**STFM Advocacy Action Request Form**

The Society of Teachers of Family Medicine appreciates your interest in issues relating to advancing medical education. STFM strives to focus its finite resources on the top issues where it can be in the best position to achieve its goals. As STFM considers where to focus its energies, it also remains attentive to our core value of inclusiveness and the need to respect diverse opinions of our members. STFM has members who would like the Society to get more involved in statements on social issues, and we also have members who have requested that we stay out of these conversations and focus our energy on developing resources of relevance to family medicine educators. Our leadership is sensitive to the diversity of our membership and recognizes that differences in opinion will occur.

To help examine these issues and better understand advocacy requests, STFM requests the following information. Refer to the Academic Family Medicine Advocacy Committee legislative and regulatory priorities as needed to complete the request form. **Brief replies to each question are requested. STFM will notify the requestor when to expect a decision.**

1. Who is requesting action? Name, institution, contact information
2. On whose behalf is the action being requested? (eg, self, organization, STFM Collaborative)
3. What is the timeframe within which you need a response?
4. Explain the advocacy issue and background on the request.
5. What do you want STFM to do in support of this effort? (eg, letter, presence, statement, etc. Be as specific as possible, eg, sign on to a letter, draft our own letter, join a coalition, etc.)
6. How does this request align specifically with AFMAC priorities?
7. If it does not align with the AFMAC priorities explain how the issue directly ties to family medicine education [or educators].
8. Describe if other organizations are addressing this issue and how.
9. Describe how STFM’s action would have a measurable impact and how this requested action would add something substantively unique to the discussion.

STFM uses several factors to evaluate all requests advocacy action. Based on an assessment of these factors, STFM will determine whether to move forward with the request.

**Factors that will be considered in taking action on an advocacy request:**

* How congruent is the request with the Academic Family Medicine Advocacy Committee federal legislative and regulatory priorities?
* If not congruent with AFMAC priorities, how directly tied is the issue to family medicine education?
* Does STFM/AFMAC have policy on the issue?
* Does STFM/AFMAC have the resources (staff and otherwise) needed to make a difference in this advocacy effort?
* Are other family medicine organizations or other academic medical organizations addressing this issue and what is the likelihood of STFM’s efforts providing measurable added value to achieve positive change? Can STFM offer something substantively unique to the discussion?
* Would STFM or family medicine education be clearly weakened if STFM does not act on this issue?

Thank you for providing this information. Please email your request as well as any questions to Hope Wittenberg, STFM director of government relations, hwittenberg@stfm.org.