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To: Constituent Chapters, AAPA

From: ^{RSC} Ron Ross, Acting Chairman, Resolutions Committee, AAPA House
of Delegates

Subject: Resolutions, Format, Timetable for Submission, and Processing

The House of Delegates of the Academy will hold its first meeting at the Annual Conference in April, 1977, in Houston, Texas. Most of the business of the House will be in the form of resolutions, which are simply proposals of policy or courses of action that are put in writing for consideration by the delegates. Resolutions are debatable, amendable, secondable, reconsiderable, and require a majority vote for passage.

The usual format for resolutions is compound; that is they contain an informational preamble, commonly called the "whereas" clause, and the "resolved" clause. It should be noted that resolutions may exist without the "whereas" clause, and there may be more than one "whereas" clause. Below are some examples (fictitious) of resolutions:

Whereas, the air conditioner in the national office is in disrepair, and

Whereas, the temperature and humidity in the office are rising, and

Whereas, the staff of the national office has threatened to resign if there is no air conditioning, then be it Resolved, that the president of this Academy appoint a committee of three to look into this matter and report back forthwith to this assembly

Whereas, John Doe has been a loyal member of this Academy for fifteen years, and

Whereas he has served as President of this Academy for the past year, and

Whereas today is his birthday, be it

Resolved, that the Academy extend its best wishes to him and his family, and be it further

Resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to him.

Resolved, that this Academy express its deep appreciation to the Ajax Pharmaceutical Co. for its recent gift to the Academy of a new microphone.

Whereas, the administration of President Jimmy Carter may initiate a program of National Health Insurance, and

Whereas, it is critical to the future of the P.A. profession

to be included in any National Health Insurance plan as a member of the health care delivery team, so be it
 Resolved, that the President of this Academy appoint a committee of five members to investigate proposed legislation regarding National Health Insurance and to initiate action to insure that P.A.'s are included as health care providers in that legislation.

These are, of course, just fictitious examples of some of the kinds of things that can be done with resolutions.

Timetable: There are two deadlines to remember for the submission of resolutions. The first is 45 days prior to the convening of the House. This is the deadline for the receipt of resolutions in proper format by the national office of the Academy, if the resolution is to be reproduced by the Academy for inclusion in the delegate's agenda book. Meeting this deadline also guarantees hearings by the resolutions committee on the resolution. The importance of these hearings will be discussed further on. If the 45 day deadline cannot be met, resolutions may be submitted to the Speaker of the House prior to the convening of the House. The resolutions submitted at this time must be in proper format, and must also be reproduced in sufficient quantity for distribution to all delegates and others privileged to the floor of the House (225 copies). This reproduction of resolutions is the responsibility of the constituent chapter sponsoring the resolution. Resolutions submitted by the second deadline will be heard by the resolutions committee on a time-available basis, in the same order in which they are received.

Urgent items of business not submitted as resolutions may be introduced from the floor as items of new business, but a 2/3 vote of the House will be required to allow debate or action on these items.

Resolution Committee Hearings: The resolutions Committee will meet to hear the proponents and opponents of each resolution. A delegate from the constituent chapter sponsoring the resolution should be in attendance to present it to the committee. Opponents of the resolution should be present to give their arguments against it. The resolutions committee will endeavor to publish a schedule giving approximate times that each resolution will be considered prior to the convening of its meeting. After all resolutions have been heard, the committee will go into executive session to produce its report. The report will be published and distributed to the delegates prior to the reconvening of the House. When the portion of the agenda of

the meeting dealing with resolutions is reached, the Speaker will call for the report of the resolutions committee. The chairman of the committee will read the "resolved" portion of the resolution and give the committee's recommendation on it. In addition, he will give the committee's rationale for its decision. If there is not unanimity of the committee on a particular resolution, a minority report may be given. The Speaker of the House will then call for a vote to either accept or reject the committee's report on that resolution. If the vote of the House is to accept the report, the resolution is either adopted or rejected, whichever the committee has recommended. If the House votes to reject the report, that resolution is then debated on the floor, and subsequently voted on. This format will allow the House to expedite a large volume of business without meeting for weeks on end, and at the same time allow for full debate on each issue. The format has been developed by the AAPA Judicial Affairs Committee, and is open to debate and modification by the House at its first meeting.