

RESOLUTION 73-07A

Title: Increasing Residency Slots to Decrease Physician Shortage

Introduced by: Anil K. Tibrewal, MD, Jackson County

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Referred to: Reference Committee E

House Action: Substitute Resolution (in lieu of Resolutions 3-07A and 73-07A) See Resolution 3-07A

Whereas, 38 percent of current licensed physicians in Michigan would be retiring in the next 10 years leading to a shortage of physicians according to various recent studies, and

Whereas, with the change in demographics with baby boomers coming into the elderly population, the need for physicians would increase leading to a further shortage of physicians, and

Whereas, increasing the number of seats in U.S. medical schools could help, but it is very time consuming and expensive to educate medical students and it takes about eight years to complete medical school and then three to six years of residency before becoming a practicing physician, and

Whereas, on the other hand, United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) passed and Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) certified international medical graduates are also available to get into residency training programs, and

Whereas, residency training is the bottle neck and essential before a physician can get a state license and start practicing, and

Whereas, with the current residency slots, there is still going to be a 6,000 physician shortage in the state of Michigan itself by 2020, according to an MSMS study and the shortage is already being felt by many communities in Michigan; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS urgently address the shortage of physicians and strongly initiate action to increase the residency positions in current residency programs and help and encourage starting new residency programs at appropriate larger community hospitals in Michigan.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE