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Title: Liability Exemption
Introduced by: Michael L. Gambel, MD, for the International Medical Graduate Section
Original Author: Venkat Rao, MD
Referred to: Reference Committee B
House Action: Disapproved

Whereas, Medicaid and county health plan patients are cared for by physicians who subsidize, in part or completely, the care that those patients require, and

Whereas, this is done with charitable intent and public service at times, and

Whereas, a physician can choose not to see patients who require subsidization, and

Whereas, physicians forgoing care of Medicaid, county health plan, and indigent patients would cause a severe access problem for those patients, and

Whereas, physicians are paid at very low reimbursement rates that at times do not cover even the cost of services, and

Whereas, the physicians have substantial malpractice insurance costs for these services, and

Whereas, liability threat leads to overutilization of services, which lead to unnecessary costs to insurance; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS pursue liability relief for physician services provided to patients on Medicaid and county health plans.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE