

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS RELEASE
NPhA and SNPhA Delegation
Pass a Combined 8 Resolutions at Annual Meeting

Chicago, IL – The National Pharmaceutical Association (NPhA), in conjunction with the Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA), held its 62nd Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL, July 17th – July 20th, 2009, themed “Celebrating Excellence: Continually Raising the Bar.” The Annual Meeting activities were located at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile. The NPhA and SNPhA delegations combined passed a total of 8 resolutions.

The resolutions addressed issues concerning electronic medical records, culturally and linguistically appropriate care, diabetes awareness, postgraduate residencies, Medicare Part B, Future Vision of Pharmacy Practice 2015, pharmacy technician licensure and training, and health care reform. Full text of all resolutions passed is as follows:

2009.1 Whereas medication related problems continue to pose a significant issue within the current US health care system; and Whereas access to patient information by all healthcare professionals is essential to minimizing medication related problems and ensuring continuity of care; Be it resolved that NPhA and SNPhA support the universal adoption of electric medical records as well as interoperability with existing pharmacy dispensing software systems.

2009.2 Whereas patients with low literacy and limited English proficiency experience difficulty in accessing the healthcare system; and Whereas the aforementioned patients are at increased risk for hospitalizations and poor medication adherence consequently resulting in higher healthcare expenditures; Be it resolved that NPhA and SNPhA encourages pharmacists and pharmacies to provide care that is culturally and linguistically appropriate.

2009.3 Whereas diabetes has become a chronic disease that disproportionately affects minority populations; and Whereas NPhA and SNPhA are focused on health issues affecting minority populations; Be it resolved that NPhA and SNPhA work toward adopting a national public health initiative focused on diabetes awareness and education.

2009.4 Whereas the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists (ASHP) position is “that by the year 2020, the completion of an ASHP-accredited postgraduate-year-one residency should be a requirement for all new college of pharmacy graduates who will be providing direct patient care” per ASHP Policy # 0702; Be it resolved that NPhA and SNPhA position is “that by 2020, the completion of an ASHP-accredited postgraduate-year-one residency should be encouraged and ASHP should further support the initiation of residencies that serve under-represented minority communities.”

2009.5 Whereas it has been shown that pharmacist can improve patient outcomes through medication therapy management; and Whereas pharmacists do not have healthcare provider status under the Medicare Part B program; Be it resolved that NPhA and SNPhA supports the recognition of pharmacists by Medicare Part B as healthcare providers.

2009.6 Whereas the Joint Commission of Pharmacy Practitioners has served as the principal forum for chief executives and chief elected officers of the national pharmacy organizations to share information, perspectives, and concerns about vital issues facing the profession of pharmacy; and Whereas the Joint Commission of Pharmacy Practitioners has developed and adopted the “Future Vision of Pharmacy Practice 2015” which details how pharmacy should be practiced as well as the role of pharmacists as health care professionals responsible for providing patient care; Be it resolved that the NPhA and SNPhA support the Joint Commission of Pharmacy Practitioners by continuing to develop and foster initiatives that

promote and prepare current and emerging pharmacists to meet the “Future Vision of Pharmacy Practice 2015.”

2009.7 Whereas the laws and regulations vary from state to state as it pertains to the licensure (registration), training and certification of pharmacy technicians; and whereas improperly trained pharmacy staff and technicians pose potential hazards to patient care and safety; Be it resolved that NPhA and SNPhA encourages state boards of pharmacy to require the licensure (registration), training and certification of all pharmacy technicians.

2009.8 Whereas NPhA and SNPhA are professional pharmacy organizations committed to representing minority pharmacists and serving underserved populations; Be it resolved that NPhA and SNPhA, along with other national pharmacy organizations request President Barack Obama to include and invite the collective of national pharmacy organizations to assist his administration as it undertakes health care reform.

The National Pharmaceutical Association, founded in 1947, is the oldest and largest professional society representing the views and ideals of minority pharmacists on critical issues affecting health care and pharmacy. NPhA is a leader in the pharmaceutical care arena that addresses socio-economic issues affecting the individual patient and advances the standards of care in all practice settings.

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