A Resolution on Continuing Education on Proper Prescribing and Dispensing of Controlled Substances

WHEREAS, controlled substances, when prescribed and dispensed appropriately, play an important therapeutic role in patient care, but also have the potential for abuse and addiction with serious health consequences;

WHEREAS, a controlled substance should only be prescribed and dispensed for a legitimate medical purpose and as part of a legitimate doctor-patient-pharmacist relationship; and

WHEREAS, state and federal agencies responsible for regulating controlled substances are responsible for ensuring that health care providers with prescriptive or dispensing authority maintain compliance with controlled substances requirements when providing medical treatment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Association of State Controlled Substances Authorities hereby endorses the establishment of laws and/or regulations by each of the states, commonwealths, districts and territories to require that health care providers with prescriptive or dispensing authority obtain during each license renewal period a minimum number of hours of continuing medical education or comparable unit on proper prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances and on state and federal laws and regulations related to controlled substances; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Association of State Controlled Substances Authorities communicates its support for this requirement to agencies and organizations representing health care practitioners, health care boards and others with prescriptive or dispensing authority and offers to work with those agencies and organizations to identify continuing education programs for individuals with prescriptive or dispensing authority.

ATTEST: __________________________

President

Date: October 22, 2010