

## NSMA Successes in the 2015 Legislative Session

- ❖ Increased Medicaid rates for all providers during the 2015-2017 biennium
- ❖ Supported legislation ratifying the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, allowing physicians to receive licenses in compacting states. States that have joined include, Alabama, Utah, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, South Dakota, West Virginia, Minnesota and Nevada. (SB251)
- ❖ Supported legislation to amend KODIN to clarify the applicability of the \$350,000 cap, eliminate the terms medical and dental malpractice and changing the term to “professional negligence,” and make several other changes. (SB292)
- ❖ Successfully amended or killed legislation expanding the scope of practice for chiropractors, audiologist, speech-language pathologists, hearing aid specialists, anesthesiologist assistants, registered pharmacist, community paramedicine, naturopathic medicine and the practice of complementary and alternative medicine. (AB115, AB231, AB295, AB305, SB181, SB357, SB408)
- ❖ Successfully passed legislation to give protection to psychiatrists and physicians from criminal and civil liability or disciplinary action for communicating a threat made by a patient. (SB15)
- ❖ Opposed legislation which would have allowed the corporate practice of medicine. (AB89)
- ❖ Successfully amended legislation which tried to authorize civil forfeiture in Medicaid fraud claims. This protects physicians who hadn't been convicted. (AB48)
- ❖ Supported legislation to address custodians of health care records, protecting physicians who do not own the records of their patients. (SB273)
- ❖ Supported legislation to allow for the synchronization of multiple prescriptions,

- which leads to better patient compliance with courses of treatment. (SB250)
- ❖ Supported legislation allowing physician discretion when reporting epilepsy to the DMV instead of mandating a report of every diagnosed patient. (AB248)
  - ❖ Supported funding to establish a “full-scale research intensive” medical school at UNLV and increased funding for more Graduate Medical Education. (Budgets)
  - ❖ Protected physicians from overly burdensome prescription monitoring and reporting of controlled substances. Defeated legislation requiring a practitioner to check the system before writing a prescription for a controlled substance every time and to upload every prescription that was written within 24 hours after prescribing a controlled substance. Successfully removed the criminal penalty for not checking the prescription drug monitoring program. Supported tools allowing enforcement against patients who inappropriately seek controlled substances. (SB459, SB114, SB288, AB279)
  - ❖ Protected physicians from the unlicensed practice of medicine through Telehealth in Nevada by allowing the boards to monitor the implementation of the Telehealth laws and regulate the practice. (AB292)

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