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PULASKI COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

NEWS

When you think professional, ethical, quality healthcare, think physicians of Pulaski County Medical Society.

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Lawmaker joins AMA, nation's physicians in urging for repeal of SGR

As the congressional Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction develops a legislative package to reduce federal spending, one lawmaker is circulating a letter urging the committee to include repeal of Medicare's flawed sustainable growth rate (SGR) formula in the legislation.

The letter, from Rep. Allyson Schwartz, D-Pa., lays out a well-reasoned argument for why eliminating the SGR should be part of any solution to address the budget deficit Schwartz is asking all members of the U.S. House of Representatives to sign it.

The AMA supports this important opportunity for members of Congress to declare their support for repeal of the SGR in the context of the committee's work. Schwartz's letter comes on the heels of a separate letter from the AMA and 116 state and specialty medical societies urging the committee to include repeal of the SGR in its legislative package.

The committee is charged with developing legislation to reduce federal spending by at least \$1.2 trillion by Nov. 23. That's less than six weeks before Medicare physician payments are scheduled to be cut 29.5 percent on Jan. 1.

In related news, the AMA and 42 other physician groups sent a letter this week to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) criticizing its plan to fix the Medicare physician payment system. MedPAC is scheduled to vote on the plan this week.


Send your own message to Congress about the need to repeal the SGR by visiting the AMA's Physicians' Grassroots Network. Your patients can do the same through the AMA's Patients' Action Network. Or call the AMA's toll-free grassroots hotline at (800) 833-6354.

Also, view the AMA's Medicare Physician Payment Action Kit and learn more about the AMA's efforts to secure repeal of the SGR. The kit outlines what's at stake and spells out the state-specific impacts of the 29.5 percent cut.

Later this week, the AMA will unveil a national ad campaign aimed at convincing Congress of the importance of repealing the SGR. Watch *AMA Wire* and other communication from the AMA for detail. (Reprint)




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*You and a Guest are Cordially Invited to
The Pulaski County Medical Society & Pulaski County Medical Exchange
2011 Annual Membership Meeting & Dinner*

*The Capital Hotel
Thursday, November 17, 2011*

*6:00 p.m. Business Meetings, Elections, & Cocktail Reception
Silent Auction Benefit for Harmony Health Clinic*

*7:30 p.m. Dinner & "2011 President's Award
for a Lifetime of Service to the Practice of Medicine"*

(The Late) David E. Bourne, MD

*RSVP: 687-0039 by November 14
\$50 per person – Checks only please to
Pulaski County Medical Society, Suite 311, Little Rock, AR 72207*

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Annual Business Meeting & Dinner



Renee' Montgomery, MD, is slated to become 145th president of the Pulaski County Medical Society. Dr. Montgomery, who is currently serving as president-elect has had a variety of leadership positions within the Society. She also represents her physician colleagues as a Trustee to the state medical society.

Memorial Resolution

- WHEREAS, the members of the Pulaski County Medical Society are deeply saddened by the recent death of an esteemed colleague, David E. Bourne, MD; and
- WHEREAS, he was a past president of the Pulaski County Medical Society, and distinguished himself as a leader in crafting and guiding county and statewide public health initiatives resulting in passage of clean air legislation, federal funding for breast and cervical cancer control, and communicable diseases; and
- WHEREAS, his public health career included the Arkansas Department of Health and the Primary Care Clinic, Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System, and Lynn Community Health Center of Lynn, MA; and
- WHEREAS, he received his undergraduate degree from Hendrix College, and was American Board Certified in Family Practice, and an M.S. in Forest Ecology from U of A, received an MD from UAMS, and MPH in Health Policy and Management from the Harvard School of Public Health; and
- WHEREAS, he was president of the Arkansas Public Health Association where the Association executive board established the “Dr. David E. Bourne Public Health Award” recognizing public health workers who exemplify aptitude in shaping sound public health policy in Arkansas; and
- WHEREAS, he worked tirelessly and successfully to craft policy and develop programs to prevent disease in populations; and
- BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:
- THAT, this resolution be adopted and placed in the permanent files of the Society; and
- THAT, a copy be sent to Dr. Bourne’s family as an expression of our heart-felt sorrow; and
- THAT, a copy be made available to the Journal of the Arkansas Medical Society for publication.

Adopted:
By Order of the Memorials Committee
September 2011
Ashley Deed, MD, President

Editor’s note: The PCMS Annual President’s Award will be given posthumously to the family of Dr. Bourne during the Society’s annual dinner meeting at the Capital Hotel on November 17.

2011 Calendar of Meetings and Events

Pulaski County Medical Society
500 S. University Ave., Suite 311
Little Rock, AR 72205

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- Oct. 18** **PCMS Board of Directors Meeting**
6:00 p.m.
Doctors Building
8th Floor Conference Room
- Nov. 9** **Medical Exchange Board Meeting**
5:30 p.m.
Doctors Building
8th Floor Conference Room
- Nov. 17** **2100 Annual Membership Meeting & Dinner**
6:00-6:30 p.m.
Business Meetings & Elections of Officers
6:00-7:00 p.m.
Cocktail Reception
7:30 p.m.
Dinner
Capital Hotel
- Dec.** **TBD**

Welcome New Physicians

Ian Cawich, MD

Kenneth D. Dill, MD

Jill Kimmer, MD

Vasili Lendel, MD

Susanna E. Shermer, MD

James Adam Smitherman, MD

Alina Voinea, MD

Steven Matthew Wright, MD

"As physicians, we have so many unknowns coming our way..."

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