

RESOLUTION 1 – 06A

Title: Physician Representation on Local Board of Health

Introduced by: Frederick A. Johansen, MD, MI Association of Public Health and Preventive Medicine Physicians
Supported by the Berrien County Medical Society and Delta County Medical Society
MI Section, American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists

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Referred to: Reference Committee D

House Action:

Whereas, the Institute of Medicine, the Michigan State Medical Society, the American Medical Association, and other respected medical organizations have for decades called for closer working relationships with public health, and

Whereas, one of the best ways for organized medicine and public health to interface is in the development of public policies which affect the health of the public, and

Whereas, local boards of health in Michigan have responsibility for public policies which affect health at the local level, and

Whereas, it is not uncommon in the state of Michigan to have local boards of health which are entirely composed of elected officials with no background in health care, and

Whereas, the public could benefit greatly by local physician representation and input on these local boards of health, and

Whereas, the quality of the public policies developed by such local boards of health could be substantially enhanced by local physician representation and input; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS ask the Director of the Michigan Department of Community Health to officially request that each local board of health in Michigan have added as a voting member of its board of health a local physician recommended by one of the local county medical societies within the jurisdiction of the local health department; and be it further

RESOLVED: That MSMS seek changes in the Public Health Code to require local physician representation on local Boards of Health in Michigan.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE