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Freda McKissic Bush, M.D., Assumes Chair of Federation of State Medical Boards

Mississippi physician will lead organization representing nation's 70 state medical boards

DALLAS – Freda McKissic Bush, M.D., FACOG, assumed the position of chair of the Federation of State Medical Boards' (FSMB) Board of Directors during the organization's 98th Annual Meeting in April in Chicago, Ill.

The former president of the Mississippi State Board of Medical Examiners and a longtime leader in women's health issues, Dr. Bush will lead the FSMB during 2010-2011. The FSMB is a national not-for-profit organization representing the 70 state medical and osteopathic boards of the United States. The organization's mission is to promote excellence in medical practice, licensure and regulation as the national resource and voice on behalf of state medical boards in their protection of the public.

“We are delighted to have an accomplished leader such as Dr. Bush serve as chair of our Board of Directors, at a time when there is much going on in the nation's capital and in state capitals,” said Humayun Chaudhry, D.O., FACP, president and CEO of the FSMB. “She brings exceptional dedication and passion to the FSMB and a sincere commitment to supporting state medical boards in their mission of protecting the public through effective medical licensure and discipline.”

As the FSMB's chief elected official, Dr. Bush will preside over meetings of the board of directors, provide leadership in governing the organization and represent the FSMB to the leadership of other organizations.

Dr. Bush has served on the FSMB Board of Directors since 2003 and as treasurer from 2008-2009 before being elected chair-elect of the organization. She has served as a member of the Step 3 Committee of the United States Medical Licensing Examination, the three-step examination for medical licensure in the United States that is co-sponsored by the FSMB and the National Board of Medical Examiners. Dr. Bush served on the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure from 1994-2006, including a term as president from 2000-2002.

Dr. Bush has been deeply involved in women's health issues for more than four decades. In 1968, she was a clinical instructor in Maternity Nursing at the University of Arkansas, Little Rock, graduating from Columbia University in New York as a certified nurse midwife in 1970 and working at Harlem Hospital. In 1974, Dr. Bush became the director of Nurse Midwifery Programs at the University of Mississippi, responsible for the education of nurse-midwives and for their placement for service in the southeastern United States. In 1983, Dr. Bush received her medical degree from the University of Mississippi Medical School, and in 1987 she completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Tennessee Medical Center, Memphis. A board-certified obstetrician/gynecologist, Dr. Bush is a partner with East Lakeland OB-GYN Associates in Jackson, Miss.

Dr. Bush spends much of her time speaking on sexuality education, sexually transmitted diseases and social behavior education. She has served on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/HRSA Advisory Committee on HIV and STD Prevention, the Medical Institute of Sexual Health, and the Out of Wedlock Pregnancy Task Force for the Mississippi Legislature.

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