

RESOLUTION 77-07A

Title: Expansion of Conflict of Interest Policy

Introduced by: Gail A. Cookingham, MD, for the Michigan Allergy & Asthma Society

Original Authors: Gail A. Cookingham, MD, and Duane Harrison, MD

Referred to: Reference Committee C

House Action: Adopted as Amended

Whereas, MSMS has a conflict of interest policy for the Board of Directors of MSMS, addressing personal financial interest that may impair his/her independence or judgment or inappropriately influence his/her decisions or actions concerning MSMS matters, and

Whereas, MSMS has a conflict of interest policy that requests that members at committee meetings identify themselves by geography, specialty, and if there is any conflict of interests due to affiliations related to agenda topics, and

Whereas, the MSMS conflict of interest policy is directed toward the MSMS Board, and what appears to be the House of Delegates members participating in committee meetings, and

Whereas, the MSMS conflict of interest policy does not specifically include specialty and county society member disclosure of conflicts of interest to their respective Boards and committees before meetings with sensitive agenda topics, and

Whereas, sensitive third party payer issues have become a frequent and openly discussed topic at county and specialty society meetings under the assumption of confidentiality, and

Whereas, disclosure statements are now a common practice for physicians who are sponsored by pharmaceutical industries, but not a common practice with MSMS members who are paid consultants for third party payers, and

Whereas, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan reported that it paid in excess of \$200 million on commissions, consulting, auditing and actuarial fees in its 2005 Health Annual Report; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS encourage specialty and county societies to review their respective Conflict of Interest policies and consider adoption of the AMA Conflict of Interest Policy.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE