



(June 5, 2020) Marilyn J. Heine, MD, FACEP, FACP, FCPP was elected Chair of the American Medical Association (AMA) Council on Legislation (COL) during its June meeting. The AMA COL reviews proposed federal legislation and recommends appropriate action in accordance with AMA policy. It also develops model state legislation, recommends changes in existing AMA policy when necessary to accomplish effective legislative goals, and recommends to the AMA Board of Trustees new federal legislation and legislation to modify existing laws of interest to the AMA.

“The importance of physician advocacy for our patients at the bedside and in the halls of our legislature is paramount now, during these unprecedented times. The Council on Legislation is pivotal as we advise the Board of Trustees and ensure that AMA policy forms the foundation for our advocacy endeavors.”

A tenacious advocate for physicians and patients, Dr. Heine has held multiple leadership positions and continues to serve in prominent roles in state and national medical organizations.

In addition to serving as Chair of the AMA COL, Dr. Heine represents the AMA on the Board of the Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare Committee on Operating Rules for Information Exchange. She is Chair of a Congressional Physicians Advisory Board, Secretary of the Forum for Medical Affairs Executive Committee, and a member of the Governing Council for the AMA Private Practice Physicians Congress. She serves as national faculty on health policy, advocacy, and hematologic emergencies.

Leadership positions that Dr. Heine has held in the past include President of the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED), President of the Pennsylvania College of Emergency Physicians (PACEP), Chair of the Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine, Chair of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) Federal Government Affairs Committee, Chair of the PAMED Political Action Committee, President of the Bucks County Medical Society, Board member of the AMA Political Action Committee, Board member of the Pennsylvania Society of Hematology and Oncology, and member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology Government Relations Committee. She served as a member of the Inaugural Steering Committee for the AMA Ambassador program and as a member of the expert panel on Augmented Intelligence (AI) for the AMA Physician Innovation Network. Dr. Heine was appointed by Pennsylvania’s governors to the Commonwealth’s eHealth Collaborative and Health Care Reform Advisory Committee.

Dr. Heine served as Chair of PAMED’s Telehealth Task Force, represented PAMED in keynote and panel presentations at statewide conferences on Health Information Exchanges, and served as faculty for the 2018 Mid Atlantic Telehealth Resource Center Summit. She testified before Congress on “Medicare Physician Payment: How to Build a Payment System that Provides Quality, Efficient Care for Medicare Beneficiaries,” and commented on federal regulatory proposals. Dr. Heine advanced consideration of AI at the Federation of State Medical Boards and was instrumental to its Summit, “AI in Health Care: The Role of Medical Boards.”

Widely recognized for her accomplishments in health policy and advocacy, Dr. Heine has received many accolades including most recently the David Blunk Outstanding Contribution to Emergency Medicine Award from PACEP, the inaugural Award for Political Participation from the AMA Political Action Committee, the Inspirational Physician Award from the AMA Women Physicians Section, and the Colin C. Rorrie, Jr, PhD Award for Excellence in Health Policy from ACEP.

She is Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia and an emergency medicine and hematology oncology physician in southeast Pennsylvania.