

SUBJECT: Certification Component Development

SUBMITTED BY: ACOFP Board of Governors

REFERRED TO: 2019 ACOFP Congress of Delegates

RESOLUTION NO. 27

- 1 WHEREAS, family physicians comprise a large number of American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
2 membership; and
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4 WHEREAS, family physicians comprise more than one half of all AOA certified physicians; and
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6 WHEREAS, decoupling from membership by the AOA has made certification the primary income source for
7 the AOA; and
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9 WHEREAS, family physician certification has consistently provided considerable positive income; and
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11 WHEREAS, American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians (AOBFP) certification enhances and promotes
12 membership in American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) and the AOA; and
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14 WHEREAS, survival of ACOFP and survival of the AOA is likely to be heavily dependent on maintaining and
15 enhancing valid osteopathic family physician certification; and
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17 WHEREAS, without the income provided by family physicians, most of the other specialty certifying boards,
18 as well as the AOA, would not be able to function; and
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20 WHEREAS, a significant number of family physicians are expressing confusion, anger, and disbelief that
21 their role is being taken for granted and their interests in osteopathic medicine are being shunned
22 by the AOA and its current certifying board realignment process; and
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24 WHEREAS, many AOBFP certified physicians and many future certified family physicians question the
25 integrity of “simplified” certification with little concern for osteopathic content; now, therefore be it
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27 RESOLVED, that the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) allows and encourages interaction between
28 the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) and American Osteopathic Board of
29 Family Physicians (AOBFP) to develop components for initial and ongoing osteopathic family
30 medicine certification; and, be it further
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32 RESOLVED, that the resulting recommendations be submitted to the Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists
33 (BOS) for consideration and discussion, without outside influence from AOA staff and Board of
34 Trustees; and, be it further
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36 RESOLVED, that the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) meet and discuss these
37 and other possible recommendations with other primary specialty colleagues to discuss with their
38 own certifying boards; and, be it further
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40 RESOLVED, that the ACOFP forward this resolution to the AOA House of Delegates.