

**Federation of State Medical Boards
House of Delegates Meeting
April 30, 2022**

Subject: National Medical Practice Registry
Introduced by: Washington Medical Commission
Approved: January 14, 2022

Whereas, State medical boards serve an important role in protecting the citizens of their states by ensuring that physicians and physician assistants are qualified and competent;

Whereas, State medical boards are expected by the public, the profession, and policy makers to be leaders in responding to issues relating to access to care and workforce flexibility;

Whereas, Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and temporary changes on the state and federal level, the use and acceptance of telemedicine to practice across state lines is rapidly increasing;

Whereas, State medical boards are justifiably seen as an impediment to the full utilization of telemedicine because the traditional state-based licensure model does not permit full license portability;

Whereas, State medical boards have attempted to address the portability issue by developing the Interstate Medical Licensing Compact, which has enabled expedited licensure in participating states, but has not resulted in full license portability;

Whereas, Federal efforts are underway to develop solutions to address the license portability issue, which may result in dramatic changes to the current state-based licensure model that poses a risk to patient safety and practitioner accountability;

Whereas, State medical boards must come up with and lead adoption of a solution that permits true license portability while maintaining their role to protect their citizens by ensuring their physicians and physician assistants are qualified and competent, and ensuring funding for operations;

Whereas, A regional and provincial practice registry is a model that has been successfully used in many international jurisdictions, including Canada,

Australia and the United Kingdom;

Whereas, A national medical practice registry that permits a physician or physician assistant licensed in their home state and who meets certain qualifications, to practice in any state, is a solution that is in the public interest and should be explored; and

Whereas, A national medical practice registry will require federal legislation by the U. S. Congress and participation by all jurisdictions to be a viable solution to portability;

Therefore, be it hereby

Resolved: that the FSMB will convene a workgroup to explore developing federal legislation to create a National Medical Practice Registry through a public-private partnership that would permit physicians and physician assistants licensed in their home states who meet specified criteria to practice medicine in every other state; and be it further

Resolved: that the development of a National Medical Practice Registry will incorporate a centralized point of information for public access to verify licenses and file complaints regardless of jurisdiction; and be it further

Resolved: that the development of a National Medical Practice Registry assumes governance by representatives of state medical boards who are responsible for developing standards for entry and removal from the registry.