

RESOLUTION 72 - 05A

Title: Electronic Prescribing

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

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Referred to: Reference Committee E

House Action: Approved

Whereas, electronic prescribing decreases medication risks from allergies, drug/drug, and drug/food interactions, and illegible prescriptions, and

Whereas, the technology market is mature enough that medication-ordering tools are commercially available, and

Whereas, the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, requires electronic prescribing of medications under the prescription benefit package (the pilot project is expected to take place in 2006. Final e-prescribing standards will be issued no later than April 1, 2008, with compliance no later than one year after), and

Whereas, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has federal jurisdiction over the prescribing of all schedules of controlled substances (C-V through C-II) operating under 1970 rules, and

Whereas, states govern medication prescribing under both law and administrative rules with no national guidelines, and

Whereas, the DEA has not yet issued specifications on digital certificates allowing the direct communication of controlled medication orders, and

Whereas, section 333.7104 of the Michigan Public Health Code defines electronic signature and section 338.3162a addresses the electronic transmission of prescriptions with an electronic signature, and

Whereas, the Michigan Public Health Code does not clearly address the electronic signature of controlled substances; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS petition the state of Michigan to remove ambiguity regarding e-signature and electronic transmittal of controlled substances either by an attorney general opinion or adding explicit language to existing statutes; and be it further

RESOLVED: That MSMS promote electronic prescribing and promote the value to physicians and to the general public; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the AMA ask the AMA to petition the Drug Enforcement Agency to accelerate the promulgation of Digital Certificate Standards for direct transmission of controlled substances to support the patient safety goals and other governmental initiatives; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the AMA ask the AMA to petition Congress to unify state prescription standards and standard vocabularies to facilitate adoption of electronic prescribing.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE