

★ TOMA is supporting physicians & their ability to care for patients. We believe in strengthening the physician workforce where it is needed most.



Scope of Practice & New Licensure Types

Support the physician-led, team-based model of care and uniform, evidence-based licensure pathways for all clinicians based upon scope of practice.

OPPOSITION to TX H.B. 3794: The Texas Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA) is expressing our concerns regarding TX H.B. 3794. This bill would greatly expand the scope of practice for advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) by eliminating all physician supervision requirements and allowing them to independently practice medicine.

TOMA is very concerned that authorizing the practice of medicine by APRNs, who do not complete similar comprehensive medical education, training and competency demonstration requirements to what physicians complete, could place the health and safety of Texas' patients at risk.



Grow the Texas Physician Workforce

Support legislation that increases the physician workforce by increasing funding for graduate medical education (GME) and expanding financial incentives to facilitate a physicians' ability to care for patients in rural and underserved communities. Texas needs more residency positions to maintain the target ratio of 1.1-to-1 first-year GME slots per medical school graduate.

The ratios of patient care physicians per 100,000 population remain among the lowest in the country. Texas ranks 42nd for active physicians (all specialties), 47th for primary care physicians and 46th for general surgeons.



Truth in Advertising

Support for SB 2181 and HB 3415 – Please support regulating certain health professionals by prohibiting credential misrepresentation, requiring names and IDs in advertising, and restricting certain terms in postgraduate education. The bill defines nursing roles, bars nurses from using the title "doctor" without a Texas Medical Board license, and requires professional designation insignia. These changes take effect September 1, 2025, and apply only to conduct after that date.



Public Health

Work to increase public awareness and implement evidence-based recommendations and best practices related to public health issues. Support funding to strengthen our public health care infrastructure and workforce, address health care disparities and social determinants of health, and establish a robust national strategy to combat future public health emergencies.



Preserve Medical Liability Protections

- Support protecting the 2003 tort reform law and oppose any efforts to modify the caps on non-economic damages, while upholding protections for those providing emergency services.
- Support enhancement of liability protections for physicians and health care providers during natural disasters and in the immediate aftermath.
- Oppose any effort that would limit Texas' medical liability reforms or liability safe harbors, or any proposals that would weaken the Texas Medical Board.

ABOUT TOMA

The Texas Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA) represents over 8,300 practicing DOs and 2,000 OMSs in Texas. Founded in 1900, TOMA works to improve public health, connect doctors, and provide high-quality CME programs and social events. It also advocates for the profession and promotes high standards in medicine, surgery and obstetrics. TOMA is based in Austin, Texas.