

**STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS AGENDA  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2005**

**ROLL CALL**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MINUTES** Approval of the July 13, 2005 Open Board Minutes

**MINUTES** Approval of the August 10, 2005 Open Board Minutes

**MINUTES** Approval of July 18, 2005 Open Credentials Committee Minutes

**MINUTES** Approval of the August 15, 2005 Open Credentials Committee Minutes

**NEW BUSINESS**

**PRESENTATION**

Former Board Member, George T. DiFerdinando, Jr., M.D., M.P.H. will make a presentation to the Board on a web based CME course regarding cultural competency. As you are aware, Dr. DiFerdinando is the Physician Clinical Advisor for the PRONJ, The Healthcare Quality Improvement Organization of New Jersey, Inc., out of East Brunswick, New Jersey.

**1. LEGISLATION**

A 4325 Seeks to revise the standards for expert witnesses in medical malpractice actions. Introduced by Assemblyperson Herb Conaway on June 30, 2005 and referred to the Assembly Health and Human Services Committee.

The Committee recommended support because it recognized the value in not permitting the "professional" expert from offering an opinion that does not find support within the medical literature. The Committee also noted that it was not sure that the requirement of having to be credentialed by a hospital was necessary and this requirement may be over reaching. The Committee further noted that the proposed legislation would automatically exclude individuals who might otherwise be qualified, for example, those individuals that are over 65 who pay a reduced licensure fee, do not hold any hospital privileges or affiliations with any HMO, but still maintain an active license. The Committee also believed that limiting it to the listed organizations may be too limited and it was suggested that the proponent include broader language and permit one to qualify as an expert with qualifications of "equal scope or rigor." The Committee also noted that this would be the beginning of intruding into the power of the Court to determine those that might qualify and serve as an expert witness.

A 4182 Seeks to establish that certain utilization management decisions on behalf of certain insurers to be considered the practice of medicine. Introduced by Assemblyperson Conaway and referred to the Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee.

The Committee recommended support and further recognized that this will thwart attempts to circumvent ERISA and hold the practitioner liable. The Committee also believed that the legislation would ultimately be in the best interest of Patient care.

**OLD BUSINESS**

## INFORMATIONAL

- CPEP - Patient Care Documentation Course
- "When Bad Medicine Happens to Good People"
- PRIM~E course brochure

## PUBLIC COMMENT

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