

SOUTH CAROLINA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Board Members, Officers and Employees

Board members, officers and employees of the South Carolina Hospital Association have a strong duty of loyalty to the organization. Therefore, Board members, officers and employees have a responsibility to be actively involved in the Association and to use their best care, skill and judgment in setting and carrying out the policies of the Association. Furthermore, Board members, officers, and employees shall not let personal, professional or monetary interests outside the Association affect any actions or decisions made while representing the Association.

It is the responsibility of any Board member, officer or employee of the Association to make full disclosure of any interests which might result in a conflict on their part. No Board member, officer or employee shall accept any personal favor that might influence his or her actions affecting the Association or its members. They shall disclose involvement in any personal, professional or monetary interests or activity which may compete with or conflict with the interests of the Association.

As representatives of individual hospitals, all board members and officers have a strong personal or professional interest in many of the policies and programs of the Association. However, it is fully expected that when serving as board members and officers of SCHA these persons will be mindful of the Association's mission, as well as their fiduciary responsibility to SCHA.

However, it is recognized that as individuals representing different facilities, board members and officers cannot relinquish their right to oppose a position taken by the Association. When opposition to an Association position or policy does exist, the board member or officer is obligated to make his or her opposition known and to make it clear when publicly voicing that opposition that he is not speaking as a representative of SCHA.

If the Association contracts with any Board member, officer, employee or member hospital with which any Board member or officer is affiliated, full disclosure of the terms must be made to the full board, and the Board member or officer affiliated with the member hospital must remove himself from any decision affecting the relationship or activity. The Board of Trustees may void any relationship or conflict the members believe presents a conflict or negatively impacts the Association.

Committee Members

SCHA has a long reputation for membership involvement through its committees, task forces, and other groups appointed to provide advice and assistance to the Board and employees. While SCHA members are expected to represent their organizations' views on these committees, they are also expected to be mindful of the Association's mission and purpose. If and when any member publicly opposes a position or policy of the Association, he must be very clear that he is representing himself or his organization and not SCHA.

No person shall use appointment to an Association committee for personal benefit. Any person appointed to a committee deliberating on a matter in which the person has a conflict of interest must disclose that conflict immediately. If, in the opinion of the Association Board, the conflict will prevent the member from serving effectively, the member will not be appointed to the committee or, if already appointed, will be asked to resign from the committee. If the member refuses to resign, the Board has the authority to remove the member from the committee.

For time to time, persons from organizations outside the Association are invited to meet with the Association committee because their unique expertise or perspective is considered valuable to the deliberations. However, these persons are not eligible to vote on matters affecting any Association policy.

Adopted by the SCHA Board of Trustees.

I have read and understand this statement.

Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____