



PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

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PAFP Issues Statement on the Medical Liability Crisis

(Wyomissing, PA. June 11, 2024) – Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) President Theresa Metanchuk, DO, today issued the following statement:

“Since the Pennsylvania Supreme Court’s decision to reverse the long-standing prohibition on venue shopping beginning in January of 2023, the situation is quickly getting out of control. The PAFP will fight with our medical community to support legislative actions to stem the inevitable adverse impact on access to care. We applaud Senator Lisa Baker and Senator Dave Argall’s efforts and encourage Governor Shapiro to work with lawmakers now before the situation gets worse.”

PAFP supports the following legislative initiatives:

- Certificate of Merit – Senate Bill 1182 has been introduced by state Sen. David Argall (R-Schuylkill). His legislation will reform Pennsylvania’s Certificate of Merit practice to reduce delays in litigation, decrease potential litigation costs, and facilitate early resolution of claims without unnecessary litigation.
- Interbranch Commission on Venue – Sen. Lisa Baker (R- Luzerne) has circulated among her colleagues a co-sponsorship memo for legislation to create an Interbranch Commission to study the impact of the new venue rules. This Interbranch Commission would be comprised of representatives from the legislature, the administration, and the judiciary. A similar commission was established in the early 2000s, leading to the elimination of venue shopping.

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