



Report of the Incoming President

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Presented by:

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Good morning. I am honored to stand before you as the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy[®]'s

(NABP[®]'s) incoming president. In keeping with our theme for this Annual Meeting, I would like to start with a quote from legendary University of North Carolina basketball coach – and Mike Burluson's coaching idol – Dean Smith. He said: "The coach's job is to be part servant in helping each player reach his goals within the team concept." I share Coach Smith's view of servant leadership. My responsibility is to serve NABP by making sure that each of our boards of pharmacy achieves our goals within the Association's team concept.

And what team goals we have accomplished! Over the years, the NABP team has tackled many challenges in service to our mission – to protect the public health safety through innovative, effective, and efficient programs, services, and initiatives. I am excited to serve

you in continuing to meet those challenges in the coming year.

Current University of North Carolina basketball coach Roy Williams – Mike Burluson's other coaching idol – is known for pushing the pace of a game, especially when transitioning from defense to offense. That philosophy allows his team to impose its will on the other team, not simply "take what the other team gives." It gets all players involved. It fosters an aggressive, creative team attitude.

Our Association's philosophy has long been the same. We have never been content to "take what the other team gives." We have instead consistently chosen, when faced with a changing regulatory landscape, to transition quickly to offense – to develop solutions proactively and creatively. Two initiatives – one already under way, and one soon to be – demonstrate our commitment to that philosophy.

First – what is already under way.

Drug supply chain integrity remains a crucial public safety priority. NABP has long been the

leader in this area, through its Verified-Accredited Wholesale Distributors[®], Verified Pharmacy Program[®], and other programs. The landscape remains complex and challenging. Late last year, your Executive Committee approved the establishment of a limited liability company – NABP Solutions – to advance the goal of drug supply chain integrity by not only having "end point" accreditation programs that ensure that a supplier is safe, competent, and legally compliant, but also a high-quality service that can help bring suppliers to that end point. NABP Solutions is the answer. It is a separate entity of NABP that will offer fee-based consulting services for applicants to our Association's accreditation services.

NABP staff have observed that, as our accreditation programs are looked to more and more often by various entities as providing assurance of safety and quality, some applicants seeking to obtain accreditation could benefit from best-in-class consulting services to help them prepare for and meet program requirements.

Some applicants lack the time and resources to prepare for the accreditation process properly. Others lack transparency in their supply chain operations or thoroughness of their policies and procedures. Many have difficulty keeping abreast of the numerous legislative and regulatory changes that affect their operations.

For example, in the coming year new federal requirements under the federal Drug Supply Chain Security Act and changes to United States Pharmacopeia standards governing compounded drug product preparation will continue to impact facilities seeking accreditation. As the industry continues to evolve, these concerns will only grow.

It is important to understand what NABP Solutions cannot do – guarantee successful accreditation. But NABP Solutions can, and will, provide an opportunity for entities to access the highest quality expertise, advice, and regulatory guidance – and to leverage that expertise to meet the highest regulatory and quality standards of pharmacy care.

NABP Solutions' launch demonstrates our Association's ongoing innovation and public safety responsiveness. Separating this venture into a distinct business entity will allow greater flexibility in the services it can provide while, at the same time, freeing the Association to remain focused on supporting the boards of pharmacy in our mission to protect public health. Leading NABP Solutions is its Chief Executive Officer, Marty

Allain. Many of you know Marty through his leadership as senior program manager for NABP's .Pharmacy Verified Websites Program. Please join me in thanking Marty for taking on this new role and pledging him our support.

Thank you also to NABP Treasurer Tim Fensky, NABP Past President Joe Adams, and member of the New York State Board of Pharmacy and recipient of NABP's Lester E. Hosto Distinguished Service Award, Patty Donato. Tim, Joe, and Patty serve as inaugural directors of NABP Solutions, and all have given generously of their time and expertise to launch this new venture.

I turn now to the second, soon-to-be under way initiative for the coming year.

Over the past couple of years, occupational licensing boards have faced criticism. A source of that criticism is a perception that some professions are hindering practitioner mobility with varying licensure requirements and lack of interstate reciprocity. As a result, states and health care professions are looking for ways to make licensing more flexible and portable.

Here again, NABP has long shown that it sets the pace for the professional world. The founding objective of our Association in 1904 was to facilitate the movement of pharmacists among the states in a safe, efficient, and consistent way. As a result, that program – now known as the Electronic Licensure Transfer Program®, or e-LTP™ – established within our profession the most portable,

easily transferable licensing program in existence. e-LTP ensures complete license portability among all 54 US jurisdictions with same-day processing of licensure transfer requests.

Even so, some pharmacy regulators have identified a need for additional modes of licensure transfer that will offer more flexibility and accommodate emerging practices, such as telepharmacy or disaster relief support efforts.

Here, then, is our opportunity to transition from defense to offense.

Reiterating Sue Ksiazek's message from Thursday, we must continue to use our "same" great quality programs, but also explore new ways to make them "better."

As president, I will focus on the development of an NABP interstate credential to assist states with challenges to the current process and for non-dispensing or cognitive pharmacy practice.

This initiative springs from needs that you, our member boards, identified through the NABP Task Force on Mutual-Recognition Licensure, which convened last year. The task force, ably chaired by North Dakota Board of Pharmacy Executive Director Mark Hardy, was charged by you to explore e-LTP enhancements that:

- facilitate pharmacists' increased participation in interstate practice models; and
- preserve board jurisdiction over practices and individuals

engaged in the practice of pharmacy in their jurisdictions.

The task force did superb, thoughtful work and made several key recommendations:

First, that NABP examine enhancements to the e-LTP program to address changes in pharmacy practice and that the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination® (MPJE®) be retained as an appropriate test of regulatory competence for licensees.

Second, that NABP work with states to evaluate potential barriers in licensing processes and identify opportunities for the Association to help increase licensing efficiency at the state level.

And third, that NABP study the feasibility of supplementing e-LTP to allow for the provision of non-dispensing, cognitive patient care services remotely across state lines.

This third recommendation is the basis for my initiative. I propose that NABP develop an interstate endorsement credential for non-dispensing or cognitive pharmacy practices and expand the e-LTP service to better serve our member boards. To succeed, we will need to create the following:

- an interstate endorsement credential that expedites the

licensure process by offering credible alternatives to certain existing requirements; and

- a mechanism to integrate mutual recognition among the states through the enhancement of the state-based and uniform processes currently in place.

As such, the credential could also become a basis to expedite full licensure in a state for which a pharmacist holds the credential, by serving as a “pre-authorization” for the pharmacist to take the state’s MPJE and complete other requirements for full licensure.

Further, if this credential makes our member boards comfortable pre-authorizing or accepting credentials to turn around a license application in a day, this would obviously assist in expediting the pharmacist licensure process.

There are, as our members have asked for and the task force has recommended, opportunities available to us to expand licensure portability. Let us build on the success of the e-LTP service. Adding this new component to NABP’s licensure transfer services, and thus expanding licensure portability, will maintain the NABP licensure transfer model as superior to licensure compact or mutual recognition models. Let us not

“take what the other team is giving.” Let us continue to shape the style and pace of play in our profession.

This initiative obviously demonstrates the crucial role that NABP task forces and committees play in shaping our agenda, programs, and services. I encourage all of you to volunteer for service on the Association’s standing committees and task forces. These opportunities ensure that your voice is part of the discussions that shape the Association’s future.

I will be appointing members to task forces and standing committees soon. If you are interested in participating on one of these teams, please send a brief letter of interest and a current résumé to my attention at NABP Headquarters in Mount Prospect, Illinois, by June 7, 2019. Or, email your letter of interest and résumé to me in care of ExecOffice@nabp.pharmacy.

I close as I began. As your president, I pledge to be your servant in helping each of our member boards reach their goals within the NABP team concept. Coach Dean Smith exhorted his teams to “play hard, play smart, play together.” Let us do the same.

Thank you.