

State Board of Medical Examiners
Agenda
May 12, 2004

ROLL CALL

**STATEMENT CONCERNING ANNUAL
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTES Approval of the April 14, 2004 Open Board Minutes.

MINUTES Approval of the April 19, 2004 Open Credentials Committee Minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

**1. MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
MANDATORY LIMITS PETITION**

Attached are copies of the transcript of the informal conference and comments received on this issue. The Executive Committee, recognizing its duty to protect the public, recommends that the Board deny the Medical Society's Petition for rule making to reduce the mandatory malpractice insurance coverage requirements to \$300,000/\$900,000. The Executive Committee tabled further decision as to other recommendations made by the subcommittee noting that legislation is currently pending (and which has already passed both houses) which seeks to establish statutorily mandatory limits of the current \$1million/\$3million. The bill also provides the discretion to the Board, through the regulatory process, to increase these proposed minimum amounts. These proposed revisions would moot any other consideration of lowering the mandatory limits. The Board has always acknowledged that potentially lowering any mandatory limits is only a small portion of the many faceted malpractice crisis. The Executive Committee also noted that The Medical Malpractice Bill (A50) now pending offers a comprehensive approach to a highly complex problem, albeit without elements that petitioners have supported. Some of the reforms are consistent with those that the Board had identified earlier during its review of bills during the last legislative session. Given the legislative attention now focused on this many faceted issue, it is hoped that implementation of meaningful reform will move forward.

**2. PATIENT RECORD RULE
PETITION BY THE MEDICAL SOCIETY**

Attached is a copy of a petition for rule making from the Medical Society concerning amendments to what a physician can charge for copying medical records. The Executive Committee recommends denying the petition. In the recent past, in considering other amendments to the patient record rule, the Board had reviewed this issue. Based on information received from other states, the Board concluded that our charge was consistent with what is charged in other jurisdictions. Additionally, no new information has been received to document a needed increase in the charges. The Executive Committee believes that the current charges are sufficient to appropriately compensate the licensee when a patient requests a copy of his/her records.

**3. CONTINUING MEDICAL
EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

Attached are the comments received on the Board's proposed continuing medical education requirement regulation and proposed responses. Board approval is sought to adopt the proposed responses and publish the regulation as an adoption in the New Jersey Register.

INFORMATIONAL

PUBLIC COMMENT

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