Dear Delegates, Members, and Colleagues,

As we reflect on the vibrant discussions and decisions that shaped the 2024 Spring meeting of the Council of State Neurosurgical Societies (CSNS), I am pleased to provide you with an overview of the resolutions debated and the outcomes achieved.

We began with a pivotal resolution to increase leadership opportunities within the CSNS by adjusting the length of officer terms. This change, now adopted, shortens the terms for Chair, Vice Chair, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary to one year, aligning with the structure of our parent bodies and fostering a more dynamic leadership rotation. The Treasurer will continue to serve a two-year term.

Another significant topic was the endorsement of neurosurgery-related electives in medical school curriculums. While this resolution was referred to a committee for further evaluation, it underscores our commitment to enhancing educational opportunities and exposure to neurosurgery for medical students nationwide.

We also tackled the representation of DO neurosurgeons by successfully adopting an amended resolution to incorporate a DO Neurosurgeon Liaison on the Society of Neurological Surgeons (SNS) Medical Student Committee. This role is intended to provide specific guidance for DO neurosurgery applicants and facilitate a more inclusive approach within our field.

A resolution that did not pass was investigating the impact of enfolded fellowships on neurosurgical training. Although it was not adopted, the discussion highlighted the need to evaluate and potentially adapt our training frameworks to prepare residents for their future roles better.

The assembly adopted an amended resolution to develop a system for emergent neurosurgical care for patients with high body mass index. This initiative aims to address the unique challenges and optimize care for this patient demographic, demonstrating our dedication to improving patient outcomes across all spectrums.

Our commitment to supporting our members extends into their personal lives, as evidenced by adopting a substitute resolution to optimize post-partum lactation opportunities within neurosurgery. This resolution seeks to identify best practices and support mechanisms for lactating neurosurgeons, ensuring that our members do not have to choose between their professional duties and family responsibilities.
The body deliberated on the professional conduct of neurosurgeons serving as clinical peer review experts. This resolution, which aims to develop formal guidelines and a code of conduct, was referred to the committee for further consideration. Additionally, a resolution aimed at promoting transparency in healthcare billing still needed to be adopted, yet it sparked valuable discussions on the integrity of billing processes.

One of the more urgent societal needs addressed was the rising use of electric bikes and scooters, with the assembly adopting a resolution to advocate for safety regulations. This initiative reflects our broader commitment to public health and safety beyond the immediate scope of neurosurgical practice.

In addition to the critical resolutions above, we deliberated on a crucial organizational change concerning the CSNS nomination process for AANS Regional Directors. Resolution XIV-2024S, referred to a committee, proposes a significant modification to enhance the representation and efficacy of our Regional Directors. This amendment suggests that each CSNS quadrant would recommend 2-3 members for each Regional Director position, with the final decision made by the AANS Nominating Committee. This approach aims to align the selection process more closely with the overarching goals of the AANS, ensuring that Regional Directors are more actively engaged and effectively integrated into the board’s activities. This resolution reflects our ongoing efforts to refine our governance structures to serve our members’ needs better and advance the neurosurgery field.

Each resolution debated, passed, or referred reflects our collective commitment to advancing the field of neurosurgery, enhancing educational opportunities, improving patient care, and supporting our members in their professional and personal lives. These discussions are crucial for setting the direction of our society and ensuring that we remain at the forefront of medical excellence and advocacy.

Thank you for your active participation and contributions during the meeting. Your engagement is essential for our continued success and impact. I look forward to our continued collaboration in advancing our field and upholding the highest standards of care and professionalism.

Warm regards,

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