

1 VERMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY RESOLUTION

2 Ensuring a Health Professional Member of the Green Mountain Care Board

3 *Submitted for adoption at VMS Annual Meeting on November 4, 2017*4
5 Whereas, The Green Mountain Care Board (“the Board”) is charged with a central role in
6 regulating not only our State’s current health care system but also in crafting the future of
7 delivering health care in Vermont; and8
9 Whereas, The Board’s decisions touch every clinician and patient in the State through its work
10 regulating health insurance rates, hospital budgets, ACOs, and major capital expenditures as
11 well as testing new ways to pay for and deliver health care;¹ and12
13 Whereas, the Board is required to consist of four members and a Chair² who meet general
14 criteria³ including a commitment to the State’s principles for health care reform,⁴ knowledge of
15 or expertise in health care, and desirable personal characteristics;16
17 Whereas, there are no requirements that any member of the Board be a currently- or recently-
18 practicing health care professional; and19
20 Whereas, historically there have been one or more health care professionals serving on the
21 Board but there are currently no health care professionals serving on the Board; and22
23 Whereas, a health care professional will bring to the policy arena the experience of having
24 directly seen the impact of prior health care policies both on their own practice environments
25 and on their patients; and26
27 Whereas, a health care professional is ideally poised to help address the critical issue facing
28 Vermont of recruiting and retaining a viable health care workforce, such as by reducing the
29 administrative burdens that have been recognized as a major factor in the epidemic of clinician
30 burnout; and31
32 Whereas, the full promise of the Green Mountain Care Board to reduce the rate of health care
33 growth while maintaining high quality and access to medical services can only be realized when
34 a practicing health care professional is one of the appointed members of the Board; now
35 therefore be it:36
37 **RESOLVED, that the Vermont Medical Society will urge Governor Phil Scott to fill the**
38 **Board seat that will become vacant as of October 2017 with a currently- or recently-**
39 **practicing health care professional; and be it further**40
41 **RESOLVED, that the Vermont Medical Society will advocate for changing the**
42 **authorizing statute to require that at least one seat of the Board be filled by a currently-**
43 **or recently- practicing health care professional.**

¹ See the duties of the Board at 18 VSA § 9375

² 18 V.S.A. § 9374

³ 18 V.S.A. § 9392

⁴ 18 V.S.A. § 9371