

MOA-MAO Communications Timeline

on Scope of Practice Legislation

(2014 – 2024)

2024

March 11th- In person meeting led by Senator Erin Maye Quade, in attendance were representatives from Minnesota Academy of Ophthalmology (MAO) and Minnesota Optometric Association (MOA). MAO voiced concerns over all aspects of optometry scope bill. Senator Maye Quade offered compromised language to MAO leadership, which **MAO did not agree to**.

February 6th- In person meeting with similar attendees as 1/22/24 meeting. No common ground was found between MOA and MAO about advancing optometry scope.

January 22nd- In person meeting between representatives of MAO and MOA, also in attendance were lobbyists for both groups and Senate Health Finance and Policy committee administrator, Anna Burke. MOA members discussed why scope advances were past due, MAO leaders voiced strong concerns with all aspects of the bill. It was agreed that the groups would try another meeting to find common ground.

2021

December 7th – Zoom meeting held between the two groups. Minnesota Academy of Ophthalmology (MAO) representatives had many questions of why Minnesota Optometric Association (MOA) felt their scope needed to be changed. Additionally, **MAO wouldn't give any input on issues or agree to any discussion items**. Like past meetings with MOA, MAO leaders stated they would have a board meeting in January and would discuss this issue.

November 5th – Letter received from Dr. Chen agreeing to a zoom meeting with representatives from both sides.

October 5th – MOA President Dr. Kempfer sends letter to MAO President Dr. Chen once again requesting to have a meeting with meaningful discussion. They had indicated in a May letter they would meet after July, but **no dates or options were ever sent**.

May 12th – Letter from Dr. Parke (MAO) stating that MAO could possibly meet after July when they change leadership. They would do a Zoom meeting so it could be recorded and they would listen to what MOA has to say.

April 21st – Dr. Parke responds saying they'd be happy to listen if we had something different to offer and they would send meeting dates. **Meeting dates were never received from MAO**.

April 7th – Dr. Kempfer (MOA) sends letter to Dr. Parke (MOA) again requesting a meeting.

March 3 – MOA revised scope of practice legislation introduced (HF2022/SF1873) -

https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=SF1873&version=0&session=ls92&session_year=2021&session_number=0.

2020

December 9th – MAO President Dr. Parke responds to Dr. Axelson that **MAO is too busy** with Pandemic to meet or discuss this legislation.

November 23rd – MOA President Dr. Axelson sends email requesting another meeting to discuss a revised bill to be introduced in the 2021 legislative session.

March 12th – Hearing in the Senate Health and Human Services Finance and Policy Committee on bill. MOA agrees to a proposed amendment which prohibits ODs from intravitreal injections. Committee decides to table the bill.

January 15th – MOA and MAO meeting called by Sen. Benson. **MAO leaders stated they wouldn't negotiate** on the proposed legislation.

2019

December 13th – Letter from Academy received stating they had discussed the bill and **had significant opposition**. Given that they felt that they wouldn't be able to come to any agreement with us on the bill.

September 12th – Meeting held in person with representatives of both sides and a stenographer that was required by the Academy. Representatives from the Academy said they could only listen and had no ability to speak on behalf of the academy. Attended by President of both boards and 2 other board members.

August 20th – MOA received MAO letter with who would attend from the Academy and a date that worked for them.

July 26th – MAO sent letter back stating they would look at dates and get back to us.

July 22nd – MOA President Dr. Doffin sent an email requesting a date for both sides to meet and talk.

June 7th – MOA received a letter from MAO stating they would meet only if leadership from both sides were in attendance, a stenographer is hired to take notes, and it must be a neutral meeting space (i.e.: hotel conference room), not a restaurant.

May - Letter from MAO President Dr. Lawrence stating she received the meeting request that was sent to their executive director and that the MOA President must contact Dr. Lawrence directly and **begin all over to find a date to meet**.

Feb. 20th – MOA executive director received email from MAO executive director stating that they had met and discussed the bill and that any meeting between the two groups wouldn't result in a beneficial discussion.

MAO was not comfortable proceeding with a negotiation meeting at the present time.

Feb. 14th – MOA executive director contacted MAO executive director indicating that MOA doctors had heard from legislators during their Capitol Day that legislators had received feedback from the Academy. Asked again given that if we could get the two sides together to meet.

February 5th – Call happened between the two Presidents – Dr. Melicher indicated meeting would probably not happen until next President took over.

February 4th – MAO executive director requested that the MOA President Dr. Bauer call MAO President Dr. Melicher.

February 3 – MOA scope of practice legislation introduced (HF891/SF545) -
https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=HF891&version=0&session=ls91&session_year=2019&session_number=0.

January 24th – February 4th – Emails between the MOA and MAO executive directors attempting to pull together a meeting of the groups.

January 7th – Email from MAO executive indicating they were still trying to pull a group together and hadn't been able to yet due to the fact that it is a sensitive subject.

January 3rd – MOA executive director sent another email to the MAO executive following up on December emails to see if they had organized a group of MDs to meet yet.

2018

Dec. 19th – Several emails between the two executive directors. MOA pushing for names and dates for the group to get together and meet. Several emails back from the MAO ED stating they were working on it but never responded with any meeting specifics or dates.

December 17th – MOA Executive Director Beth Coleman emailed the MAO executive director, following up on a voice mail that had been left asking to get the group of OD's and MD's together to discuss scope.

December 12th – MOA Lobbyist emailed the Academy lobbyist with the details and language that the MOA was going to introduce.

November 19th – MOA and MAO met for dinner and MOA Drs. Colatrella and Bauer explained our plan to introduce a bill for scope expansion and what we were looking to do. Requested again to put a working group together of both sides to discuss this issue.

In attendance from MAO was President Dr Jill Melicher, executive director Tyler Verry and Lobbyist Nate Mussell. President-Elect Dr Lawrence was invited but unable to attend.

2016

Dr. Colatrella (MOA) and Dr. Ackerman (MOA) met with Dr. Janice Sinclair (MAO) and asked if we could get a work group together to discuss scope, as we were looking in the future to introduce something on scope expansion.

Result: No response.

2014

Dr. Colatrella (MOA) met with Dr. Kevin Treacy (MAO) and discussed the possibility of simply removing the antiviral piece of our bill and asked if we could get a group together to discuss scope.

Result: No response.