
Florida Chapter Services, American College Physicians 2022 Legislative Agenda

Mission: To enhance the quality and effectiveness of health care by fostering excellence and professionalism in the practice of medicine.

Medicare/Medicaid Reform

- x Support: modernizing Medicare through better use of prudent purchasing authority, modernized benefits, coverage for catastrophic expenses and innovative delivery of services
- x Support: Medicare as a defined benefit program
- x Support: Open market for Medicare services
- x Support: Medicare/Medicaid parity
- x Oppose: mandatory physician participation in either Medicare or Medicaid

Promoting Primary Care

- x Support: the ACP Patient Centered Medical Home Initiative
- x Support: increased financial support for Internal Medicine Primary Care education
- x Support: Debt Reduction/Forgiveness for Internal Medicine Primary Care trainees
- x Support: developing a rational Health Care Workforce Plan

Health Care Market Reform

- x Support: prohibiting legal action against health insurers who violate the prompt pay statute
- x Support: measures to prevent managed care abuses
- x Oppose any pay-for-performance credentialing that is not transparent and based on quality measures
- x Oppose: health plan "hold harmless" clauses
- x Oppose: ER call responsibilities as a condition of hospital medical staff privileges
- x Oppose: ER call responsibilities as a condition of medical licensure

Tort Reform

- x Support: clear and convincing standard for medical liability cases
- x Support: sovereign immunity for ER exposure
- x Oppose: legislative efforts to mandate commercial insurance and/or raise mandatory coverage limits
- x Oppose: legislative efforts to weaken the Fabre doctrine
- x Oppose: legislative efforts to weaken the effectiveness of the arbitration laws

End of Life

- x Support: the continued ability of terminally ill patients, their doctors, and their families to make responsible end of life decisions

Access to Care

- x Support: affordable universal health care coverage and meaningful access for all Americans
- x Support: guaranteed patient choice of physician and access to specialty care
- x Support: programs to address disparities in health care among racial and ethnic minorities
- x Support: continued ability of internists to provide pain medicine
- x Support: Physician override of Step Therapy Protocols
- x Support: Prohibition of "Accumulator Programs"

Medical Education

- x Support: increased financial support of internal medicine graduate medical education
- x Support: reduction in debt burdens carried by medical students and internal medicine trainees

Patient Safety Improvement

- x Support: Confidential non-punitive reporting system for medical errors