

RESOLUTION 17 – 06A

Title: American Board of Medical Specialties – Standardization of Board Recertification Requirements

Introduced by: Domenic R. Federico, MD, for the Kent County Delegation

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Referred to: Reference Committee E

House Action:

Whereas, medical specialty board certification was developed to guarantee a certain level of medical scholarship/knowledge in a given field, and

Whereas, most of the medical specialty boards have made recertification a requirement for maintenance of certification, and

Whereas, board certification requirements are highly variable, ranging from review of current medical literature to written examinations to documentation of adherence to practice guidelines to review by peers/patients of a physician's performance, and

Whereas, these recertification requirements often impose significant costs for physicians, including time, finances, and stress, and

Whereas, physicians are critiqued by many other organizations (HMOs, hospitals) regarding clinical performance, often as the basis for determining payout or withheld payments, and

Whereas, many of these requirements have not been proven to have any significant impact on a physician's ability to practice medicine or on the quality of care received by patients; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the AMA ask the AMA to work with the American Board of Medical Specialties to standardize recertification requirements for all of the specialty boards (and sub-specialty boards); and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the AMA ask the AMA to work with the American Board of Medical Specialties to use evidence based testing methods; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the AMA ask the AMA to work with the American Board of Medical Specialties through standardization, to reduce the cost, hassle factor, and interruption of practice due to recertification.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE