

RESOLUTION 52-07A

Title: Nutritional Label Education

Introduced by: Tyler J. Willson, for the Medical Student Section

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Referred to: Reference Committee D

House Action: Approved

Whereas, 25 percent of Michigan high-school students are overweight or at risk of becoming overweight, according to the Centers for Disease Control “Youth Risk Behavior Survey System,” and

Whereas, obese children are much more likely to than non-obese children to become obese adults, according to “Predicting Obesity in Young Adulthood from Childhood and Parental Obesity” from the New England Journal of Medicine, and

Whereas, 61 percent of Michigan adults are overweight or obese, according to the Centers for Disease Control, “Behavioral Risk Factor Survey System,” and

Whereas, an understanding of nutrition labels can help children and adults make healthy choices in their diet, and

Whereas, AMA policy (D-60.990) states that it will work with the U.S. Public Health Service and other federal agencies, the Federation, and others in a coordinated campaign to educate the public on the epidemic of childhood obesity and enhance the K-12 curriculum by addressing the benefits of exercise, physical fitness, and healthy diets for children (Res. 423, A-02; Reaffirmation A-04), and

Whereas, a new study concludes that kindergarteners and first-grade students are more likely to increase their Body Mass Index during summer break than during the school year, indicating that the parents are a major factor in the obesity problem (Von Hippel, 2007); therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS encourage the Michigan Department of Education to incorporate assessment of nutrition labels into the elementary, middle and high school curriculum; and be it further

RESOLVED: That MSMS support nutrition education programs that would promote the involvement of parents in their children’s nutrition education.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE