

RESOLUTION 16 – 06A

Title: Expand Good Samaritan Acts
Introduced by: Domenic R. Federico, MD, for the Kent County Delegation
Original Author: Domenic R. Federico, MD
Referred to: Reference Committee B
House Action: Referred to the Board for Study

Whereas, health care for the uninsured is a national issue, and

Whereas, there are many organizations making valiant attempts to initiate programs to provide health care to the uninsured, and

Whereas, there are many different models providing this much needed health care, and

Whereas, one model is a coordinated program using volunteer physicians, like Project Access, to provide free health care in their offices to the uninsured, and

Whereas, physicians providing health care in free clinics are protected, to a limited extent, from liability threats through “Good Samaritan” acts, and

Whereas, physicians providing free health care in their offices to the uninsured through volunteer programs are not exempt from liability threats, and

Whereas, physicians would be more willing to provide free health care to the uninsured in their offices, through coordinated volunteer programs, if the threat of liability were all but eliminated; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS ask the Michigan legislature to expand any current Good Samaritan Acts to exempt physicians from liability for free health care given in their offices to the uninsured through participation in a coordinated volunteer program, except in cases of acts or omissions were the result of willful and wanton misconduct or were intended to injure the patient.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE

