



Executive Director's Report

(Prepared March 3, 2014, for the March 6-7, 2014, Board meeting)

BOARD APPOINTMENTS: Governor Branstad has appointed two new members to the Board and reappointed two members. Diane Cortese, Urbandale, an attorney with The Principal Financial Group in Des Moines, will complete the unexpired term (2 years) of Ann Gales, Bode, who resigned in January. Ronald Cheney, D.O., a surgeon in Carroll, will succeed Greg Hoversten, D.O., Iowa City, who did not seek reappointment. Hamed Tewfik, M.D., Iowa City, a radiation oncologist, and Diane Clark, Lake Mills, were appointed to their second three-year terms on the Board. Orientation for Ms. Cortese and Dr. Cheney will be held in April. They will join the Board on May 1.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: The Board continues to lobby for passage for its legislation, SF379, which has been dramatically amended. The bill, which is awaiting passage in the House State Government Committee before it can proceed through the assembly, would allow the Board to use up to three Alternate members on a six-member panel to hear disciplinary cases. Currently, the Board can use two Alternate members on a panel. Two provisions struck from the original legislation would have addressed ambiguity in how the Board can assess civil penalties and would have allowed the Board to assign certain cases to be heard by an administrative law judge. The bill was approved in its entirety by the Senate in 2013, but it faced opposition when it was considered by a subcommittee of the House State Government Committee. If the full committee doesn't pass the amended bill by March 14, it will be dead for this season.

SURVEY OF IOWA PHYSICIANS: In March and April, the Board will conduct an online survey of Iowa physicians to gather information about the types of professional development activities that physicians find to be most helpful in maintaining their medical skills and knowledge base. The information from the survey is being collected as a part of a project by the Federation of State Medical Boards. The FSMB is leading a national discussion on an initiative aimed at strengthening patient care by requiring licensed physicians to provide, as a condition of license renewal, evidence that they are actively participating in a program of continuous professional development that is relevant to their areas of practice, measured against objective data sources and aimed at improving performance over time. The FSMB, a non-profit organization that represents the nation's 70 state medical boards, is working with its member boards to develop this initiative, known as maintenance of licensure. The Iowa Board of

Medicine is one of several state boards participating in various pilot projects as a prelude to developing maintenance of licensure system for possible adoption and implementation.

FSMB ANNUAL MEETING: The Federation of State Medical Boards' annual meeting is April 24-26 in Denver. Board members and staff members scheduled to attend the meeting are Hamed Tewfik, M.D., Diane Clark, Mark Bowden, Kent Nebel and John Olds, M.D. Deb Anglin, coordinator of the Iowa Physician health Program, and Amy Van Maanen, IPHP project manager, are scheduled to attend the annual meeting of the Federation of State Physician Health Programs, which meets concurrently with the FSMB in Denver.

CALENDAR

March 6-7 – Board meeting

March 28 – Iowa Physician Health Committee meeting

April 17-18 – Board meeting