

RESOLUTION 10 - 05A

Title: Physician Leadership in Long-Term Care

Introduced by: Robert W. Oakes, MD, Calhoun County

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Referred to: Reference Committee E

House Action: Approved

Whereas, Resolution 49 - 04A, "Physician Services Crisis in the Long-Term Care Industry," identified the crisis in Michigan and other problems such as the lack of physician input in long-term care (LTC) decision-making at the state level; not enough physician involvement in the LTC quality improvement programs; the use of physicians as vendors, not as professionals who are included in the administration of the long-term care (i.e. not covered by the facility insurance policy for administrative services); the proper use of quality improvement reports in LTC, their lack of transparency, and coordination with the Michigan Peer Review Organization; and the lack of use of LTC facilities to be a geriatric teaching center for primary care physicians in practice and for new physicians in the community, and

Whereas, discussion and development of models is needed to improve the care in LTC settings, using new knowledge and proper use of protocols and evidence-based medicine in a manner that is cost-efficient, state-of-the-art, and decreases errors which improves the care of our patients, and

Whereas, "a medical society has a public role to speak out on issues of access, to profess our values," according to MSMS president John M. MacKeigan, MD, in the Dec. 27, 2004, issue of *Medigram*, and

Whereas, the players at the state level include the Michigan State Medical Society, the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians, the Michigan Osteopathic Association, Michigan Society of Internal Medicine, the Michigan Chapter of the American Medical Directors Association, the Michigan Chapter of the American Geriatrics Society, the MSMS Committee on Aging, the Health Care Association of Michigan, the Michigan Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, the Michigan Peer Review Organization, Michigan Ombudsman, and the State Bar of Michigan, and

Whereas, long-term care is important for the increasing need for post-hospital care, and nursing home beds are decreasing, and

Whereas, we should be planning how to innovate home health care appropriate for each local area to improve the care of our patients, i.e., physicians need to be at the table; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS join the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians and other medical societies along with other pertinent players in the long-term care industry to address the improvement of long-term care of the elderly.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE