

RESOLUTION 4 - 05A

Title: Arbitrary Deselection of International Medical Schools

Introduced by: Swarn G. Rajpal, MD, for the International Medical Graduates Section

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Referred to: Reference Committee E

House Action:

Whereas, at least three state medical boards have published lists of international medical schools that they designate “approved” or “unapproved” for the purposes of licensing physicians, and

Whereas, these state medical boards have not published criteria they use to approve a medical school, and

Whereas, the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates’ (ECFMG) International Medical Education Directory lists 1,934 medical schools around the world, and

Whereas, it is very unlikely that a state medical board can review all the medical schools around the world, and

Whereas, this “approval” process has serious implications for international medical graduates (IMGs) applying for an initial license as well as for practicing physicians who graduated from a medical school on a state’s “unapproved” list, and

Whereas, some applicants for licensure who have not been made aware that the medical school from which they graduated was on an “unapproved” list before applying for licensure have been denied licensure solely on their medical school of graduation, and have been denied full refunds of their licensure application fees, and

Whereas, the ECFMG is designated to review and certify IMGs by verifying that they graduated from medical school and passed Steps 1 and 2 of the U.S. Medical Licensing Examination; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the AMA ask the AMA to oppose the practice by state medical boards of creating lists of approved or unapproved international medical schools; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the AMA ask the AMA, in close consultation with its International Medical Graduates Section, to work with the Federation of State Medical Boards in its current efforts to study methods to evaluate international medical schools.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE