR MEMBERS: In section one, we offer examples of how the FSMB is providing service through advocacy, education and by facilitating greater connection and networking among our member boards.

Prominent in our list of accomplishments in the last year was our work in helping introduce historic legislation in both houses of Congress aimed at protecting state licensing boards and their members and staff from antitrust liability damage.

Our work at the federal level was complemented by the grassroots, hands-on support we provided on a daily basis for state medical boards as they worked with their state legislatures on policy matters.

FSMB educational services expanded in the last year, buoyed by our growing capabilities as an accredited provider of Continuing Medical Education (CME) and new online educational modules to better educate and prepare new members of state medical boards for their duties as public servants.

We also offered a host of new opportunities for connection and networking to our member boards, including the launch of two new online communities for public members of boards and for board attorneys.

All of these activities were bolstered by the work of the FSMB's communications team, which helped raise the visibility of our member boards while helping the regulatory community speak with a unified voice. *Learn more on page 4 of our report.*

SERVING THE PUBLIC: In section two, we highlight our efforts to serve the public, which includes protecting and informing patients and families while guiding national discourse on topics of pressing importance to the future of health care.

The FSMB made exciting progress over the last year with website improvements and our new project to upgrade DocInfo — a free physician-information search service for patients and families that will be relaunched in 2019.

Consumers also benefited from our new, updated edition of the U.S. Medical Regulatory Trends and Actions report, published in the fall of 2018, with expanded content.

Our initiatives on behalf of the public included an incredibly busy year in policy development: Among many policy activities, the FSMB launched timely new initiatives to study issues related to sexual boundary violations in medicine, opioid prescribing for acute pain and the use of social media by physicians.

Casting an eye to the future, we intensified our leadership in facilitating policy discussions on the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on medical regulation — including co-hosting a major summit meeting of AI experts, state medical board representatives and health care policy makers in late 2018. We also launched an important long-term project to develop a system of classification for board disciplinary actions that provides more transparency to the public.

Complementing our efforts on behalf of the public, the FSMB Foundation — the philanthropic arm of the FSMB continued to expand its support of researchers and educators in 2018-19, with a wider menu of grant options.

Learn more on page 10 of our report.

SERVING OUR PARTNERS IN HEALTH CARE:

In section three, we summarize our progress in strengthening our relationships with physicians and physician-assistants and with a broad range of health care organizations — by facilitating services, sharing information and collaborating.

An excellent example of our recent collaborative work is our participation with the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) as a partner in two of its multi-organization Action Collaboratives — one on the opioid epidemic and the other on physician wellness and burnout. Our engagement with NAM, the American Medical Association, the American Osteopathic Association and other groups last year helped us better understand the priorities and needs of our member boards' licensees and how we can collectively educate and prepare them for a lifetime of safe practice.

At the same time, our role as formal partners in organizations such as the Coalition for Physician Accountability, the Tri-Regulator Collaborative and the International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA) helped raise the visibility of the medical regulatory community as a valuable resource and strategic ally across sectors.

By sharing our data, the assistance of our staff and other resources with partner organizations, the FSMB made tangible contributions to improving the effectiveness of the health care system. The new Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, for example — which the FSMB helped launch - had a banner year in 2018-19, adding new states and helping deliver more than 5,000 new medical licenses.

As a facilitator of essential services for the health care community, the FSMB achieved new performance milestones with resources such as our Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS) and Uniform Application (UA), and we began new strategic discussions with our long-time partner, the National Board of Medical Examiners, to enhance the value of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE).

Learn more on page 16 of our report.

Nothing epitomizes the concept of service better than the FSMB's elected leadership, outstanding staff and volunteers, whose passion, ideas and hard work are the engine of our achievements, and for whom we are deeply grateful. Their work is recognized on pages 23-27.

The FSMB remains fiscally strong and focused on its priorities as we begin a new year representing the medical regulatory community in the United States. We will continue to dedicate ourselves to the principles of outstanding service in all that we do.

As always, we extend our gratitude and heartfelt thanks to the many individuals and organizations that contributed to our success in 2018-19 — and we look forward to working with you again in the year to come.

Potricia A. King, MD, PLD Patricia A. King, MD, PhD, FACP Chair, FSMB Board of Directors

Juneya J. Chaudhy DO, MACP, MACOI

President and CEO

SERVING OUR MEMBERS

At the very core of the FSMB's mission is its commitment to serving the needs of state medical boards. This is essential, as state boards must be strong and maintain a well-functioning and interconnected community in order to protect patients. How do we define service to members? It is **ADVOCATING**, through the grassroots action of our legislative and policy team in Washington, D.C...EDUCATING, with our Annual Meeting, CME offerings and diverse online resources...and **CONNECTING** and **SUPPORTING**, by bringing boards together via special events for networking and prompt attention by FSMB staff to meet their day-to-day needs.







(L to R) Kandis McClure, JD, Shana Griffith and John Bremer are part of the team that advocates for FSMB members in Washington, D.C.

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we rely on for regulatory matters concerning physicians and allied health practitioners. Its perspective and expertise have strengthened our Board's position on various issues and its collaboration and support are commendable.

Christine A. Farrelly
Executive Director
Maryland Board of Physicians

Historic Antitrust Damages Act Introduced

For four years — since the U.S. Supreme Court's 2015 ruling in *North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners v. Federal Trade Commission* — the future structure of professional regulation and occupational licensing in the United States has become an increasingly discussed topic among lawmakers and health organizations.

In the wake of the Supreme Court decision, new efforts to reduce or eliminate occupational licensure and regulations have arisen — along with antitrust lawsuits that have put a chilling effect on the willingness of some individuals to serve on regulatory boards.

As a result, state professional and occupational licensing boards have been in a state of fiscal uncertainty and vulnerability — creating an environment that threatens public safety and robust board oversight.

The FSMB has made it a priority to protect state medical boards in the midst of these developments and in 2018 took a major step forward, leading a coalition that helped introduce federal legislation in both houses of Congress that would create a clear path to relief from personal antitrust damage liability for state licensing boards.

The Occupational Licensing Board Antitrust Damages Relief and Reform Act of 2018 was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives in July and the U.S. Senate in October — marking an important milestone in the FSMB's ongoing advocacy on antitrust-related issues.



In a nutshell, the proposed legislation would provide antitrust damages relief — including relief from personal liability and treble damages for actions taken by board members and staff as part of their service on a board.

The bills were sponsored by Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX) in the Senate (S. 3598) and by Rep. Mike Conaway (R-TX), cosponsored by Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX), in the House (H.R. 6515).

The FSMB's advocacy staff in Washington, D.C., worked for two years to get the legislation introduced, with the support of the **Professional Licensing Coalition** — a group it helped conceptualize and found (see story below). The effort entailed numerous office visits and informational sessions with Members of Congress and their staffs, along with close coordination with key Congressional committees and other stakeholder organizations. The FSMB occupied a central seat at the table in negotiating and seeking support for the bills.

With a new session of Congress underway in 2019, the FSMB is leading an effort to have the bills reintroduced and is committed to building bipartisan support for them to advance the interests of its member boards.









Professional Licensing Coalition: An Engine of Advocacy in the Nation's Capital

The ramifications of the U.S. Supreme Court's 2015 ruling in *North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners v. Federal Trade Commission* have been profound, impacting a diverse array of regulatory boards in the United States. Recognizing that fighting back against the negative effects of the ruling on boards would require unified public advocacy, the FSMB helped bring these boards together in 2017 by forming the **Professional Licensing Coalition**.

Representing nearly 20 professional organizations in regulatory sectors ranging from physical therapy to accounting, the

Coalition brings the power of combined resources to its work in advocating for a strong state-based occupational licensing system in the United States.

In 2018, the Coalition submitted joint written testimony to Congress on occupational licensing and developed an advocacy toolkit that helped coalesce support for the Occupational Licensing Board Antitrust Damages Relief and Reform Act of 2018. In early 2019, a Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards forum highlighted the work of the Coalition as a case study on how to successfully build effective relationships across regulatory communities.

ADVOCATING

Bolstering Patient Protections in Louisiana and Maryland

One of the FSMB's ongoing services for its member boards is tracking state legislation and assisting state board staff when outreach to legislators and policy makers is needed. Two recent examples — in Louisiana and Maryland — show the impact of coordinated teamwork.

Louisiana: In early 2018, the FSMB worked closely with staff from the **Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners** to develop a legislative strategy opposing Senate Bill 286 – which would have significantly undercut the Board's ability to carry



FSMB Chief Advocacy Officer Lisa Robin testified before the Louisiana State Senate in May 2018.

out disciplinary investigations of licensees. In May, the FSMB provided written and oral testimony to the Louisiana House Committee on Health and Welfare. In testimony, FSMB Chief Advocacy Officer Lisa Robin cited FSMB policy, current and prevailing practices of state medical boards and concerns that the proposed legislation could place patients at risk. Bill 286, which previously passed the Louisiana Senate in a 36-0 vote, was unanimously rejected by the committee after its deliberations and did not advance further.

Maryland: In early 2019, the FSMB joined with other organizations in stridently opposing Maryland Senate Bill 372, which would have required the Maryland Board of Physicians to expunge all records of a public reprimand or probation three years after final disposition of the case — reducing transparency and setting a dangerous precedent. FSMB staff worked with Maryland Board staff to draft a public statement of strong opposition to the bill that was circulated to news reporters and patient advocacy groups locally and nationally. These efforts proved successful when the bill was withdrawn from consideration by the Senate.



Taking the FSMB's Message to Congress

FSMB staff and Board members made their annual trek to the halls of Congress in early 2018, where they met with more than 35 congressional offices. The Day on the Hill visits have played an important role in advancing a unified message among state medical boards with federal legislators. Former FSMB Board Member Kathleen Haley, JD, was part of the delegation that met with Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR).

A Busy Year Serving State Medical Boards

The FSMB's Washington, D.C., team is on call every day to assist state medical boards with their legislative and policy needs. Here is a sampling of the boards the team directly supported on advocacy issues over the last year:

Arizona Board of Osteopathic Examiners in Medicine and Surgery

Georgia Composite Medical Board

Idaho Board of Medicine

Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners

Maryland Board of Physicians

Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine

Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure

New Hampshire Board of Medicine

New Mexico Medical Board

North Dakota Board of Medicine

Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision

Oregon Medical Board

Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine

Texas Medical Board

Vermont Board of Medical Practice

West Virginia Board of Osteopathic Medicine

Wisconsin Medical Examining Board

FSMB 2018-19 Legislative Highlights

- Endorsed the Department
 of Veterans Affairs Provider
 Accountability Act, which offered
 strengthened patient protections
 through new reporting requirements.
- In addition to defeating bills that would have harmed medicine in Maryland and Louisiana, blocked negative legislation in Mississippi, West Virginia and other states.
- Advocated with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to ensure new Medicare and Medicaid rules impacting telehealth are aligned with FSMB guidelines on patient safety and the use of telemedicine.

EDUCATING

2018 Annual Meeting: Attendance Up, Content Wide Ranging

The FSMB's **106th Annual Meeting** was held in Charlotte, North Carolina, April 26-28, 2018, drawing more than 450 attendees from the United States and around the world.

In lively audience-participation sessions, panels of experts discussed shifts in attitudes towards occupational licensing and professional development and the rise of artificial intelligence and its impact on regulation. Other topics, among the more than 15 Continuing Medical Education sessions offered, included sexual boundary violations and the duty to report, physician wellness and burnout, stem cell therapy and the opioid crisis.

Keynote speakers included **Tom Nichols, PhD**, author of "The Death of Expertise: The Campaign Against Established Knowledge and Why It Matters," health policy experts **Kevin Fong, MD**, and **Archelle Georgiou, MD**, and **Josh Stein,** Attorney General of North Carolina.

The FSMB's webcast of the Annual Meeting's Opening Session had its highest response to date, with more than 180 registrants. Viewers tuned in from locations all over the United States and abroad, adding significantly to the meeting's reach.

In a survey of participants taken after the meeting, more than 95% rated the meeting either "excellent" or "very good."

Patricia A. King, MD, PhD, was installed as FSMB Chair; Scott Steingard, DO, was elected Chair-elect; and Jerry G. Landau, JD, was elected Treasurer during the meeting. Shawn P. Parker, JD, of North Carolina; Mohammed A. Arsiwala, MD, of Michigan and Sarvam P. TerKonda, MD, of Florida, were all elected to the FSMB Board of Directors.

BEST Modules: New Online Education Resource Launched

In November 2018, the FSMB's Workgroup on Board Education Service and Training (BEST) launched "Understanding Medical Regulation in the United States," a series of online multi-media educational modules that examine various components of service on a state medical board. Additional modules are being planned for the series, which aims to better educate and prepare new members of state medical boards for their duties as public servants.

Included in the various modules are concepts about medical regulation, such as licensure, data collection, discipline, policy development, legal principles and operational matters.



Sonja Gantt, Executive Director of Charlotte-Mecklenberg Public Schools Foundation, right, led a panel discussion on occupational licensing that included representatives from academia, the regulatory community and the federal government.

FSMB's Continuing Medical Education (CME) Program Expands Content

The FSMB continues to make important strides forward as an accredited Continuing Medical Education provider. Since its CME program started in 2016, the FSMB has accredited 40 CME activities, offering more than 93 hours of instruction to more than 5.000 physician and non-physician learners.

The program offers Federation member boards free accrediting services, expertise in developing educational activities and content management and record retention.

In 2018, CME instructional hours surged, with more than 68 hours offered.
Credits were issued to more than 4,400 health care providers, and participants represented 53 states and territories, including Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



Highlights:

Drug Enforcement Administration CME: The FSMB partnered with the DEA to accredit multiple regional Practitioner Diversion Awareness Conferences (PDACs). Designed to prevent drug diversion activity, 2018 conferences had a combined attendance of 2,616 prescribers.

Idaho Board of Medicine Online CME: In September 2018, the FSMB, in partnership with the Idaho Board of Medicine and the Idaho Department of Health, launched an online course designed to help dentists become trained in using the Idaho Prescription Monitoring Program. In addition to dentists, the course is also being marketed to physicians, physician assistants and pharmacists. To date, 958 practitioners have participated.

JMR Journal-Based CME: In August 2018, the *Journal of Medical Regulation (JMR)* released its special CME edition addressing physician wellness and burnout. This themed-edition was accredited for 2.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*™ and is available free online.

CONNECTING AND SUPPORTING

New Opportunities for Sharing Bring State **Board Representatives Together**

In addition to its Annual Meeting — the premier yearly networking event for state medical boards — the FSMB provided members with a variety of other opportunities for connection over the last year. Highlights included:

New Directors and New Executive Directors Orientation:

The FSMB's annual leadership orientation, which helps incoming FSMB directors and executives of state boards connect, build relationships and become more effective leaders, was held June 24-25, 2018, in Euless, Texas. Participants gathered for two days of activities that included discussions of trending issues and learning about the FSMB's structure, activities and operations.

Board Attorneys Workshop: The FSMB held its 12th annual fall Board Attorneys Workshop on November 8-9, 2018, in Austin, Texas. The event, which provides updates and information for the nation's state medical board attorneys, drew the highest attendance in workshop history, with a total of 84 individuals representing 27 different states. Among the topics covered during the workshop were a legislative update from the FSMB, advice on litigating sexual boundary cases and preparing expert witnesses and reviewers, updates about the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB), new developments in telehealth and information about Drug Enforcement Administration investigations. The workshop was accredited for 9.5 hours of continuing legal education (CLE).

FSMB Roundtable Webinar Series: Celebrating its 17th anniversary in 2018, the FSMB's monthly Roundtable Webinar Series — which attendees can participate in via telephone and computer — attracted new participants and covered a diverse range of topics of interest to medical regulators. One of the FSMB's most effective ongoing programs for strengthening the network of medical regulators, the series offered nine one-hour webinars in 2018, briefing state board members on a host of topics. Among them: the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. sexual misconduct investigations, blockchain technology and physician wellness and burnout.

New Online Communities: In November 2018, the FSMB announced a new service for its member boards: two "members only" community web portals that facilitate secure online communication and collaboration between state board members. The first communities launched are for board attorneys and public members and offer benefits such as networking directories and easy-to-access information resources.



The FSMB's New Directors/New Executives Orientation includes briefing sessions with FSMB senior staff.

FSMB Research Team: Mining Data to Benefit Member Boards

In recent years the FSMB has made substantial capital investments in technology that have expanded its data collection and analysis capabilities. The result is a greater level of direct value to FSMB member boards in the form of customized research provided for them by FSMB staff. Among 2018-19 highlights:

State Medical Board of Ohio: Provided medical schools and GME training data for licensed physicians in Ohio to support a study on physician education and resident history.

Puerto Rico Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline: Completed a demographic analysis of the impact of Hurricane Maria on Puerto Rico's physician workforce.

Montana Board of Medical Examiners: Conducted a statewide census of physicians and physician assistants for Board planning purposes.

Maine Board of Licensure in Medicine: Completed an analysis comparing characteristics of the licensee population in Maine to the rest of the United States.

Visioning Project: Imagining Medical Regulation Far into the Future

As the pace of change accelerates, organizations are increasingly utilizing "scenario building" exercises to help anticipate the major changes that may impact them. In July 2018, the Board of Directors and senior staff of the FSMB participated in a day-long visioning exercise that utilized scenario-building as a key element. During the day, the Board considered scenarios in the future that could significantly impact the work of medical regulators.

To extend value from this exercise to member boards, the FSMB has scheduled a special session at its 2019 Annual Meeting titled "Medical Regulation 2029: Where Will We Be in Ten Years?" Results from the FSMB's session will be shared with boards and visioning materials provided to help them organize their own visioning sessions. The information will also be used in developing the FSMB's next strategic plan.

FSMB COMMUNICATIONS: ADVANCING THE MESSAGE OF STATE MEDICAL BOARDS

Media Team Keeps News Outlets Informed

In recent years the FSMB has increased its outreach and interaction with the nation's press as a means of helping raise awareness and understanding of the work of state medical boards. In 2018-19, our media specialists worked with some of the most influential news outlets in the nation, including the Associated Press, New York Times, Kaiser Health News, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Miami Herald, NBC News and the BBC — as well as numerous regional and health care trade-publications. FSMB staff is always on call to assist state medical boards when they are contacted by local reporters. The FSMB periodically distributed information about medical regulation during the year to thousands of reporters via its national news distribution wire-service.

FSMB eNews: Weekly Update for Medical Regulators and Other Stakeholders

The FSMB's e-mail bulletin, now in its ninth year, was distributed twice-weekly over the last year to a growing list of more than 5,500 individuals in the medical regulatory community, government and affiliated organizations, with helpful information about FSMB events and initiatives and state medical board news. Features include links to "news you can use" and resources from the FSMB to help regulators in their day-to-day work. Reader open- and click-through rates continued to surpass industry standards for comparable publications.

Journal of Medical Regulation: A Widening Scope and Impact Benefits Readers

The FSMB's flagship publication, the Journal of Medical Regulation (JMR), launched several new initiatives in 2018-19 to raise the publication's visibility and improve its accessibility to both readers and researchers:

New Website and Social Media: A newly redesigned website (jmronline.org) provides a more intuitive and easy-to-navigate experience for its readers. New features on the site include

REGULATION

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

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JOURNAL OF MEDICAL

IMR

Physician Wellness

html-formatting. updated resources for authors, a Twitter feed and email alerts for readers.



discussed problem in



Two-Way Communications: The State Medical Boards Liaison Program

The FSMB Board and staff members meet with representatives of state medical boards on an ongoing basis — an important communications channel for building a strong, interconnected regulatory community. During 2018-19, FSMB teams visited 13 state boards, offering informational updates and hearing valuable feedback from boards about their activities and state issues.

Pictured above: FSMB leaders joined members of the District of Columbia Board of Medicine in November 2018.

the medical community. Nationally recognized physician-health experts contributed articles and the issue featured the full text of the FSMB's new policy and recommendations on physician wellness and burnout. The special issue was the first-ever by the FSMB to feature articles eligible for Continuing Medical Eduction (CME) credit.

Administrative Updates: JMR will implement a new online editorial management system in the year ahead, which will streamline the submission, editing and revision process for JMR manuscripts.

FSMB Videos Spotlight Leaders

The FSMB's video series, titled "FSMB Spotlight," continued to examine regulatory trends and issues via interviews with health care leaders in its third year of production. "FSMB Spotlight" is hosted by FSMB President and CEO Humayun J. Chaudhry, DO, MACP.

Issue: During the summer of 2018, JMR published a major, single-topic issue on physician wellness and burnout an increasingly

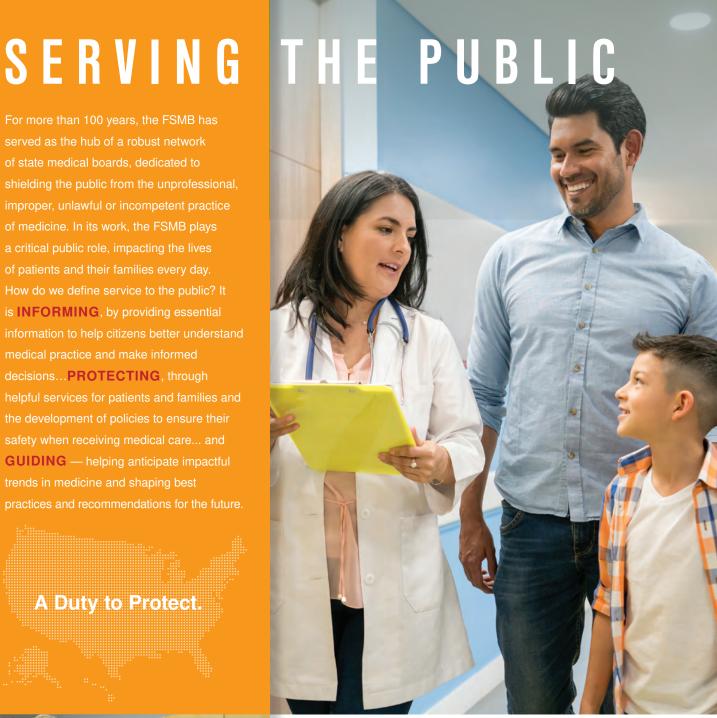


President and CEO of the Association of American Medical Colleges for "FSMB Spotlight" in 2018.

Dr. Chaudhry interviewed Darrell G. Kirch, MD,

served as the hub of a robust network of state medical boards, dedicated to shielding the public from the unprofessional, of medicine. In its work, the FSMB plays of patients and their families every day. How do we define service to the public? It is INFORMING, by providing essential information to help citizens better understand medical practice and make informed decisions...PROTECTING, through **GUIDING** — helping anticipate impactful trends in medicine and shaping best practices and recommendations for the future.







(L to R) Beverly Pherigo and Jason Clinkscales helped guide a recent large-scale upgrade of the FSMB's website.

DOCINFO IS A GREAT 'ONE-STOP' resource for the public to use to learn about physicians. Most importantly it helps them find out whether a physician has been sanctioned anywhere in the country.

Carol Cronin

Executive Director Informed Patient Institute

New and Improved DocInfo Service to Help Patient Decision-Making

As the nation's largest and most complete repository of information about licensed physicians in the United States, the **FSMB's Physician Data Center** offers powerful data that can benefit patients and families.

Harnessing this power for the public good is the goal of *DocInfo*, the FSMB's physician-search portal — which is scheduled for relaunch in 2019.

The new and improved **DocInfo** tool will provide access to the nationally consolidated database of physician information, reported to the FSMB on a regular basis by its 70 medical and osteopathic licensing boards.

DocInfo is being streamlined and reorganized to make it easier for consumers seeking credible, fact-based information about physicians — so they don't have to rely on incomplete and often out-of-date online physician-rating services. Importantly, the service is provided free to the general public.

Visitors to the portal — which is accessible at docinfo.org — simply enter the name of the physician they would like more information about, and they are then able to view key details:

- Name, gender and location (city, state)
- Medical specialty information provided by the American Board of Medical Specialties and the



American Osteopathic Association Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists

- · Physician's medical school and year of graduation
- · States where the physician is actively licensed
- · Disciplinary action taken against the physician by any states

As the only comprehensive database that provides easily accessible, free information about physicians who have had disciplinary actions, *DocInfo* plays a critical role in protecting the public from harm.

In 2018, *DocInfo* facilitated more than 350,000 search sessions, serving nearly 170,000 visitors — a growth rate of 69% over the same period in 2017. Of those who visited the portal, more than 47% were new users of the service.

In an effort to raise greater awareness of *DocInfo* among consumers, the FSMB will launch a public information campaign in 2019 to include new marketing material and the expanded use of social media to reach new audiences.









Statistics Show 2018 Web Redesign is Yielding Benefits for the Public

In early 2018, the FSMB completely redesigned its website to deliver more resources and easier navigation for visitors. In coordination with the launch, it also introduced an updated logo and new visual identity.

Improvements included new menus for ease of navigation, faster and better search functions, enhanced graphics and reorganized content.

After nearly a year in operation, metrics from the new website indicate that it is achieving its goal of an improved visitor



experience. Page views have increased by margins of as much as 90% for some areas of the website. Visits to the "Contact a State Medical Board" pages, for example, increased from 173,000 in 2017 to 290,000 in early 2019.

Website metrics also indicate a reduction in "clicks" — the number of times visitors have to move from page to page to find what they are looking for. Durations of interactive sessions have increased, while the average page-load time has decreased — making it faster for visitors to get the information they need. Other benefits for the public include social-media integration features and a modern, responsive design on mobile devices.

INFORMING

Medical Regulatory Trends and Actions Report: Third Edition Offers Expanded Data

The third edition of the FSMB's **U.S. Medical Regulatory Trends and Actions Report**, released in late 2018, offers expanded content, including six new categories of comparative data about the activities of state medical boards.



The report, published every two years, is a core tool in the FSMB's ongoing effort to raise public awareness and understanding of the work of the nation's state medical boards.

The 2018 report includes detailed information about each state medical board, physician licensure statistics and aggregate national physician disciplinary data.

A comprehensive section

for consumers offers step-by-step information on how to check a physician's credentials, how and when to file a complaint against a physician, an explanation of how the complaint process works and contact information for each of the nation's 70 state medical boards.

A special section highlights additional information about the make-up and policies of each state medical board, using 60 detailed comparative tables.

To make the report more accessible to the public, it is now featured prominently on the FSMB's homepage.

The report will be updated again with new tables and physician census data in 2020.



The FSMB's Workgroup on Education About Medical Regulation.

Shedding Light on the Role of State Medical Boards

The Workgroup on Education About Medical Regulation continued its long-term project to raise awareness about state medical boards in 2018, developing a series of online educational modules on various aspects of medical regulation. Aimed primarily at future physicians, but available to the public in general, module topics have included "The Role of State Medical Boards," "Understanding and Navigating the Medical Licensing Process," "The Medical Disciplinary Process," and its most recent module, released in 2018 — "Common Reasons Physicians Get in Trouble." A fifth module on physician health and wellness will be released in 2019.

Survey Identifies Priority Issues Facing the Regulatory Community

To help inform the public about priority issues for state medical boards, the FSMB conducted its annual national survey of state medical board executives in 2018. The executives were asked what they considered the most important topics for their board. The most frequently cited topic, by far, was **opioid prescribing** (81%), followed by **physician wellness and**

burnout (65%), telemedicine (61%), sexual harassment and boundary violations (37%) and physician reentry (33%). The survey results were reported by various U.S. media outlets.



Updated FSMB Physician Census Highlights Released in 2018

- There are now more than 970,000 licensed physicians in the U.S. More than 90% of them have MD (allopathic) degrees, compared to roughly 9% with DO (osteopathic) degrees.
- From 2012 to 2017, the number of actively licensed physicians who are female increased by 27%, compared to an increase of 8% for male physicians.
- The number of physicians 60 years of age or older continues to grow.
 From 2012 to 2017, this population increased by 24%, compared to 13% for physicians age 49 or younger.

PROTECTING

Taking Aim at Sexual Boundary Violations

In recent years, high-profile sexual boundary violations in medicine have been widely reported in the media and have become an increasing focus of public discussion.

Sexual boundary violations between physicians and patients is a serious issue, as is sexual harassment between physicians and their peers, subordinates and other health care team members.

In response, the FSMB launched the **Workgroup on Sexual Boundary Violations** in 2018, led by FSMB Chair **Patricia A. King, MD, PhD.**

The Workgroup's mandate is to comprehensively study policies and trends related to sexual boundary violations by physicians and other health care providers and to review the FSMB's 2006 policy "Addressing Sexual Boundaries: Guidelines for State Medical Boards."



In face-to-face meetings and conference calls, members of the Workgroup on Sexual Boundary Violations met in 2018-19 for discussions and review of policies.

The Workgroup includes members and executive staff of state medical boards as well as representatives of diverse health care and policy organizations. A draft of the report will be circulated among stakeholders and submitted for consideration by the FSMB House of Delegates in 2020.

The FSMB's

focused effort on sexual boundary violations is aligned with and complements its ongoing **Duty to Report Initiative**, which is encouraging individuals to step forward and report physicians who engage in inappropriate conduct.

In furtherance of the Duty to Report Initiative, the FSMB contracted with Harris Insights and Analytics to conduct a national survey of 2,000 U.S. adults to gauge the public's knowledge of state medical boards' role in the licensing and regulation of physicians as well as the reporting of unprofessional conduct. Data will be used to help build public awareness campaigns on the importance of reporting in 2019 and beyond.

Opioid Misuse: Working to Reduce the Staggering Impact of an Epidemic

In 2018, the FSMB continued its multi-year effort to address the U.S. opioid crisis on many fronts.

The FSMB Board of Directors began a comprehensive review of acute opioid prescribing patterns, practices, data, laws and guidance in the United States, with a report due to the House of Delegates at the FSMB's 2019 Annual Meeting.

The goal of the effort is to identify new challenges as well as identify successful strategies currently under way — particularly in terms of state-based responses.

As a part of its work, the FSMB conducted an **Opioid Policy Survey** of its member boards in 2018 to consolidate information about state approaches to the opioid epidemic. Among its findings, the survey showed that state medical boards have ramped up their programs aimed at opioid abuse: 91% of responding boards now provide communication or educational materials on opioid prescribing to their licensees, for example.

The FSMB engaged with a wide range of stakeholder organizations on this issue in 2018, including the **Drug Enforcement Administration**, the **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services** and many other federal and state agencies. It is a formal participant in the **National Academy of Medicine**'s action collaborative on opioids (see related article on page 17).

New HOD Policies Protect Patients

One of the FSMB's most important roles is serving as a policy-making organization — formally issuing guidelines, reports and best practices that protect patients. In 2018, the FSMB House of Delegates adopted new policies and reports on:

Physician Wellness and Burnout: The new FSMB policy offers 35 recommendations aimed at reducing burnout and keeping physicians healthy and productive. The policy includes recommendations to lower stigma for physicians seeking help for mental health issues.

Stem Cell Therapies: A comprehensive study and report raises awareness of the promotion and practices of treatments received at stem cell clinics in the United States — outlining potential benefits and risks and providing basic guidance to help state medical boards as they establish patient protections.

Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs): A new policy evaluates the impact of mandatory PDMP reporting, offering recommendations for state medical boards on the most effective use of PDMPs to reduce prescription drug abuse.

GUIDING

Anticipating the Arrival of Artificial Intelligence – and its Impact on Patients

As a part of its long-term strategic planning process, the FSMB identifies issues and trends on the horizon that are likely to impact patient care.

In 2018, the FSMB began a new effort to examine the rapidly advancing transition to the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in medicine — and what it will mean to medical regulation and the delivery of care. Highlights include:

2018 Annual Meeting Technology Panel: A panel of experts in technical innovation were invited to discuss the future of AI

The FSMB convened national leaders to discuss AI in Washington, D.C.

and technology-supported care during one of the 2018 annual meeting's best-attended sessions.

IBM Watson Health Presentation: The FSMB hosted Kyu Rhee, MD, Chief Health Officer for IBM Watson Health



during a meeting of the Coalition for Physician Accountability in Texas in September 2018. Dr. Rhee offered insights about Al's growing influence in health care.

Al Summit Meeting: The FSMB partnered with the law firm McDermott Will and Emery to host a major summit meeting on AI in Washington, D.C., on November 14, 2018. More than 100 attendees, including members of state boards, listened to speakers and engaged in discussion sessions to explore what role state medical boards should play as Al advances in health care. Thirty states were represented from the medical regulatory community.

Stakeholder Engagement: The FSMB will participate as a formal member of the AI in Health Care Workgroup, a major consortium of leaders in Al hosted by the Consumer Technology Association, and will seek to engage other AI stakeholders.

As it continues to lead policy discussions, the FSMB is exploring the regulatory framework for AI and how best to assist in its evolution and deployment without sacrificing patient safety and public protection.

BACE Project Envisions an Improved System for Categorizing Physician Discipline

Each year, the FSMB receives reports from state medical boards detailing thousands of disciplinary actions taken against physicians. Though the disciplinary actions themselves are well defined, the reasons that prompted the actions are often indistinct, due to wide variations in the way state boards describe or categorize the causes that prompt disciplinary action.

With this in mind, FSMB Chair Patricia King, MD, PhD, launched a multi-year project in 2018 aimed at exploring the feasibility of creating a categorization system for the underlying reasons for board actions — based on common denominators and definitions that all boards could share. The long-term goal: improving the consistency and quality of publicly available information about physicians who have been disciplined.

The Board Action Content Evaluation (BACE) Task Force, composed of FSMB elected leaders and staff members, has begun its work — which will include a comprehensive study of disciplinary data and engagement and information-sharing with state boards. The FSMB's Advisory Council of Board **Executives**, which provides ongoing dialogue with state boards, will offer guidance and input as the project progresses.







Keeping Up with Social Media: New FSMB Guidelines on the Way

The FSMB first developed recommendations about professionalism and physicians' use of social media in 2012. Since then, the environment for social media has continued to evolve, with new social media tools and platforms springing up — along with vexing questions about their appropriate use.

This trend has impacted medicine, where the use of social media has become widespread and physicians and patients have increased use of electronic communications to share data and ask questions. In 2018, the FSMB launched a review of its social media policies, with an eye to the future.

Led by FSMB Board of Directors member Cheryl Walker-McGill. MD. MBA. the Ethics and Professionalism Committee will revisit and update the FSMB's 2012 social media policy, including issuing a set of best practices for physicians. A report and recommendations are due at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

FSMB FOUNDATION: BENEFITING PATIENTS AND FAMILIES WITH NEW PROJECTS

2018: More Grants, Greater Impact

The FSMB Foundation continued to widen its impact in 2018, expanding its grantmaking capabilities and supporting several new health care projects that will ultimately benefit the public by strengthening the environment in which medicine is practiced.

The Foundation's new multi-level grant structure became fully operational during the year, including the formal launch of a new "mini-grant" category — which funds smaller research-oriented projects.

Using its new, more flexible grant structure, the Foundation distributed grants in 2018 supporting diverse topics in health care, including physician wellness and burnout and professional issues in stem-cell therapy.

Among its new grantees over the last year:

West Virginia Board of Medicine: The Foundation provided a \$5,000 grant to raise public awareness of the work of medical regulators in West Virginia — particularly among health care practitioners and trainees. The grant will help the West Virginia Board of Medicine identify knowledge gaps within the populations they serve, using surveys and public presentation feedback, and then work to fill those gaps using public awareness-building activities, including brochures, fact sheets and other outreach strategies.

North Carolina Medical Board: The Board received a \$30,000 grant from the Foundation to develop new strategies aimed at lowering recidivism in opioid prescribing offenses by physicians. The Board will use data analytics to identify relationships and correlations between board actions and the



The FSMB Foundation formally launched its Research Mini-Grant program in 2018, which provides grants of up to \$5,000 to support researchers who plan to submit their findings for publication in academic journals — including the *Journal of Medical Regulation*.

actions of repeat offenders in the misuse of opioid prescribing — seeking ways to better deter prescribing issues among physicians. Eventually the project could lead to recommendations for new treatment and training paths, modified disciplinary and interventional processes for physicians and new proactive educational approaches.

Educational Scholarships: As the global medical regulatory community continues to forge new relationships and works together to address issues of mutual concern (see story on page 21), the Foundation offered three scholarships to help U.S. regulators attend the 2018 conference of the International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities in Dubai. United Arab Emirates.

Major Foundation Support for License Portability Extended for Five Years

With telemedicine on the rise in the U.S., the Foundation is assisting in the effort to streamline the process of licensing physicians who wish to practice in multiple states. In 2019, it



made a major commitment to this effort, developing an initiative that would provide

\$50,000 in grants over the next five years to help promote the new **Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.** To date, approximately \$50,000 has been distributed to state medical boards to advance the Compact.

Funds from the grants support a range of activities — from education of stakeholders interested in joining the Compact to staff training.

Annual Foundation Luncheon Raises Thousands for Education and Research

The Sixth Annual FSMB
Foundation Luncheon, held on
April 27, 2018, during the FSMB's
Annual Meeting, featured author
and health care consultant
Archelle Georgiou, MD, right,
who offered suggestions for

improving connections between



patients and the medical community. Representatives of state medical boards and a variety of health care organizations engaged in discussion with Dr. Georgiou during a question-and-answer session after her presentation. The annual luncheon has raised thousands of dollars to support Foundation activities since it debuted in 2013.

SERVING

In the mosaic of the nation's health care system, the FSMB plays an essential role. From its expansive data resources — including the most detailed archive of information about licensed physicians available in the U.S. — to its work in assessing physician competency, the FSMB offers services and assistance that are relied upon by physicians, physician assistants and a wide range of health care organizations. How do we define service to our partners in health care? It is FACILITATING, offering products and services for individuals and organizations in order to help them succeed in their day-to-day operations...SHARING, making available our data, staff expertise and other resources to help address cross-sector needs in health care...and COLLABORATING, working in formal partnership with others on policy issues and public health initiatives.







Research and Data Integration Teams worked on data projects for a variety of FSMB partner organizations in 2018–19. Pictured, left to right, are Bradley Dunn, Xiaomei Pei, PhD, and Aaron Young, PhD.

44 AS AN EARLY SUPPORTER OF THE

Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, the FSMB has played a critically important role in helping the Compact to mature and succeed. Our partnership, including the FSMB's assistance in advocating for the Compact with state legislatures, has been very beneficial.

Kenneth B. Simons, MD

Chair

Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission

NAM Partnerships Address Opioids, Physician Wellness and Burnout

Today's public health issues are complex, and addressing them successfully often requires collaborative partnerships that leverage the resources of many organizations. In 2018, the FSMB worked formally with the **National Academy of Medicine (NAM)** as a partner in two of its multi-organization Action Collaboratives:



Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic: In recognition of the need for a national coordinated and collective response to the epidemic of opioid addiction, the FSMB joined NAM and more than 35 other organizations

in 2018 to form the **Action Collaborative on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic**. The public-private partnership is made up of diverse organizations, ranging from federal agencies to academic institutions.

FSMB President and CEO Humayun J. Chaudhry, DO, MACP, is a member of the Collaborative's Steering Committee, helping facilitate the sharing of FSMB resources with NAM partners — including relevant data, reports and input from medical regulators. In early 2019, the Collaborative's Co-Chair, Assistant Secretary for Health Admiral Brett Giroir, MD, of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, met with FSMB Board of Directors to coordinate strategies and discuss progress in the opioid effort. FSMB Past Chair Dan Gifford, MD, FACP, is a key member of the Collaborative.



Clinician Well-Being and Resilience: As a part of a multi-year effort to address physician burnout, the FSMB collaborated with NAM in 2018 as a partner in its Action Collaborative on Clinician Well-Being and Resilience — with FSMB Past Chair Art Hengerer, MD, FACS, contributing.

With newly developed recommendations adopted by its House of Delegates, the FSMB joined forces with NAM to focus on the continuing stigma related to mental illness that keeps physicians from seeking help for burnout-related conditions such as depression and substance-use disorder. The FSMB has continued to encourage state medical boards to modify reporting language in licensing application forms that might discourage physicians from seeking mental health treatment.

With input from the FSMB, the American Medical Association adopted policy aimed at improving access to mental health care for physicians during its June 2018 Annual Meeting. The FSMB is working with the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and many other national health care organizations in a focused effort to raise awareness of physician burnout and wellness.









Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Surpasses 5,000 Licenses Issued

The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC) — which significantly streamlines the licensing process for physicians who want to practice in multiple states — continued to grow in 2018–19, with a marked increase in licensure activity.

By early 2019, more than 5,000 medical licenses had been issued by member state medical boards since the launch of the Compact in April 2017. In addition, several new states joined, bringing the total number of participating states and territories to 28. Membership in the Compact is under active

consideration in Florida, Georgia, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Carolina, and more state legislatures are expected to introduce legislation to join.



The FSMB helped launch the Compact and has worked diligently to advance its adoption throughout the United States — including securing major financial support from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration.

FACILITATING

FCVS: New Value-Added Features and Improved Results in 2018

The Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS)

— which provides physicians and physician assistants with permanent storage of their primary-source verified credentials — continued to grow in 2018, with new features and outstanding ratings associated with the multi-year "FCVS 3.0" improvement initiative.

FCVS customer satisfaction ratings averaged 91% for the year, a 4% gain, and ratings were at 90% or better for 10 months of the year. Overall cycle time for FCVS profiles dropped to 19 days — a new record — and total call volume dropped by more than 16% over the year before, thanks to system upgrades.

To assist in the verification of credentials for individuals who attended residency programs that are no longer in operation, the FCVS team maintained records for more than 250 such programs as a part of its **Closed Residency Program** service in 2018 — providing nearly 1,000 verifications for hospitals, employers, licensing boards and others. The launch of three new programs added value to FCVS in 2018:

NPDB Report: The FSMB can now provide information from the National Practitioner Data Bank within FCVS profiles,



saving time and creating a more robust profile. Twelve state medical boards are now using this value-added feature.

LiveChat: To assist FCVS users directly, the FSMB has launched its LiveChat service — which connects customers with questions to an online assistant for real-time help, supplementing email and telephone contact.

DocuSign: This new feature, which speeds up the post-graduate and medical training verification process via automated eSignatures, has been adopted by a variety of FCVS users, including more than 2,400 graduate medical education programs.

UA: Providing Another Option to Help Streamline Licensure

The FSMB's **Uniform Application for State Licensure (UA),** which streamlines medical licensure, has been adopted by 27 state medical boards. In addition, six state medical boards are now using the UA to process licensure applications from physician assistants. More than 110,000 physicians and physician assistants have submitted their applications using this alternative to traditional licensing.

USMLE: Ensuring the Safety of the Public by Testing Physician Knowledge and Skills

One of the FSMB's most closely integrated operational partnerships is its longtime collaboration with the National Board of Medical Examiners in administering the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE®) — a fundamental test that ensures U.S. physicians have the skills and knowledge needed to practice medicine safely.

More than 140,000 administrations of the USMLE were held in 2018 — as

volume of examinations continued to be strong — and the FSMB provided more than 80,000 USMLE transcripts to state medical boards to help them review the qualifications of new physicians applying for licenses.

Over the last year, the FSMB hosted leadership meetings and workshops, giving members of state medical boards and others the opportunity to help shape the contours of the USMLE as it evolves

to meet the needs of the changing medical practice environment. In total, 120 individuals from 50 different medical boards have participated in USMLE workshops since they began in 2007.

The FSMB continued its new effort to incorporate more input from medical students and residents in shaping USMLE policy, meeting with the recently formed **Medical Student and Advisory Panel** for productive discussions in February and August, 2018.



Invitational Conference Examines the Role of USMLE Scoring

To keep pace with the changing environment for the practice of medicine in the United States, the FSMB and NBME continually examine the structure and processes of the USMLE. In a special effort to gain input on the USMLE from diverse stakeholders, the FSMB and the NBME hosted the Invitational Conference on USMLE Scoring in early 2019.

Co-hosted by the American Medical Association, the Association of American Medical Colleges, and the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, the conference focused on the complex issue of USMLE scores and their use by primary and secondary users in medical education. During the event, attendees participated in exercises promoting common understanding of current stakeholder needs (left) and exploring other models for the future.

SHARING

Physician Data Center: Vital Health System Resource

The FSMB's **Physician Data Center (PDC)** is one of the largest and most comprehensive health-provider databases in the United States, containing demographic, licensing and disciplinary data for more than 1 million physicians and physician assistants. Data from the PDC is essential in fulfilling state medical boards' function of patient protection.

During 2018, the FSMB's data team processed more than 1,400 PDC files, containing 83 million records — a 7% increase from 2017.

State boards queried the PDC more than 109,000 times in 2018, seeking disciplinary and other information about physicians, and they in turn contributed thousands of new records each month to the PDC for the benefit of all of the 70 licensing boards that make up the Federation.

The FSMB's **Disciplinary Alert Service (DAS)** continued to provide a strong safety net to prevent disciplined physicians with multiple licenses from resuming practice undetected in new locations. In 2018, state boards received more than 15,000 alerts from DAS.

Helping Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Access Physician Data

aacom[®]

As a part of an effort to encourage health organizations to leverage the Physician Data Center as a tool for

patient protection and improving the quality of medicine, the FSMB entered into a new data-sharing agreement in 2018 with the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM).

The FSMB has begun providing query and monitoring services to AACOM member-colleges with the goal of allowing easy access to Physician Data Center information by their licensed staff and faculty. To date, 20 AACOM colleges have signed up for the service and performed more than 7,000 queries of the system.



FSMB Research and Data Serve Needs of Diverse Stakeholders in Health Care

Over the last year, the FSMB's data and research team implemented numerous projects that leveraged current data from the PDC or offered FSMB data collection services to benefit diverse health care organizations. Among the highlights:

NBOME Collaborative Research: Assisted the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners in a study of the relationship between COMLEX-USA scores and state board discipline.

ACCME Data Collection: Collaborated with the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to launch a pilot program in North Carolina and Tennessee to enable CME providers to report physician participation data directly to the Board.

Mayo Clinic Stem Cell Research: Assisted the Mayo Clinic's Biomedical Ethics Program in exploring qualifications of providers who offer unproven stem cell treatments.

ABFM Disciplinary Study: Worked with the American Board of Family Medicine on a project to determine the impact of ABFM certification on rates of physician discipline. Study results were submitted for publication in *Academic Medicine*.

FSPHP Survey: In partnership with the Federation of State Physician Health Programs, completed a survey of national physician health programs about questions related to physician health on state licensing board applications.

AAFP CME Auditing: Worked with the American Academy of Family Physicians and Rhode Island Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline on a pilot project to reduce the need for CME auditing of AAFP physician members licensed in Rhode Island.



Marketing Team Raises Visibility of FSMB Products and Services

To raise visibility of FSMB products and services among health care partner organizations, the FSMB's marketing team began a comprehensive update of brand-promotion materials in 2018, including flyers, brochures, trade-show exhibits, video and other items. The team exhibited at seven industry conferences during the year to increase brand awareness.

COLLABORATING

FSMB Engagement with Coalitions Ensures Awareness of Issues

As the voice of 70 state and territorial medical licensing boards in the U.S. — which regulate the nation's nearly 1 million licensed physicians — it is important for the FSMB to understand the needs and interests of the nation's physician and physician-assistant workforce.

In addition to active liaison with key organizations such as the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants, the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, the American Academy of Physician Assistants and others, the FSMB worked in partnership with multi-stakeholder physician coalitions in 2018-19, including:

Coalition for Physician Accountability (CPA): FSMB leaders gathered with CPA colleagues twice during 2018, including at a meeting hosted by the FSMB in Texas. The CPA, which convenes representatives of 14 health care organizations involved with physician accreditation, assessment, education, licensure and certification twice a year, exchanged information on a variety of topics, focusing on five in particular: physician assessment, medical education, licensure portability, physician burnout and wellness and physician self-regulation.

Coalition for Physician Enhancement (CPE): The FSMB shared information on its various physician-assessment and licensing activities with CPE — a consortium of organizations and professionals with expertise in quality assurance, medical education and assessment and remediation. FSMB leaders discussed new models of regulation with CPE members including more proactive, risk-based approaches that are being implemented in Canada — during the CPE Spring 2018 meeting in Toronto, Canada. Serving as President of CPE during 2018 was Mark Staz, MA, the FSMB's Director of Continuing Professional Development.



Members of the Coalition for Physician Accountability gathered to discuss issues of mutual interest in 2018.



Working Together to Shape Policy with Stakeholders in Health Care

A core duty of the FSMB's elected leadership and senior staff is to help advance the voice of medical regulation during policy-making deliberations of peer organizations in health care. During the last year. FSMB representatives provided formal testimony and participated in discussions at policy meetings of both the American Medical Association and the American Osteopathic Association. FSMB Chair Patricia A. King, MD, PhD, above, made remarks on several issues of importance to medical regulators during the AMA House of Delegates meeting in November 2018. FSMB leaders also participated in policy information exchanges with the American Hospital Association. National Board of Medical Examiners, National **Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, American** Telemedicine Association and other stakeholders.

Tri-Regulator Collaborative: Busy Year for Medicine, Pharmacy and Nursing

Now in its eighth year, the Tri-Regulator Collaborative — which formally unites the FSMB with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) and the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) — continued its joint advocacy efforts in 2018-19, leveraging resources to better protect the health and safety of patients.

The three organizations — which together represent boards that oversee the licensing of the nation's five million physicians, nurses and pharmacists — continue to seek areas for collaboration in the new, more team-based environment for health care.

The 4th Tri-Regulator Symposium, which will be co-hosted by the FSMB, will be held in September 2019 in Frisco, Texas.







IAMRA: GLOBAL MEDICAL REGULATORY COMMUNITY GREW MORE CONNECTED IN 2018

FSMB Provides Leadership on Issues of Concern, Crossing National Borders

In an increasingly interconnected global environment for health care, medical regulators in the United States are finding that they can benefit by exchanging information and best practices with their international colleagues.

The FSMB played an important role in facilitating global relationships in 2018-19 by serving as the Secretariat of the International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA).

In a banner year for IAMRA, FSMB leaders helped advance promising international initiatives and projects with the goal of improving protections for patients. Among the highlights:

2018 IAMRA Conference: Many U.S. regulators attended the 2018 IAMRA Conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates in October 2018. FSMB staff and elected leaders participated in panels and as speakers during the event, which the FSMB played a strong support role in organizing. During the conference, FSMB President and CEO Humayun J. Chaudhry, DO, MACP, completed his two-year term as IAMRA Chair. With more than 1,000 registrants, 112 scientific abstracts and a packed schedule of speakers and panels, the event was one of the most successful in IAMRA's history. Member organizations voted on position statements during the meeting related to GME accreditation, continued competency and patient safety. Among the keynote speakers was FSMB

Past Chair and
Past Interim CEO
Barbara Schneidman,
MD, who spoke
on the topic of
late-career physicians
in health care.



IAMRA Membership Growth: IAMRA now has 116 member and partner organizations, representing 48 countries — a growth rate of more than 50% over the last five years. Recent member additions include Finland and Nepal, and U.S. state medical boards and health care organizations are also increasingly joining. The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) recently became a member, and U.S. state boards represented include Alabama, California, the District of Columbia, Maine, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas and Washington. A total of 30 American regulatory and health care organizations are now IAMRA members.



Continued Competence Summit: The FSMB will serve as a supporting sponsor for a major IAMRA conference in Chicago in 2019, titled "Continued Competency:



Balancing Assurance and Improvement." The conference will focus on the latest research and efforts in continued competency to support physicians in maintaining their skills and knowledge in patient care.

Worldwide Learning Exchange: Regulators Compare Best Practices, Emerging Policies

As the global exchange of best practices in medical regulation continues to advance, FSMB representatives were invited to participate in a wide range of international summits, conferences and leadership meetings over the last year.

Among them:

Canada: The FSMB was on hand during the Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada's (FMRAC) 50th anniversary meeting and at conferences hosted by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and the Medical Council of Canada in 2018. FSMB presenters offered perspectives on the importance of Continuing Professional Development (CPD), sexual boundary violations, artificial intelligence and a host of other issues of mutual interest to both countries.

Korea: In August 2018, FSMB staff met with representatives of the Republic of Korea's Ministry of Health and Welfare and the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs at the FSMB's Washington, D.C., office to discuss current U.S. policies on physician workforce and other health care issues.

Iceland: Dr. Chaudhry joined FSMB Chair Patricia A. King, MD, PhD, in representing the FSMB at the World Medical Association Medical Ethics Conference in October in Reykjavik. Discussions there focused on new ethical challenges in medicine, ranging from DNA testing to AI and palliative care.

Switzerland: FSMB leaders were on hand in May 2018 to bring American perspectives to the World Health Professions Regulation Conference in Geneva, Switzerland. International regulators in medicine, nursing, pharmacy and other professions compared best practices in assessment, regulation and the use of technology in regulatory processes.

ECFMG and FAIMER: FSMB leadership met with their counterparts at the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates and its Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research on several occasions during the year to discuss policies and standards for the education of physicians trained internationally but practicing in the United States.

The Federation of State Medical Boards: Partners in Protecting the Public

Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Alaska State Medical Board

Arizona Medical Board

Arizona Board of Osteopathic Examiners in Medicine

and Surgery

Arkansas State Medical Board*

Medical Board of California

Osteopathic Medical Board of California

Colorado Medical Board

Connecticut Medical Examining Board

Delaware Board of Medical Licensure & Discipline

District of Columbia Board of Medicine

Florida Board of Medicine

Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine

Georgia Composite Medical Board

Guam Board of Medical Examiners

Hawaii Medical Board Idaho Board of Medicine

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation: Division of Professional Regulation*

Medical Licensing Board of Indiana

Iowa Board of Medicine

Kansas State Board of Healing Arts

Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure

Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners*

Maine Board of Licensure in Medicine Maine Board of Osteopathic Licensure

Maryland Board of Physicians*

Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine*

Michigan Board of Medicine*

Michigan Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery

Minnesota Board of Medical Practice*

Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure

Missouri Board of Registration for the Healing Arts

Montana Board of Medical Examiners*

Nebraska Board of Medicine and Surgery

Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners

Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine

New Hampshire Board of Medicine

New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners*

New Mexico Medical Board

New Mexico Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners

New York State Board for Medicine*

New York State Office of Professional Medical Conduct

North Carolina Medical Board

North Dakota Board of Medicine

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Health

Care Professions Licensing Board

State Medical Board of Ohio*

Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision*

Oklahoma State Board of Osteopathic Examiners

Oregon Medical Board*

Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine*

Pennsylvania State Board of Osteopathic Medicine

Puerto Rico Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline

Rhode Island Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline*

South Carolina Board of Medical Examiners*

South Dakota Board of Medical and Osteopathic Examiners

Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners

Tennessee Board of Ostepathic Examination

Texas Medical Board

Utah Physicians and Surgeons Licensing Board*

Utah Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons Licensing Board

Vermont Board of Medical Practice*

Vermont Board of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons

Virgin Islands Board of Medical Examiners

Virginia Board of Medicine*

Washington Medical Commission

Washington Board of Osteopathic Medicine

and Surgery

West Virginia Board of Medicine

West Virginia Board of Osteopathic Medicine

Wisconsin Medical Examining Board*

Wyoming Board of Medicine

*Original 1912 charter member board of the FSMB



The FSMB 2018-19 Board of Directors

The Federation of State Medical Boards represents a community of dedicated public servants, spread throughout the United States. Their commitment to protecting the public and ensuring the highest standards of medical quality is the key to the successful operation of the nation's medical regulatory system. In this section of our annual report, we acknowledge the work of the many individuals who make up our committees, councils and boards. We thank them for their important contributions.

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ABOUT THE FSMB

The Federation of State Medical Boards represents the 70 state medical and osteopathic regulatory boards — commonly referred to as state medical boards — within the United States, its territories and the District of Columbia. It supports its member boards as they fulfill their mandate of protecting the public's health, safety and welfare through the proper licensing, disciplining, and regulation of physicians and, in most jurisdictions, other health care professionals.

VISION

The FSMB is an innovative leader, helping state medical boards shape the future of medical regulation by protecting the public and promoting quality health care.

MISSION

The FSMB serves as the voice for state medical boards, supporting them through education, assessment, research and advocacy while providing services and initiatives that promote patient safety, quality health care and regulatory best practices.

STRATEGIC GOALS

State Medical Board Support: Serve state medical boards by promoting best practices and providing policies, advocacy, and other resources that add to their effectiveness.

Advocacy and Policy Leadership: Strengthen the viability of state-based medical regulation in a changing, globally-connected health care environment.

Collaboration: Strengthen participation and engagement among state medical boards and expand collaborative relationships with national and international organizations.

Education: Provide educational tools and resources that enhance the quality of medical regulation and raise public awareness of the vital role of state medical boards.

Organizational Strength and Excellence: Enhance the FSMB's organizational vitality and adaptability in an environment of change and strengthen its financial resources in support of its mission.

Data and Research Services: Expand the FSMB's data-sharing and research capabilities while providing valuable information to state medical boards, the public and other stakeholders.





Change of Address: FSMB Moves Forward with New Office in Washington, D.C.

The District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment formally approved the FSMB's application to move into its new Washington, D.C., headquarters at 2118 Leroy Place NW, near DuPont Circle, above. The building will enable the FSMB to better serve its member boards. FSMB President and CEO Humayun J. Chaudhry, DO, MACP, and Chief Financial Officer Todd A. Phillips, MBA (top photo, right) received building keys in late 2018 from the real estate team. Renovations will be made before the FSMB occupies the space in 2020.

Euless, Texas Office

Federation of State Medical Boards 400 Fuller Wiser Road, Suite 300 Euless, TX 76039

Washington, D.C. Office

Federation of State Medical Boards 1300 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 500 Washington, D.C. 20036

FSMB Foundation for Research and Education

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