AUA Staff Liaison  Joshua Webster

Chair  Robert Bass, MD

Terms of Office  Chair 2-year term (renewable once); Members 3-year term (renewable once)

Committee Makeup
The Chair is appointed by the AUA President with input from the current Chair and the Public Policy Council. The Committee is comprised of approximately 12 members, each appointed by the recommendation of the Public Policy Council. The Chair of the Public Policy Council serve as ex officio members. The Gallagher Scholar serves as a non-voting member for the year in which they are awarded the scholarship (Jan – Dec). The Holgrewe Legislative Fellow serves as a non-voting member for the year in they are awarded (June – May). The AUAPAC Chair and LAC Workgroup Chairs serve ex-officio (non-voting).

Mission Statement
The Committee’s mission is to provide feedback to staff on the continual refinement of the legislative agenda and its execution, provide advice and guidance regarding new opportunities for urology’s involvement; personally represent the AUA on Capitol Hill, in their home districts, to the White House, and to federal agencies; communicate with fellow AUA members about issues critical to urology and engage in appropriate action when needed.

Committee Meetings
Annually attend the Annual Urology Advocacy Summit, the fall Health Policy meeting, the Alliance of Specialty Medicine Fly-In, and participate in other regularly scheduled meetings or conference calls. There is no per diem for committee members. Members will only be reimbursed for expenses, such as transportation and lodging for advocacy events for which they are specifically asked to represent the AUA.

Time Commitment
Chair:  288 hours annually
Member:  190 hours annually

Qualifications/ Responsibilities
Chair:  The Chair should be politically savvy and have a working knowledge of the federal legislative process, have existing relationships with members of Congress, and be willing to advocate for urology’s interests on Capitol Hill. Also, the Chair must be willing to attend the Annual Urology Advocacy Summit and the Alliance for Specialty Medicine Advocacy Fly-In, as well as engage fellow urologists and recruit grassroots physicians to advocate on behalf of the AUA’s legislative agenda and priorities.
Member: Committee membership should be comprised of physicians representing diverse geographic and political interests. Members should have existing relationships with members of Congress or be willing to develop them accordingly and serve as an advocate for urology’s interests on Capitol Hill. Also, members must be willing to engage fellow urologists and recruit grassroots physicians to advocate on behalf of the AUA’s legislative agenda and priorities.

Recent Accomplishments 2020

- Advocated for the successful introduction of legislation to create a student loan forgiveness program for urologists that practice in a rural setting
- Advocated for the successful introduction – and passage in the House of Representatives – of legislation to address stop-gaps in prostate cancer treatment for veterans
- Participated in the planning and holding of the AUA’s first virtual advocacy summit
- Assisted with the launch of a legislative priorities survey to domestic AUA members in an effort to collect data and set new Board-approved legislative priorities for 2021