

OKLAHOMA STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution 2 – A-2016

Amended 4/12/16

Introduced by: Cleveland-McClain County Medical Society

Subject: Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

1 **WHEREAS**, the goal of the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) is to entice all states to join
2 the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact in order to form yet another bureaucracy which will
3 exercise regulatory authority over physicians and the practice of medicine – the Interstate
4 Commission,

5 **WHEREAS**, another layer of bureaucracy will be more costly to physicians and patients, as the
6 various participating states will be forced to pay dues to this new organization, thus further escalating
7 the cost of medical licensure,

8 **WHEREAS**, the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact redefines who a physician is, and does not
9 recognize the Webster dictionary definition, but rather, defines a physician as one who “holds
10 specialty certification or a time-unlimited specialty certificate recognized by the American Board of
11 Medical Specialties, or the American Osteopathic Association’s Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists”.

12 **WHEREAS**, under this new definition of “physician”, those physicians who do not participate in
13 Maintenance of Certification will not be eligible for licensure. Furthermore, this new Interstate
14 Commission will force physicians to fund American Board of Medical Specialties and its subsidiaries
15 and/or the American Osteopathic Association and its subsidiaries. Note that failure to pay dues to the
16 American Osteopathic Association is construed as relinquishing current specialty board certification.
17 Such has no relationship to the ability to practice medicine/osteopathy, but rather, whether one pays
18 the required fees.

19 **WHEREAS**, there is no relationship with a physician’s quality of medical care and participation with
20 Maintenance of Certification (MOC) programs, and such activities merely serve to siphon physicians’
21 struggling incomes in order to enrich the MOC industry,

22 **WHEREAS**, there are other novel new definitions of “physician” which cause the participating states
23 to cede control over the practice of medicine to an amorphous bureaucracy at a great financial cost, in
24 spite of FSMB protests that “state medical boards would retain their licensing and disciplinary
25 authority,”

26 **WHEREAS**, there exists certified physicians with term-unlimited (“life-long” certification) and
27 term-limited (those who are expected to perform MOC to maintain certification with ABMS and
28 AOA) and there are non-certified physicians in OK who are licensed (and should be able to remain
29 licensed w/wo certification).

30 **WHEREAS**, this new Interstate Commission will “enforce compliance with Compact provisions...
31 using all necessary and proper means, including but not limited to the use of judicial process,” and,
32 the Interstate Compact “may, by majority vote of the Commissioners, initiate legal action... against a
33 member state in default”,

34 **WHEREAS**, member states discovering that the new Interstate Compact over rules the state at
35 excessive cost, will find it difficult, expensive, and perhaps impossible to extricate itself from such
36 Interstate Commission,

37 **WHEREAS**, there are other ways of providing for telemedicine and “expedited physician licensure”;
38 therefore, be it

39 **RESOLVED**, that the Oklahoma State Medical Association support all efforts to keep certification
40 independent of licensure.

41 **RESOLVED**, that the Oklahoma State Medical Association strongly oppose FSMB’s Interstate
42 Medical Licensure Compact; and be it further

43 **RESOLVED**, that the Oklahoma State Medical Association request that our American Medical
44 Association likewise oppose the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.
