

**RESOLUTION 64-07A**

**Title: Minimize Transmission of Infection in School-Age Children**

**Introduced by: Alan D. Kuester, DO, for the St. Clair County Delegation**

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**Referred to: Reference Committee D**

**House Action: Referred to the Board for Study**

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**Whereas, 66 million workers in the USA are without paid sick days benefits, and an illness in their school-age children means making a choice between possible loss of job versus staying home to take care of them, and**

**Whereas, transmission of many common diseases such as upper respiratory infections, pinkeye, gastroenteritis, viral meningitis, and others can be reduced by allowing a sick worker to stay away from their workplace and by keeping sick children home from school, and**

**Whereas, enforced paid sick leave has recently been implemented in the city of San Francisco as of February 5, 2007, with an ordinance stating:**

**“Pursuant to the San Francisco Paid Sick Leave Ordinance, Chapter 12W of the San Francisco Administrative Code, all employers must provide paid sick leave to each employee (including temporary and part-time employees) who performs work in San Francisco. Paid sick leave shall begin to accrue as of February 5, 2007, for employees working for an employer on or before February 5, 2007. For employees hired by an employer after February 5, 2007, paid sick leave shall begin to accrue 90 days after the commencement of employment.**

**For every 30 hours worked, an employee shall accrue one hour of paid sick leave. There is a cap of 40 hours of accrued paid sick leave for employees of employers for which fewer than 10 persons (including full-time, part-time, and temporary employees) work for compensation during a given week. For employees of other employers, there is a cap of 72 hours of accrued paid sick leave.**

**An employee's accrued paid sick leave carries over from year to year. Employees are entitled to paid sick leave for their own medical care and also to aid or care for a family member or designated person. Under the Ordinance, employees who assert their rights to receive paid sick leave are protected from retaliation. The City can investigate possible violations, shall have access to employer records, and can enforce the paid sick leave requirements by ordering reinstatement of employees, payment of paid sick leave unlawfully withheld, and penalties," and**

**Whereas, children with contagious illness whose parents or caregivers will not or cannot keep the children home from school would be best kept at a distance from healthy classmates, such as in a designated area of the classroom away from others to minimize contact, and**

**Whereas, the benefits of proper hand washing, especially in the school and day-care setting, cannot be overstressed; therefore be it**

**RESOLVED: That MSMS support national and local legislation similar to the San Francisco ordinance that would provide full-time workers a reasonable amount of paid sick time per year to care for themselves or a family member with pro-rated time off for part-timers; and be it further**

**RESOLVED: That MSMS promote/develop educational materials and guidelines for Michigan schools and day care centers to emphasize proper hand washing and provide the capability to sequester/isolate/separate children with a presumable contagious illness (such as in a designated area of the classroom) in order to minimize the spread of infection to others.**

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**WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE:**

**With more than 500,000 students in K-12 in Michigan and hundreds of day care centers, and with consulting, design, printing and postage, the cost of this educational program, depending on dissemination vehicles, is estimated anywhere from \$5,000 to \$100,000.**