

# TMA RFS

*The Newsletter*

**Increase Participation and Advocacy in TMA RFS**

## Message from TMA RFS President

**By Ravi Viradia, MD**

*UTHSC Plastic Surgery Fellow*

Our Resident and Fellow Physician Section of TMA will strive to continue increasing participation and be a strong voice for our residents and fellows in the state of Tennessee. This 2022-2023 year, we will be increasing our presence at Doctor's Day on the Hill and at the annual House of Delegates meeting. We have established a yearly newsletter with information on TMA agendas and our RFS council section, as well as what projects we will be working on.

As a section we will be working on expanding physician burnout awareness, suicide awareness, and participating in volunteer opportunities to help underserved communities of Tennessee as residents and fellows. We will also continue to bring forth social media content and film videos by our council to ensure that our members are aware of their representation on TMA initiatives.

This year our council added four representative delegate seats for the RFS AMA and TMA. This section of our council will be working on developing resolutions to bring forth to the HOD TMA meeting and be representatives at the AMA national meetings.

This will undoubtedly be a great year for our council and we will continue to build our presence to represent the TMA, as well as the residents and fellow physicians of our state.

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# REGISTER FOR 2023 DAY ON THE HILL

**By Charles Gober, MD**  
*UTHSC Family Medicine Resident*

Doctors' Day on the Hill is a unique and fun opportunity for all residents and fellows across the state. If you want to get involved with advocacy but feel crunched for time, then this is the perfect one-day opportunity.

Even if you don't feel very knowledgeable about certain topics, we are able to get you up to speed and help with various talking points. By the time you arrive, you will be able to provide face to face education to our political leaders on crucial medical topics. I loved traveling down to the state capital last year and speaking directly with my representatives and senators about the issues that mean to the most to us and to our patients, and I think you will love it too. Plus, you'll be able to enjoy the company of our friends from across the state and even have time for a nice meal together. I would encourage everyone to attend.

## Save the Date!

TMA's annual policy briefing and lobby day in Nashville is set for

**March 7, 2023**

[tnmed.org/day-on-the-hill](https://tnmed.org/day-on-the-hill)







# TMA'S 2023 PRIORITIES

*By Stacie Smith, MD, MPH*

*Meharry Preventive Medicine Resident*

**Physician Wellness:** TMA is working to destigmatize mental illness for medical professionals by enacting safe harbor reporting systems in order to prevent burnout and mitigate the risk of suicide.

**Scope of Practice:** TMA will continue to collaborate with its multi-specialty partners to preserve physicians' ability to lead patient care and oppose unsafe scope of practice expansions.

**Prior Authorization:** TMA will lead the charge in convincing insurance companies to streamline the PA process by reducing the number of medical and pharmacy services that require PA and reducing denials to ensure patients gain quicker access to care.

**Balance Billing:** TMA will work to implement a fair, state-based solution to the No Surprises Act that requires health plans to maintain adequate networks of facility-based physicians.

**Abortion Trigger Law:** TMA is actively working with the legislature to define the parameters in which a physician may terminate a pregnancy to save the life and health of the mother and protect physicians from criminal liability.

# TMA PAC

Tennessee Medical Association's Political Action Committee

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