

RESOLUTION 81 - 05A

Title: Interpreters by Phone
Introduced by: Domenic R. Federico, MD, for the Kent County Delegation
Original Author: Elizabeth H. Henry, MD
Referred to: Reference Committee A
House Action: Referred to the Board for Study

Whereas, providing interpreters is an unfunded mandate, and

Whereas, the cost of the interpreter almost always exceeds the physician reimbursement, and

Whereas, interpreters charge from the time they leave home/office, and

Whereas, patients requiring an interpreter may not keep their appointment, thereby incurring a cost with absolutely no reimbursement; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS work with the Michigan legislature to set up a centralized medical interpreter service paid for and maintained by the state that would allow interpretation by phone.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE