

Final Committee Objectives 2020-21

Federal Government Affairs

Chair: Bradley J. Uren, MD, FACEP

Board Liaison: Mark S. Rosenberg, DO, MBA, FACEP, President-Elect

Staff Liaison: Laura Wooster, MPH

1. Analyze and recommend legislative and regulatory priorities for the First Session of the 117th Congress. Monitor the outcome of the 2020 federal elections and prepare ACEP to engage and promote its legislative and regulatory priorities with the new 117th Congress and potentially a new Administration.
 2. Develop strategies to expand the 9-1-1 Advocacy Network. Encourage committee members to meet with their congressional representatives either locally or on Capitol Hill.
 3. Continue to monitor the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)'s actions to address the ongoing issue of drug shortages, including any recommendations to Congress.
 4. Advocate for federal action to require Indian Health Service data-sharing with prescription drug monitoring programs.
 5. Advocate for federal action to address health care disparities.
 6. Identify new opportunities to collaborate with federal agencies, including the Veterans Administration, Department of Defense, Indian Health Services, etc.
 7. Develop and assess potential innovative approaches to improving the way care is delivered and reimbursed in rural areas with the goal of improving patient access to emergency department services in these areas. Collaborate with content experts from other committees and task forces as needed.
 8. Continue to develop and assess potential legislative ideas to address firearm safety and injury prevention.
 9. Continue advocating for the increased use of telehealth as a means to advance emergency medicine and improve quality of care for patients.
 10. Develop an annual report to all ACEP members regarding advocacy work done on behalf of emergency medicine.
 11. Monitor and respond to federal legislative and regulatory action related to out of network billing. Collaborate with content experts from the Reimbursement Committee and State Legislative/Regulatory Committee. (Federal Government Affairs is the lead committee.)
 12. Review the following policy per the Policy Sunset Review Process:
 - Health Care Cost Assignment by Taxes
 - Worldwide Nuclear Disarmament
 - Universal Health Care Coverage
- Determine by December 15 if the policies should be reaffirmed, revised, rescinded, or sunsetted. Submit any proposed revisions to the Board for approval by the end of the committee year.*
13. Continue efforts to advance federal legislation to address violence in health care.
 14. Continue to support advocacy efforts on rescheduling of cannabis to facilitate well-controlled studies of cannabis and related cannabinoids for medical use in patients as directed in Amended Resolution 36(18) ACEP Policy Related to Medical Cannabis.
 15. Continue to monitor the ever-changing pandemic legislative and regulatory landscape and advocate on behalf of emergency physicians to ensure they have the resources to safely provide care to patients and sufficient financial support.

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16. Develop and propose federal legislation based on lessons learned in the COVID-19 pandemic that will lessen obstacles for emergency physicians and patients in future pandemics or disasters.
17. Continue efforts to address Amended Resolution 35(19) Prudent Layperson Visit Downcoding through federal advocacy actions
18. Collaborate with the Reimbursement Committee and the State Legislative/Regulatory Committee to develop strategies to address Amended Resolution 38(19) Standards for Insurance Denials. (Federal Government Affairs is the lead committee.)