



MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY

2024–2025 | Annual Report

Advancing Health, Equity, and the Practice of Medicine

The Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS) continues to lead statewide and national efforts to strengthen the practice of medicine and advance health equity. Through policy innovation, grassroots mobilization, and physician leadership, MMS achieved meaningful progress on issues that safeguard patient access, protect physician autonomy, and promote a more equitable health care system.

Leadership in a Defining Year

Championing the Mission of the Massachusetts Medical Society

The 2024–2025 year marked a period of extraordinary challenge and opportunity for medicine in Massachusetts. During this time, the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS) navigated unprecedented pressures on the health care system while strengthening its role as a trusted advocate for physicians and patients.

Guided by its leadership, MMS responded to hospital instability, workforce shortages, administrative burden, and evolving public health needs with steadiness and purpose.

Throughout the year, the Society emphasized unity, clarity of mission, and the essential role of organized medicine in shaping policy that protects patient access and preserves the integrity of medical practice. MMS advanced these priorities through principled leadership and a continued commitment to collaboration and advocacy.

Advancing Public Health and Equity

Ensuring Equitable Access to Essential Care

- **Protecting Medicaid and Medicare:** MMS opposed federal proposals that would have slashed over \$800 billion in Medicaid funding and met with Congress to defend access to care for vulnerable patients.
- **Lowering Prescription Costs:** MMS advocated successfully for reforms that capped copayments for essential medications and increased pharmaceutical transparency, ensuring affordability and accountability across the system.

Expanding Access and Affordability

- **Overdose Prevention Centers:** MMS continues to lead efforts on Beacon Hill to authorize overdose prevention centers, a proven harm reduction strategy.
- **Maternal and Mental Health Access:** MMS worked with regulators and health plans to expand access to doulas, lactation services, and the annual no-cost Mental Health Wellness Exam.
- **Shield Law 2.0:** MMS advanced landmark protections for reproductive and gender-affirming care.
- **Equality for Families:** MMS supported the Massachusetts Parentage Act, modernizing family law for LGBTQ+ parents and those using assisted reproduction
- **Vaccine Integrity:** MMS defended evidence-based vaccine policies and advocated for improved immunization data collection statewide.

Supporting Practice Sustainability

Championing Fair and Transparent Systems

- **Medicare Payment Reform:** MMS collaborated with the AMA and national coalitions to push for long-term reimbursement reform, generating more than 600 grassroots messages urging systemic change.
- **Prior Authorization Reform:** The Society advanced MMS-filed legislation to reduce administrative burden, standardize forms, and prevent AI-only denials.
- **Marketplace Oversight:** MMS championed transparency for private equity and management firms operating in health care.

Investing in Primary Care

MMS continues to lead efforts to revitalize and diversify the primary care workforce, advocating for sustainable payment models and policies that reduce burnout. As part of the state's Primary Care Task Force, MMS provides key recommendations to strengthen access, retention, and equity.

Physician Wellness and Workforce

Protecting the People Who Care for Others

- **Unionization Education:** MMS launched an educational series on collective bargaining and employment ethics.
- **Pathways for Foreign-Trained Physicians:** MMS secured passage of a new licensure pathway for international medical graduates.
- **Workforce Development:** MMS continues to champion loan forgiveness, equitable GME funding, and pipeline programs in collaboration with CHIA.

Physician Leadership and Grassroots Advocacy

Amplifying the Physician Voice

The MMS Grassroots Action Center empowers members to advocate directly with lawmakers. In the past year, physicians sent over 1,800 personalized messages supporting prior authorization reform, Shield Law protections, and investments in primary care.

Engagement at Every Level

From testifying at Beacon Hill hearings to meeting with all 11 members of the Massachusetts Congressional delegation in Washington, D.C., MMS ensures that physician voices guide public policy. Federal priorities include strengthening Medicaid and Medicare, expanding telehealth access, reforming prior authorization, and leveraging AI to reduce administrative burden.

Looking Ahead to 2026

MMS remains steadfast in its mission to advance physician well-being, patient care, and health equity. As new challenges emerge, from AI integration to corporate consolidation, our focus remains clear: Every physician supported. Every patient protected. Every voice is amplified.

As MMS looks ahead, the foundation laid during Dr. Taylor's presidency positions the Society to meet emerging challenges — from AI integration to continued health system consolidation — with clarity and confidence.

In the words Dr. Taylor shared at the close of his term:

"It's in moments like these that the power of organized medicine becomes most evident. When we unite our voices and efforts through our Society, we are stronger, more effective, and better equipped to protect our patients and our profession."



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Every physician matters, each patient counts.