

Oklahoma Osteopathic Association Advocacy Agenda

Oklahoma Osteopathic Association (OOA) is dedicated to:

- ◆ *Protecting the ability of osteopathic physicians to provide quality, patient-centered health care.*
- ◆ *Ensuring that all patients have access to quality care and affordable health insurance.*
- ◆ *Enhancing the quality of the health care system and improving patient safety.*
- ◆ *Ensuring proper reimbursement for all osteopathic physicians.*
- ◆ *Supporting the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine to facilitate the training of future generations of osteopathic physicians.*

Increasing Access to Care

The OOA:

- ◆ *Supports legislation that assists and encourages all Oklahomans to obtain health insurance for themselves and their families.*
- ◆ *Supports legislation that insures all children in Oklahoma have health insurance either through their parents or a public program.*
- ◆ *Supports a consumer-driven health system that includes a strong public safety net for low-income individuals.*

Medical Liability Reform

The OOA:

- ◆ *Supports the enactment of comprehensive medical liability reform at the state and federal levels.*
- ◆ *Continues a campaign aimed at reforming medical liability laws to improve access to physician services for patients, decreasing the cost of health care for all Oklahomans, and lowering professional liability premiums.*
- ◆ *Supports reasonable limits on non-economic damages, along with other measures that have demonstrated the ability to stabilize the medical liability market.*

Patient Safety and Quality Improvement

The OOA:

- ◆ *Supports reducing the occurrence of preventable medical errors and adverse events.*
- ◆ *Works to ensure that quality measurement systems are based upon quality standards developed by physicians.*
- ◆ *Opposes programs designed to reduce costs versus improving the overall quality of care provided to patients.*
- ◆ *Advocates to limit scope-of-practice expansion by nonphysician clinicians without elevation of their education curriculum, graduate training and regulatory oversight.*

Medical Education

The OOA:

- ◆ *Promotes legislation that ensures appropriate financing of osteopathic graduate medical education.*
- ◆ *Seeks the establishment of programs that assist the osteopathic medical profession in the development of new training programs in diverse and underrepresented geographic locations.*

Public Health

The OOA:

- ◆ *Supports legislation that promotes prevention, quality, safety, and diversity within the health care system.*
- ◆ *Advocates for sound investment in medical research.*
- ◆ *Promotes legislation that helps prepare physicians and the health care system for natural and man-made disasters*

Medicaid Physician Payment

The OOA:

- ◆ *Uses all available resources to ensure that physicians are fairly compensated for their services.*
- ◆ *Supports continuing programs providing maximum Medicaid reimbursement to physicians.*
- ◆ *Works to protect and promote provisions that provide financial incentives for physicians practicing in rural and underserved communities.*

Regulatory Relief

The OOA:

- ◆ *Encourages Congress, federal agencies, state legislatures, and commercial insurers to reduce or eliminate costly administrative burdens and mandates that interfere with a physician's ability to provide timely and quality health care to patients.*



Oklahoma Osteopathic Association

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www.okosteo.org