REQUESTED ACTION:
This report is intended to provide the Members with an update on the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB). No action is needed at this time.

FSMB Annual Meeting:
The FSMB will hold its annual meeting April 24 – 26, 2014. The theme of this meeting is “From Policy to Action: Resources for Medical Regulators.” The goal of the meeting will be to provide state boards with the information and tools to succeed in a challenging medical regulatory environment. Highlights will include a presentation on The Future of Patient-Centered Health Care; Self-assessment, Self-direction, Self-regulation, and Other Myths; and a session on the Model Interstate Compact for Medical Licensure and Trends in Assessing Professional Competency.

FSMB’s Foundation Grants:
At the February 2014 Quarterly Board Meeting it was announced that the FSMB had notified Boards that the FSMB’s Foundation and several of its partners received a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) grant to provide educational programming on extended-release and long-acting opioid analgesic prescribing to healthcare professionals. Under the grant, the FSMB Foundation would award grants to state medical boards to conduct free live seminars on extended-release and long-acting opioid analgesic prescribing for licensees in their respective states. The grant program provided funding to award up to 25 grants in the amount of $10,000 to individual state medical boards who completed the application process. The curriculum would be provided to boards to support the programs that will be offered free to the learners and would provide physicians with continuing medical education credit. In order to receive a grant, a board would need to secure a minimum of 250 prescribers to participate in the program and provide the training between April 1 to December 31, 2014. The training is for 3 hours.

At the last meeting, the Board approved moving forward with applying for one of the grants in California. On March 17, 2014, the Board was notified that it was chosen to receive one of the $10,000 grants. The Board has worked with the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) and will be completing the appropriate forms to obtain this funding for this educational programs. Board staff will begin working on this project within the next two months in order to meet the December deadline to provide the education. The Board will have to do outreach to ensure we meet the minimum number of attendees. This training will be very helpful for physicians. More information regarding this training will be provided at future meetings.

FCVS 2020:
The FSMB has a Program called the Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS), which establishes a permanent, lifetime repository of primary-source verified core credentials for physicians and physician assistants. The FCVS keeps a record of everything from medical diplomas to identification documents so physicians do not have to go through the time and effort of assembling and forwarding this information every time they need to be licensed or credentialed. In California, an applicant may use the FCVS to assist in gathering the documents necessary for licensure. However, the Board ensures that the documents are primary-source and meet all of the necessary requirements. The FSMB is looking to upgrade and enhance the FCVS by the year 2020. The Board’s Chief of Licensing and the Executive Director have been a part of the work groups to provide information and suggestions to the FSMB. Several telephone conferences have been held regarding the FCVS and input has been provided. The suggestions from the work groups will be provided at the April FSMB Annual Meeting.