

RESOLUTION 32 – 06A

Title: Translator Services

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

Original Author: Elizabeth H. Henry, MD

Referred to: Reference Committee A

House Action: Referred to the Board for Study

Whereas, doctors must provide translator service at their own expense to patients by law, and

Whereas, the cost of the translator service often costs more than what is collected for the office visit and is a loss to the doctor, and

Whereas, there may be times when the person needing the translator service fails to show up for his/her appointment, and

Whereas, the translator service is arranged ahead of time and the translator is at the appointment with or without the patient, and

Whereas, the translator service has a minimum cost for their time and cannot be cancelled at the last minute; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS work with the appropriate entities to ensure that a patient requiring the translator service who fails to show up for his/her appointment may be billed and held accountable for the cost of the translator service unless he/she cancels his/her appointment well ahead of time where the translator service can be cancelled and not incur a cost to the doctor.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE