



**American Pharmacists Association  
House of Delegates – March 15, 2021**

**To be completed by the Office of the  
Secretary of the House of Delegates**

**Item No. 5  
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### **NEW BUSINESS**

**(To be submitted and introduced by Delegates only)**

**Introduced by:** Daniel Hussar  
**(Name)**

2/9/2021 Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association  
**(Date)** **(Submitted as an individual delegate)**

**Subject:** Unity and Strength of the National Pharmacy Practitioner Organizations

**Motion:** APhA should initiate discussions/negotiations with other national pharmacy practitioner organizations (to include but not be limited to ASHP, NCPA, ASCP, ACCP and ACA) for the purpose of considering mergers, acquisitions, and/or the establishment of a collaborative/federated organizational structure to represent and promote the interests of pharmacy practitioners and the profession of pharmacy.

**Background:** The challenges facing pharmacy practitioners and the profession of pharmacy are unprecedented and threatening. The profession of pharmacy does not presently have an organizational structure with sufficient unity and strength to most effectively represent the profession in responding to these challenges. In some situations, the programs and actions of the national pharmacy organizations are more competitive than collaborative, with the result that advocacy for the profession is compromised.

A merged and unified national organizational structure to represent pharmacy should be established as a goal, but may not be attainable in the near future. The important and urgent need to quickly address certain of the challenges facing the profession requires attention to strategies that may be less than optimal but may be easier for the national pharmacy organizations to consider on a timely basis. One such concept is that of a collaborative/federated structure that will include the current national pharmacy practitioner organizations. Because the American Pharmacists Association is the largest national pharmacy organization with the most diversified membership and widely-recognized name, the name of the proposed organizational structure should be the American Pharmacists Association. Other current national pharmacy practitioner organizations that would be participants in the proposed structure would *retain* their current names, autonomy, policies, budgets, leadership, employees, programs, buildings/real estate, and anything else they value as individual organizations. An action-oriented, policy-making body would be developed for the new structure, with representation of the individual organizations based on their membership and resources. This would facilitate approval and

implementation of policies and actions on behalf of the profession of pharmacy, rather than representing views of a coalition of individual and separate pharmacy organizations.

The proposed strategy is cumbersome and inefficient, but may offer the most realistic and timely hope for a more unified and stronger organizational structure to which the profession of pharmacy can commit its efforts. With time, changes in leadership, and creative ideas, the initial structure may become more consolidated and unified in a manner that would result in efficiencies (e.g., buildings/offices, computer/communication systems, consolidation of duplicative programs/services) that would provide greatly increased resources that can be devoted to the profession's highest priorities.

**Current APhA Policy & Bylaws: N/A**

**\*\*Phone numbers will only be used by the New Business Review Committee in case there are questions for the delegate who submitted the New Business Item Content.**

New Business Items are due to the Speaker of the House by **February 19, 2020** (30 days prior to the start of the first House session). Consideration of urgent items can be presented with a suspension of the House Rules at the session where New Business will be acted upon. Please submit New Business Items to the Speaker of the House via email at [hod@aphanet.org](mailto:hod@aphanet.org).