

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

B of T Report 23-A-24

Subject: United States Professional Association for Transgender Health Observer Status in the House of Delegates

Presented by: Willie Underwood, III, MD, MSc, MPH, Chair

Referred to: Reference Committee F

1 The Board of Trustees has received a request from the United States Professional Association for
2 Transgender Health (USPATH) to be considered for Official Observer status in the House of
3 Delegates (HOD). The USPATH’s request has been thoroughly considered using the criteria below
4 (Policy G-600.025, “Official Observers in Our AMA House”):
5

- 6 1. The organization and the AMA should already have established an informal relationship
7 and have worked together for the mutual benefit of both;
- 8 2. The organization should be national in scope and have similar goals and concerns about
9 health care issues;
- 10 3. The organization is expected to add a unique perspective or bring expertise to the
11 deliberations of the HOD; and
- 12 4. The organization does not represent narrow religious, social, cultural, economic, or
13 regional interests so that formal ties with the AMA would be welcomed universally by
14 AMA members.
15

16 The Board has discussed the USPATH’s request and presents the following report.

17
18 DISCUSSION

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20 As part of its request, USPATH submitted information on how it has met the criteria for Official
21 Observer status, which is summarized below.
22

23 *Criterion 1. The organization and the AMA should already have established an informal*
24 *relationship and have worked together for the mutual benefit of both.*
25

26 USPATH has established informal relationships with the AMA through member and board
27 member involvement in the AMA Advisory Committee on LGBTQ Issues as well as the business
28 of the AMA HOD. Given their national scope, USPATH shares similar goals and concerns as the
29 AMA in ensuring appropriate access to and practice of evidence-based medicine and the
30 elimination of barriers to care placed between physicians and their patients.
31

32 *Criterion 2. The organization should be national in scope and have similar goals and concerns*
33 *about health care issues.*
34

35 USPATH is regional affiliate organization of the World Professional Association for Transgender
36 Health (WPATH), which is an interdisciplinary professional and educational organization devoted

1 to transgender health. USPATH professional, supporting, and student members engage in clinical
2 and academic research to develop evidence-based medicine and strive to promote a high quality of
3 care for transgender and gender-nonconforming individuals within the US.
4

5 As a national interdisciplinary, professional organization, USPATH works to further the
6 understanding and treatment of gender dysphoria by professionals in medicine, psychology, law,
7 social work, counseling, psychotherapy, family studies, sociology, anthropology, sexology, speech
8 and voice therapy, and additional related fields. USPATH provides opportunities for professionals
9 from various sub-specialties to communicate with each other in the context of research and
10 treatment of gender dysphoria including sponsoring biennial scientific symposia. USPATH is a
11 regional affiliate of WPATH, which publishes the Standards of Care for the Health of Transgender
12 and Gender Diverse People, Version 8, which articulate a professional consensus about the
13 psychiatric, psychological, medical, and surgical management of gender dysphoria and help
14 professionals understand the parameters within which they may aid those with these conditions.
15 The Standards of Care are frequently cited to support current AMA policy regarding gender-
16 affirming care.

17
18 *Criterion 3. The organization is expected to add a unique perspective or bring expertise to the*
19 *deliberations of the HOD.*
20

21 Given their multi-disciplinary membership and focus on a particular area of health care, USPATH
22 will add a unique perspective and bring expertise to the deliberations of the AMA HOD.
23

24 *Criterion 4. The organization does not represent narrow religious, social, cultural, economic, or*
25 *regional interests so that formal ties with the AMA would be welcomed universally by AMA*
26 *members.*
27

28 The USPATH does not represent narrow religious, social, cultural, economic, or regional interests
29 and has already been welcomed to participate in previous AMA activities.
30

31 The Board of Trustees appreciates the previous involvement of USPATH with the AMA Advisory
32 Committee on LGBTQ Issues and believes that the USPATH should be recognized as an Official
33 Observer and welcomed to the House in that capacity.
34

35 RECOMMENDATION

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37 The Board of Trustees recommends that the United States Professional Association for
38 Transgender Health be admitted as an Official Observer in the House of Delegates, and that the
39 remainder of this report be filed.

Fiscal Note: Under \$500

Appendix - Official Observers to the House of Delegates

Organization	Year Admitted
Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care	1993
Alliance for Continuing Medical Education	1999
Alliance for Regenerative Medicine	2014
Ambulatory Surgery Center Association	2005
American Academy of Physician Assistants	1994
American Association of Medical Assistants	1994
American Board of Medical Specialties	2014
American Dental Association	1982
American Health Quality Association	1987
American Hospital Association	1992
American Nurses Association	1998
American Public Health Association	1990
American Podiatric Medical Association	2019
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses	2000
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials	1990
Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools	1999
Council of Medical Specialty Societies	2008
Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates	2011
Federation of State Medical Boards	2000
Federation of State Physician Health Programs	2006
Medical Group Management Association	1988
National Association of County and City Health Officials	1990
National Commission on Correctional Health Care	2000
National Council of State Boards of Nursing	2000
National Indian Health Board	2013
PIAA	2013
Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education	2003
US Pharmacopeia	1998