

SUBJECT: CLINICAL ROTATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL STUDENTS

SUBMITTED BY: Bureau of State Government Affairs

REFERRED TO: Committee on Educational Affairs

1 WHEREAS, the American Osteopathic Association represents the nation's osteopathic
2 physicians and osteopathic medical students (OMS) and each OMS must complete a
3 clinical rotationS before he/she can become a licensed osteopathic physician and
4 there are a finite number of clinical rotation positions; **AND**

5 ~~WHEREAS, recent reports have indicated that US medical schools may have higher~~
6 ~~admissions standards than international medical schools;~~

7 WHEREAS, recent reports have indicated that some international medical schools are
8 contracting with US hospitals and purchasing clinical rotation positions for their
9 students in exclusive agreements, forcing US medical school to make alternative
10 arrangements; **AND**

11 ~~WHEREAS, clinical rotation positions assigned to international medical students may cause~~
12 ~~a shortage of trained physicians because many of the international medical students~~
13 ~~return to the countries of origin once their training is completed;~~

14 ~~WHEREAS, international medical schools are purchasing clinical rotation slots within the~~
15 ~~US that might have otherwise gone to more qualified US students forcing qualified~~
16 ~~candidates to compete more rigorously for fewer overall slots;~~

17 WHEREAS, the sale of clinical rotation positions would decrease the number of available
18 opportunities for US students; **AND**

19 ~~WHEREAS, allowing special opportunities for students who may have lower grade point~~
20 ~~averages and/or test scores may decrease the over quality of patient care in the US.;~~

21 WHEREAS, US medical schools may be forced to purchase clinical education opportunities
22 for their students, which would **MAY** increase the cost of tuition **EDUCATION**
23 **AND INDEBTEDNESS; NOW**, therefore be it

24 **RESOLVED**, that the **AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION (AOA)** hereby
25 adopts a policy of supporting a level playing field for all **ADEQUATE QUALITY**
26 **ROTATIONS FOR** medical school graduates **STUDENTS** as they pursue clinical
27 rotation positions **EDUCATION**; and, be it further

28 **RESOLVED**, that the AOA supports the appointment of clinical rotation positions based
29 on the medical acumen of the individual student; and, be it further

1 ~~RESOLVED, that the AOA supports evaluating international medical graduates and US~~
2 ~~medical students using the same standards; and, be it further~~

3 RESOLVED, that the AOA in concert with other healthcare organizations, the federal, state
4 and local governments will continue to monitor, correct, and **WORK TO** prevent
5 any future policies **THAT**, ~~which~~ provide an unfair advantage to international
6 medical **STUDENTS**. ~~graduates; and, be it further~~

7 ~~RESOLVED, that the AOA supports the policy that clinical rotation opportunities should~~
8 ~~be granted to students who are similar in educational background and academic~~
9 ~~achievement as those students currently in the program to ensure continuity; and, be~~
10 ~~it further~~

11 ~~RESOLVED, that the AOA supports the policy that no student should be participating in a~~
12 ~~clinical rotation if he/she jeopardizes quality patient care.~~

Explanatory Statement: The American Osteopathic Association supports a policy of supporting a level playing field for all medical school **STUDENTS** ~~graduates~~ as they pursue clinical rotation positions. International medical **STUDENTS** ~~graduates~~ and US medical students should be evaluated using the same standards. US hospitals should not provide additional core academic training to international medical **STUDENTS** ~~graduates~~ than for US **STUDENTS** ~~graduates~~. Clinical rotation appointments should be based on the student's medical acumen, and all students should be given an equal opportunity. The AOA will continue to monitor, correct, and prevent any future policies **THAT**, ~~which~~ provide an unfair advantage to international medical **STUDENTS** ~~graduates~~.

ACTION TAKEN APPROVED AS AMENDED

DATE 7/17/09