
Making a Difference for You: 2024 TMCMS Accomplishments

We're proud to share a summary of the TMCMS achievements in 2024 - all focused on serving our members and their families. We remain committed to **collaborating with you** to strengthen our medical community, enhance patient well-being, and celebrate the joy of practicing medicine.

Legislative Wins

From expanding access to care and strengthening patient protections to enhancing public safety, WSMA secured key legislative victories for patients, physicians, and physician assistants in the 2024 session. Here are a few highlights:

- **Parental Health Outcomes:** Expands postdelivery and transitional care for individuals with substance use disorder and raises the Medicaid income threshold for pregnant and postpartum individuals to 210% of the federal poverty level.
- **Reporting Lost or Stolen Firearms:** Requires individuals to report lost or stolen firearms to law enforcement within 24 hours, with noncompliance resulting in a civil infraction of up to \$1,000.
- **Ultrasounds:** Ensures ultrasounds are performed only by licensed health care practitioners within their scope of practice or under appropriate supervision.
- **Gun Dealers' Responsibility:** Imposes stricter security requirements on gun dealers to prevent firearm theft through enhanced systems and protocols.

The WSMA legislative priorities are largely set by members during the annual House of Delegates meeting – this is why your voice and advocacy are so important! **Help shape the future of healthcare by getting involved today.**

Membership Events

Post-Legislative Summit and Happy Hour: Each year, TMCMS hosts a happy hour following the WSMA Legislative Summit, offering members a chance to unwind, connect, and build meaningful relationships. The 2024 event took place at the Abigail Stuart House, featuring catering by Nineveh, live music, and craft cocktails.

Physician Unions in the Medical Industrial Revolution: At the 2024 annual meeting, **physician unionization** was the major topic of discussion, featuring Stuart A. Bussey, President of the Union of American Physicians and Dentists (UAPD). His presentation examined how physicians have increasingly become overmanaged assembly-line workers and outlined a strategy to slow this trend through unionization.

Engage Your Voice: Legislative Update, Resolution Workshop, and Happy Hour: In May, we hosted our annual **legislative update, resolution workshop, and happy hour**. Members gained valuable insights from Representatives Jessica Bateman and Beth Doglio, alongside WSMA Director of Government Affairs Sean Graham.

The evening kicked off with a rousing recap of the 2024 legislative session by **Reps Jessica Bateman and Beth Doglio, along with WSMA Government Affairs Director Sean Graham**, highlighting key wins and outlining

TMCMS IN ACTION: 2024 Highlights & Achievements

future priorities for advocating for better healthcare. Our TMCMS executive director Danielle Westbrook and Beth Doglio then provided a **hands-on lesson on legislative advocacy**, empowering members to be active participants in shaping policy.

Building on this energy, we dove into a lively resolution roundtable. This interactive session offered members a **step-by-step guide to drafting impactful resolutions** and the chance to **brainstorm ideas in small groups**. This laid the groundwork for the 2024 House of Delegates, **inspiring members to actively participate and shape the future of healthcare.**

Museum Fun at the TMCMS Summer Social: The TMCMS Summer Social at the Hands On Children's Museum was a fantastic success once again! **Close to 150 members, future members, and their families** gathered for an evening of great food, refreshing drinks, and lively music from Vendredi's Bag. The kids had an absolute blast with an exciting scavenger hunt, adding an extra layer of fun to the night. With laughter, connection, and activities for all ages, it was truly a night to remember. **If you missed it this year, be sure to join us in 2025!**

Making a Mark at the WSMA House of Delegates

Did you know? We have one of the **most active and influential medical societies** in Washington! Our strong delegation, second only to King County, represented our members at the annual WSMA House of Delegates in Spokane. **We championed key resolutions, many of which were successful:**

- **Advancing Access to Health Savings Accounts for All Americans:** We advocated for expanding HSA access beyond high-deductible health plans to increase availability and encourage personal investment in healthcare savings. **(Adopted as Amended)**
- **Advocating for a Reduced Volume of Prior Authorizations:** We fought for regulations and policy changes to reduce the total volume of prior authorization demands on health care providers. **(Adopted as Amended)**
- **Washington State Senior Medical Corp:** We pushed for the creation of a voluntary Washington State Senior Medical Corps to leverage the expertise of licensed medical retirees in addressing healthcare workforce shortages. **(Not Adopted)**
- **Washington State Single Source Credentialing:** We called for the establishment of a single-source credentialing system in Washington State to streamline and expedite the physician and physician assistant credentialing process, reducing administrative burdens and improving healthcare workforce efficiency. **(Adopted)**
- **Expanding Payment for Visit Complexity for Office/Other Outpatient Services to Commercial Payers:** This resolution urges WSMA to advocate for policy changes requiring commercial insurers to recognize and reimburse Medicare's G2211 add-on code, ensuring fair compensation for the additional complexities of ongoing patient care. **(Adopted as Amended)**

Join the movement!

Want to be part of our impactful work? Attend our **annual legislative update, resolution roundtable, and happy hour or one of our monthly resolution-writing sessions in June and July.** Watch your email for details!

Together, we can shape the future of healthcare.