

RESOLUTION 55 - 05A

Title: Patient Right to Treatment

Introduced by: John A. Rupke, MD, for the Organized Medical Staff Section

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Referred to: Reference Committee B

House Action:

Whereas, 50 percent of the nation’s hospital beds are mental health beds and 50 percent of the mental health beds are taken by those with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder or bipolar disorder/manic-depressive and similar diagnoses and pathology, and

Whereas, patients with a serious and persistent mental illness are entitled by patient rights of care to timely therapy and treatment, and

Whereas, the current average time for treatment and management before a court hearing and adjudication is now often in excess of 10 days, delaying therapeutic interventions and greatly increasing length of stay and expense of hospitalization, and

Whereas, delay in timely treatment may compromise immediate and appropriate management of the mentally ill; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS work with the state government to require court hearing and adjudication within three working days for mental health determination; and be it further

RESOLVED: That MSMS work with state government to amend the Michigan Mental Health Code Section 452:463 from “but not more than seven days (excluding Sundays and holidays)” to “not more than three days (excluding Sundays and holidays.)”

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE