



George M. Abraham, MD, MPH

Dr. George M. Abraham has a long and distinguished career as a leader in medicine and medical regulation. As Chair of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine, Dr. Abraham provided key leadership reflecting his deep commitment to both patient safety and physician well-being. During the COVID pandemic, Dr. Abraham worked closely with the state to implement emergency licensing measures, incorporate telehealth and take other urgent steps to rapidly mobilize the health care workforce. He also worked diligently with the state medical society to offer resources to help physicians promote wellness and decrease burnout, including incorporating FSMB's guidelines on physician wellness locally. Dr. Abraham currently serves as a member of the Advisory Commission on Additional Licensing Models. In 2021, he received the FSMB's John H. Clark Outstanding Leadership Award. Dr. Abraham is an Emeritus President of the American College of Physicians, the largest internal medicine organization in the world with 163,000 members in 145 countries. He currently serves as Chief of Medicine at Saint Vincent Hospital, Worcester, Massachusetts, a Professor of Medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, and Adjunct Professor at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. He is board certified in Internal Medicine and Infectious Disease.

As a former Chair of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine and a member of the FSMB Board of Directors, I am deeply honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve as your chair in the year ahead. I am passionate and deeply committed to both patient safety and physician well-being – and I know you are too.

A great deal of outstanding work has been accomplished by FSMB through the shared hard work and expertise of so many members of the medical regulatory community. Working together, we have improved public protection across the country through the development of effective policies and processes. I am very excited about continuing to build on this momentum and progress in the upcoming year.

In recent years, FSMB has focused on developing effective policies and approaches on several critical issues, including physician workforce shortages, reentry to practice, Artificial Intelligence, strategies for prescribing opioids for the management of pain, the regulation of physicians in training, and challenges to professional regulation.

In a particularly challenging development, during the last two years a growing number of states have adopted legislation to improve access to care for underserved communities in their jurisdictions by provisionally licensing international medical graduates who have already completed their training overseas.

In response, FSMB partnered with the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and Intealth to create an Advisory Commission that developed guidance about the best way for boards to proceed while protecting the public and advancing quality healthcare delivery. We will continue to work closely with state medical boards as they seek to navigate this challenging issue.

During my year as FSMB Chair, we will continue to emphasize services that support excellence in medical regulation. Our work groups and committees will address key concerns of medical boards, and we will partner with outside organizations to ensure public trust with medical licensure and discipline.

The future of FSMB is bright, imbued with our spirit of collaboration, engagement, and partnership and I am confident we will enjoy continued success. I am looking forward to continuing to build on that progress and momentum as together we forge new paths to improve public protection. Thank you for the opportunity to partner with you on this exciting journey.