AMA People and Elections
Past CMA Board of Trustees and current CALPAC Board of Directors member Ryan Ribeira of Sacramento was installed as a member of the AMA Board of Trustees.

Delegate Patricia Austin, MD of Walnut Creek (AMA-CCB) and Alternate Erick Eiting, MD of Los Angeles (AMA-CMS) both ran excellent campaigns for AMA Council. Although not successful this meeting, we look forward to future campaigns from both.

Alternate Peter Bretan, MD of Novato is proud to announce that his daughter, Anna Bretan, won the San Francisco Marathon on Father’s Day. Anna ran the marathon in a time of 2:42:26.

CALIFORNIA RESOLUTIONS

1. **Health Risks of Sitting (Res. 413)**
   Adopted a resolution which asks: (1) That our American Medical Association recognize that there are potential risks of prolonged sitting and encourage efforts by employers, employees, and others to make available alternatives such as standing work stations and isometric balls, and encourage educational efforts regarding ways to minimize this risk.

2. **Monitoring for Radiation in Seafood (Res. 414)**
   Adopted as amended a California resolution which asks the AMA to work with: (1) call for the United States government to continue to monitor and fully report the radioactivity levels of edible Pacific Ocean species sold in the United States that could reasonably have been exposed to radiation from the ongoing Fukushima disaster, with information about potential health implications of consuming such foods.

3. **Prevention of Falls Through Windows (Res. 415)**
   Adopted as amended a California resolution which asks the AMA to support: (1) the use of window guards and devices that prevent windows from opening enough to allow a child to fall through and (2) support public education regarding the risks of children falling through windows.

4. **Public Education on Distracted Driving (Res. 416)**
   Adopted a resolution which asks: (1) That our American Medical Association support public education efforts regarding the dangers of distracted driving, particularly activities that take drivers’ eyes off the road.

5. **Cannabis Decriminalization, Regulation, and Taxation (Res. 512)**
   Referred a California resolution which asks the AMA to urge federal agencies to: 1) reschedule medical cannabis in order to encourage research leading to responsible regulation; 2) decriminalize medical use of cannabis; 3) build an appropriate public health regulatory framework for cannabis use; and 4) facilitate dissemination of information about risks and benefits of cannabis use.
6. **Medication Collection “Take Back” Programs (Res. 513)**
   Referred for decision a California resolution which asks the AMA to support medication collection or “take back” programs, funded in whole or part by the pharmaceutical industry, that help keep unused medications out of the environment and out of the hands of potential overdose victims or drug abusers.

7. **Revised Blood Donor Deferral Criteria (Res. 514)**
   Adopted a substitute resolution for Res. 514 that asks our AMA to oppose the current lifetime deferral on blood donations from men who have sex with men, and express support for the use of rational, scientifically based deferral periods that are fairly and consistently applied to donors according to their level of risk rather than being solely based on sexual orientation.

   **Adopted Resolves:**

   RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association support the use of rational, scientifically based blood and tissue donation deferral periods that are fairly and consistently applied to donors according to their level of risk.

   RESOLVED, that our AMA oppose the current lifetime deferral on blood and tissue donations from men who have sex with men.

   AMA Policies H-50.974 and D-50.997 were also rescinded.

8. **Targeted Tuberculosis Testing of School Children (Res. 515)**
   Adopted as amended a California resolution which asks the AMA to support efforts to replace universal tuberculosis testing of school aged children with a TB risk assessment questionnaire, and support TB testing of school aged children based on the results of that TB risk assessment.

9. **Early Treatment and Partner Services for HIV (Res. 516)**
   Adopted as amended by addition a California resolution which asks the AMA to support programs raising physician awareness of the benefits of early treatment and of “treatment as prevention,” and the need for linkage of newly positive persons to clinical care and partner services.

**OTHER KEY ACTIONS:**

1. **Board of Trustees Report 30- Future of the Interim Meeting of the House of Delegates**
   The AMA House of Delegates did not adopt Board Report 30 which recommended the elimination of the interim meeting of the House of Delegates.

2. **Eligibility of Sugar-Sweetened Beverages of SNAP**
   Adopted a resolution which asks 1) that our American Medical Association publish an educational brief to educate physicians about the effects of sugar sweetened beverages (SSBs) on obesity and overall health, and encourage them to educate their patients in turn 2) that our AMA encourage state health agencies to include educational materials about nutrition and health food and beverage choices in routine materials that are currently sent to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients along with the revised eligible foods and beverages guidelines and 3) that our AMA work to remove SSBs from SNAP.
3. **Council on Science and Public Health Report 3- Is Obesity a Disease?**  
Our AMA adopted a report examining the definitions of obesity and disease, the limitations of those definitions, and arguments both for and against the classification of obesity as a disease. The possible implications for provider reimbursement, public policy, and patient stigma were also considered. Of central interest is the potential impact of classifying obesity as a disease on improving patient care and health outcomes.

AMA Policies H150.953 and H440.866 are reaffirmed and Policy D440.971 rescinded.

4. **Council on Science and Public Health Report 2- Nanotechnology Safety and Regulation**  
Our AMA adopted a report which offers brief overview of the current uses of nanotechnology, potential effects on human health and the environment, and regulation of nanomaterials. It recommends that our American Medical Association (a) recognize the benefits and potential risks of nanotechnology; (b) support responsible regulation of nanomaterial products and applications to protect the public’s health and the environment; and (c) encourage continued study on the health and environmental effects of exposure to nanomaterials.

This report was the product of a California Resolution from last year.