

## RESOLUTION 87-08A

**Title:** National Health Insurance for All

**Introduced by:** George H. Shade, Jr., MD, for the Wayne County Delegation

**Original Author:** H. Richard Henderson, MD

**Referred to:** Reference Committee A

**House Action:** No Action

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Whereas, the number of Americans uninsured is in excess of 46.6 million and millions more are underinsured, and

Whereas, physicians have a moral imperative to advocate for a health care system in which all Americans have access to affordable health care, and

Whereas, businesses are increasingly withdrawing coverage from employees, according to census data at [www.census.gov/hhes/www/cpstc/cps\\_table\\_creator.html](http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/cpstc/cps_table_creator.html), and

Whereas, illness and medical bills contribute to 50 percent of all United States bankruptcies, affecting more than two million Americans annually, according to a study titled "Illness and Injury as Contributors to Bankruptcy" in the February 2, 2005, edition of Health Affairs Web Exclusive," and

Whereas, the United States spends twice the amount per capita on health care as industrialized nations that provide comprehensive coverage to all citizens with Canada at \$3,326, Denmark at \$3,108, Finland at \$2,331, France at \$3,374, Germany at \$3,287, Sweden at \$2,918, Switzerland at \$4,177, United Kingdom at \$2,724, and the United States at \$6,401, according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development website at [www.oecd.org](http://www.oecd.org), and

Whereas, universal health insurance would guarantee payment for all patients treated, and

Whereas, 31 percent of health spending is consumed by an unnecessary, wasteful administrative bureaucracy, according to a study titled "Costs of Health Administration in the U.S. and Canada" in the September 21, 2003, New England Journal of Medicine, and

Whereas, the Institute of Medicine identified universal health care coverage as the first step for insuring the health of all Americans and called on the federal government to reach this goal by 2010, and

**Whereas, on July 30, 1965, Congress passed the first Medicare bill, and Medicare has become one of the most popular and successful federal programs ensuring access to health care for this country's senior citizens; therefore be it**

**RESOLVED: That MSMS express its support for universal access to comprehensive, affordable health care; and be it further**

**RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the AMA ask the AMA to express its support for universal access to comprehensive, affordable health care.**

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**WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE**