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Title: Student Loans and Medicare/Medicaid Participation
Introduced by: Robert Levine, MD
Original Author: Robert Levine, MD
Referred to: Reference Committee E
House Action: Adopted as Amended.

Whereas, physicians and other health care providers who become delinquent on repayment of a student loan may be decertified as Medicare and Medicaid providers; and

Whereas, decertifying a physician or other health care provider adversely affects his or her earning ability and makes it harder to repay the loan; and

Whereas, the government can and does garnishee any individual’s wages for outstanding debts; and

Whereas, garnisheeing physicians’ or other health care providers’ Medicare or Medicaid payments would be a more effective way of getting the loans paid off; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS ask Michigan congressional representatives to seek legislation or rule changes that would stop the Medicare and Medicaid decertification of physicians and other health care providers and replace it with system of garnisheeing their reimbursement for the care of Medicare and Medicaid patients; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the AMA ask that the AMA seek federal legislation or rule changes that would stop Medicare and Medicaid decertification of physicians and other health care providers due to unpaid student loan debt and replace it with system of garnisheeing Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement payments for the repayment of delinquent student loan payments.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE