

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLASTIC SURGEONS

2015-16 State Policy Priorities

The American Society of Plastic Surgeons advocates for policies that serve the interests of patients, advance the specialty, and support its members. ASPS promotes the highest quality patient care, and its member surgeons strive to improve functional capacity and quality of life for patients. To ensure that our health care system is effective and efficient, **ASPS will focus its federal advocacy efforts on:**

ISSUES AFFECTING PLASTIC SURGERY

- **Increasing patient access to plastic surgery services by advancing state policies that**
 - educate and inform women of their coverage and reconstruction options, including prosthesis and symmetry procedures, after undergoing mastectomy or lumpectomy.
- **Protecting the safety of plastic surgery patients by advancing policies that**
 - ensure that surgery is performed by surgeons and stop efforts to expand non-physician scope of practice to include cosmetic procedures outside of their training.
 - ensure that practitioners must demonstrate competency, that unqualified practitioners cannot advertise in a false or misleading way, and that clear standards are in law for what can be presented as “board certification.”
 - increase patient protections in the regulation of office-based surgical settings.
- **Monitoring and influencing state-based initiatives seeking to levy taxes on cosmetic plastic surgery.**

ISSUES AFFECTING MEDICINE IN GENERAL

- **Working to keep health care costs low by advancing policies that reform the medical liability system.**
- **Promoting a model of team-based care that is physician-led and focused on appropriate supervision of medical staff.**
- **Monitoring and influencing legislation that advances basic and translational research affecting the practice of regenerative medicine.**