

## **Public Policy Committee Charter**

1. *Purpose.* The Public Policy Committee of the Board of Directors shall assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibility with respect to: public policy, regulatory (including regulation by the Federal Food and Drug Administration, as well as other domestic, foreign and international regulatory bodies) and government affairs and healthcare compliance issues that affect Abbott (recognizing that other board committees assist the Board of Directors in reviewing certain areas of legal and regulatory compliance), by discharging the responsibilities set forth below.
2. *Organization.* All members of the Public Policy Committee must satisfy the independence requirements of the New York Stock Exchange, as such requirements are interpreted by the Board in its business judgment. Abbott's Board shall appoint, and may remove, members of the Public Policy Committee and the Committee's Chairman, acting on the recommendation of Abbott's Nominations and Governance Committee.
3. *Authority and Responsibilities.* To assist it in the conduct of its responsibilities, the Public Policy Committee shall consult with management and, to the extent it deems it necessary or appropriate, may seek advice and assistance from Abbott employees or others, and may retain legal counsel and other advisors.

The Public Policy Committee shall report to the Board on a regular basis.

The Public Policy Committee may delegate any of its responsibilities and duties to one or more members of the Public Policy Committee.

The Committee shall:

- Review and evaluate Abbott's policies and practices with respect to maintaining legal, regulatory and healthcare compliance (recognizing that other board committees assist the Board of Directors in reviewing certain areas of legal and regulatory compliance), and review them with the Board as appropriate.

- Devise a process for the dissemination of information to the Committee from management with respect to regulatory and healthcare compliance matters, including, as appropriate, presentations to the Committee from management concerning the state of regulatory compliance and all issues with respect thereto.
  - The Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer shall report to the Public Policy Committee on an as needed basis on any significant compliance issues.
  - Review and evaluate Abbott's policies and practices with respect to social responsibility, and review them with the Board as appropriate.
  - Review social, political, economic and environmental trends and public policy issues that affect or could affect Abbott's business activities, performance, and public image, and review them with the Board as appropriate.
  - Review and make recommendations to the Board regarding shareholder proposals submitted for inclusion in Abbott's proxy materials that relate to public policy or social responsibility issues.
4. *Annual Performance Review.* The Public Policy Committee shall annually evaluate its own performance.