



AMERICAN  
OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

# AOA Update

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**American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP)**

ACOFP Congress of Delegates

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# AOA Presidential Goals

## Build a better future by inspiring the youth of our profession

- Promote AOA Board Certification as the premier certification pathway for all osteopathic physicians.
- Continue to expand and improve service to AOA Diplomates.
- Expand outreach to osteopathic medical students, residents, and fellows regarding the distinctive practice of osteopathic medicine.
- Build and promote the osteopathic professional community for future generations of DOs and osteopathic medical students.



# AOA Presidential Goals

## Build a better future by inspiring the youth of our profession

### Recent activities:

- Met with more than 1,000 osteopathic medical students during OMED, including participation in:
  - Omega Beta Iota – National Osteopathic Political Honor Society Induction Ceremony.
  - Sigma Sigma Phi meeting.
- Engaged in discussions with students at every opportunity



# AOA Presidential Goals

## Ensure membership engagement by enhancing service to our members

- Measure and track member engagement with AOA programs and apply feedback to help guide the services we offer members.
- Conduct a longitudinal member satisfaction survey.
- Continue to develop and enhance the AOA's unique value proposition for osteopathic medical students, residents and fellows.



# AOA Presidential Goals

## Ensuring membership engagement through enhanced service to our members

### Recent activities:

- Welcomed back former AOA SVP of Certifying Board Services Genie James as the VP of AOA Department of Accreditation and Interim Secretary of COCA
- Promoted Maura Biszewski to SVP, Certifying Board Services and GME
- Participated in Coalition for Physician Accountability at ACCME
- Meetings with NBOME, AACOM, COCA and Bureau of Federal Health Programs



# AOA Presidential Goals

## Ensuring membership engagement through enhanced service to our members

### Recent activities (cont'd):

- New OMT designation
- New AOA Leadership Academy
- Enhanced phone system to get members to a live person or receive direct support from Board Certifying Services
- New customized discount packages for group membership



# AOA Presidential Goals

## Expand the AOA's voice to broaden our influence in the healthcare community

- Enhance relationships with non-osteopathic organizations impacting or influencing the osteopathic community.
- Explore opportunities for collaboration and joint programmatic development with such organizations.
- Support efforts for DOs to assimilate into the overall physician community, while preserving the distinctive practice of osteopathic medicine.

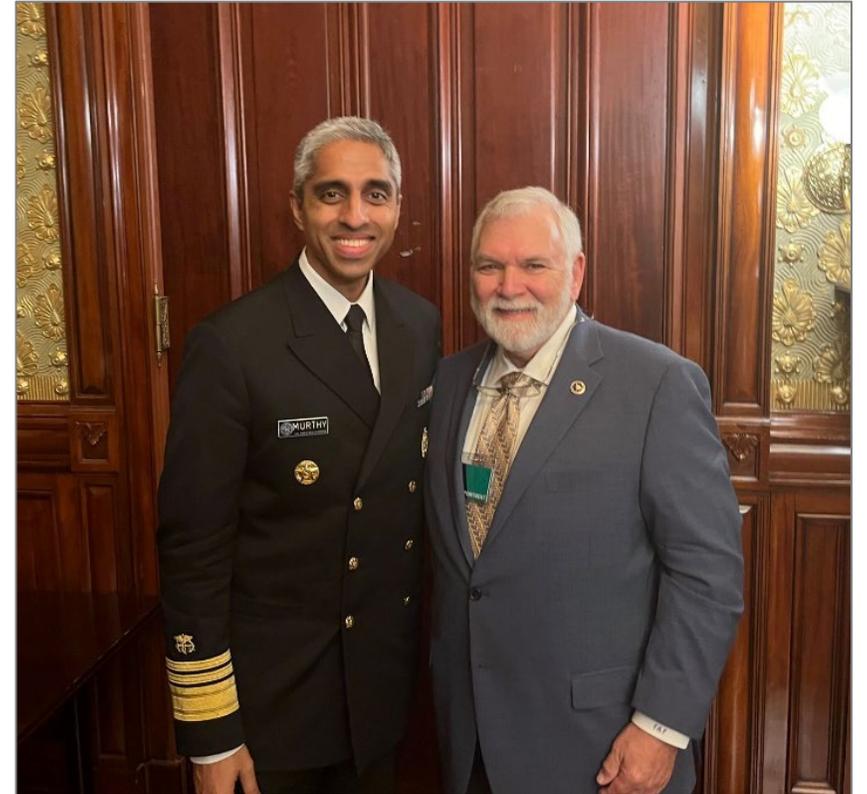


# AOA Presidential Goals

## Expand the AOA's voice to broaden our influence in the healthcare community

### Recent activities:

- White House Roundtable invitation to share AOA's plan for maintaining a strong response to COVID-19.
  - Led by U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy, MD, and White House COVID-19 Response Coordinator Ashish Jha, MD.
  - Only 12 participants outside of WH staff.
  - Only DO invited.
- Member of the White House COVID Response Team.



# AOA Presidential Goals

## Expand the AOA's voice to broaden our influence

### Recent activities (cont'd):

- Presented to the AMA Board of Trustees during their Interim House of Delegates – first AOA representative.
  - Continued conversations with AMA President, President-elect, and Immediate Past-President, as well as multiple board members.
- AMA State Advocacy Summit in Tucson, AZ (1/23)
- Established relationships with healthcare partners to serve our communities on the national, state, and corporate levels.



# AOA Presidential Goals

## What does this mean?

- 38K miles of travel to date
- 60 days on the road
- Trains, Planes and automobiles
- 3.5 hour Uber ride to Museum of Osteopathic Medicine and the International Center for Osteopathic History in Kirksville, MO, from the airport



# Federal and Grassroots Advocacy

## State Government Affairs

- Scope of practice, licensure and liability protection

## Regulatory Affairs

- Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, Medicare cuts, physician payment, HIT

## Congressional Affairs

- Prior authorization reform in Medicare Advantage, surprise billing, liability protection, debt relief

## Grassroots

- Access to care, entitlement reform, regulatory reform, scope of practice, physician workforce



AOA D.C. headquarters



# Federal and Grassroots Advocacy

## Recent activities:

- 51 letters to Congress - 12 in partnership with osteopathic affiliates.
- In the 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act, successes included:
  - Mitigating Medicare physician payments cuts by 6.5%,
  - Extending telehealth services available under the Public Health Emergency for 2 years
  - Funding for an additional 200 GME residency positions per year over next five years
- Still engaged in addressing issues on physician payment and greater access to care in underserved rural and urban communities.



# Thank you!

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