

1
2
3 **RESOLUTION 74-09A**
4

5 **Title: A Choice System of Health Care in the United States**
6
7 **Introduced by: Kelly J. Caverzagie, MD, for the Wayne County Delegation**
8
9 **Original Author: Brian Silver, MD**
10
11 **Referred to: Reference Committee A**
12
13 **House Action: Adopted as Amended**
14

15
16 **Whereas, the United States spent 15.2 percent of its gross domestic**
17 **product on health care in 2005 and ranked second in the world in percent of**
18 **GDP spent,¹ and**
19

20 **Whereas, the United States' healthy life expectancy was 24th in the**
21 **world in 2005,² and**
22

23 **Whereas, the United States' ranked 71st on the list of the World Health**
24 **Organization's Health Performance ranking in 2005,³ and**
25

26 **Whereas, the infant mortality rate in the United States was 6.30 deaths**
27 **per 1,000 live births, behind 40 other countries in 2005,⁴ and**
28

29 **Whereas, countries with nationalized health care systems including**
30 **Canada, United Kingdom, and France ranked better than the United States in**
31 **the categories of health life expectancy, health performance ranking, and**
32 **infant mortality despite spending 9.8 percent, 8.2 percent, and 11.2 percent of**
33 **their respective GDP on health care in 2005,¹⁻⁴ and**
34

35 **Whereas, based on the above statistics, a nationalized health care**
36 **coverage system may result in less percent of GDP spent on health care**
37 **compared to the current system in the United States and better performance**
38 **on the above measures, and**
39

40 **Whereas, 45.7 million people (1 in 6) were uninsured in the United States**
41 **in 2007,⁵ and**
42

43 **Whereas, some individuals in a free market economy may wish to**
44 **purchase additional health care coverage, and**

45 Whereas, the existing AMA proposal for improving health care coverage
46 supports 1) "subsidies for those who most need financial assistance obtaining
47 health insurance," 2) "choice for individuals and families in what health plan to
48 join," and 3) "fair rules of the game that include protections for high-risk
49 patients and greater individual responsibility,"⁶ and
50

51 Whereas, the existing AMA proposal for improving health care coverage
52 does not explicitly support government health care coverage for all citizens,⁶
53 and
54

55 Whereas, a two-tiered system would involve universal health care
56 coverage for basic medical services (as defined by a group of experts and lay
57 persons) by the government of the United States as well as private health
58 insurance coverage or direct payment to a provider for services not covered
59 by the government program for those who choose to participate in this latter
60 option; therefore be it
61

62 **RESOLVED:** That the Michigan Delegation to the AMA ask the AMA to
63 study how a system enabling universal health care coverage while allowing
64 purchase of additional coverage for those who choose to do so might be
65 accomplished including legislative proposals.
66

67
68 **WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE**

1. <http://www.who.int/whosis/en/index.html> and
http://www.photius.com/rankings/total_health_expenditure_as_pecent_of_gdp_2000_to_2005.html (accessed February 5, 2009)
2. <http://www.who.int/whosis/en/index.html> and
http://www.photius.com/rankings/healthy_life_table2.html
3. http://www.photius.com/rankings/world_health_performance_ranks.html
4. <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/rankorder/2091rank.html>
5. <http://www.census.gov/prod/2008pubs/p60-235.pdf> (US Census Bureau data)
6. <http://www.voicefortheuninsured.org/pdf/proposaloverview.pdf>