

**State Board of Medical Examiners  
Agenda - June 14, 2006**

**ROLL CALL**

**STATEMENT CONCERNING THE ANNUAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

MINUTES Approval of the May 10, 2006 Open Board Minutes

MINUTES Approval of the May 15, 2006 Open Credentials Committee Minutes

**NEW BUSINESS**

**PRESENTATION**

**CULTURAL COMPETENCY**

Dr. Maria Soto-Greene  
Professor and Vice Dean

UMDNJ

Will address the Board on the essential elements of a cultural competency training program.

**1. NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Nominating Committee will report on its choice of the slate of officers for the elections to take place at the July Board meeting. (No materials are provided)

**2. LEGISLATION**

S 1644 Seeks to limit the liability of physicians to their medical malpractice insurance coverage. This bill was on the May 10, 2006 Open Board Agenda and the Board, upon motion made and seconded, voted to support the proposed legislation. Subsequently, there was a lengthy discussion as to the value in supporting, as well as the appropriateness of opposing the legislation and the Board requested that it be placed on the June Agenda.

The Executive Committee recommended opposing the bill as proposed. It believed that the bill was not in the best interest of the patient and that supporting the bill would be contrary to the Board's role of protecting the public. In particular, it was noted, that in some circumstances the non-economic damages would far exceed what a policy coverage limit would provide. In cases where it is truly deserving and where the case merited such an award, it should be available to the plaintiff in the non-economic damages setting. This bill would prohibit even those awards which were merited. Additionally, the Committee members voicing their opposition believed that appropriate Tort Reform cannot be accomplished through a piece meal process, but must be dealt with as a whole.

S 88 Seeks to establish the "New Jersey Compassionate Use Medical Marijuana Act."

The Executive Committee was generally supportive of the proposal. There was some concern that part of the proposal would remove the power from the Board of Medical Examiners to take discipline against a licensee for the improper prescribing of marijuana under the provisions of this proposal. The Executive Committee requested that it be amended to explicitly state that it was within the discretion of the BME to investigate and to take discipline in matters where the use of the marijuana is prescribed inappropriately.

A 2951 "Prescription Drug Right-to-Know Act"; establishes clinical trials registry in DHSS; requires pharmaceutical companies to publicly disclose clinical trial data.

A 3122 Permits revised methods of treatment for chiropractors and establishes continuing education requirements.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**INFORMATIONAL**

- Unethical Doc Ruining Mom's Autumn Years
- Summer CME Courses – American Medical Seminars

**PUBLIC COMMENT**