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3 **Title: Childhood Obesity Treatment as a Covered Benefit**
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5 **Introduced by: Domenic R. Federico, MD, for the Kent County Delegation**
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7 **Original Author: Susan H. Wakefield, MD**
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9 **Referred to: Reference Committee D**
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11 **House Action: Adopted**

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14 **Whereas, childhood obesity has become the number one chronic**
15 **disease condition in the pediatric population with an estimated 10.58 million**
16 **children in the U.S. or nearly one in three children ages 10-17 overweight or**
17 **obese, and**

18
19 **Whereas, childhood obesity is associated with numerous health-related**
20 **consequences including high cholesterol levels, hypertension, abnormal**
21 **glucose tolerance, type 2 diabetes, asthma, hepatic steatosis, sleep apnea,**
22 **and psychological stress, and**

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24 **Whereas, Healthy People 2010 identified overweight and obesity as one**
25 **of 10 leading health indicators and called for a reduction in the number of**
26 **children and adolescents who are overweight or obese, and**

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28 **Whereas, an estimated half of obese school-age children become obese**
29 **adults and the estimated annual cost of treating obesity-related illness in**
30 **adults is \$147 billion, and**

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32 **Whereas, there is no government mandate that requires health**
33 **insurance plans to cover cost-effective methods of preventing and treating**
34 **childhood obesity and the evaluation and treatment for childhood obesity is**
35 **often not covered as a benefit by medical insurance, and**

36
37 **Whereas, medical treatments, no matter how beneficial they may be, are**
38 **often not utilized if they are not covered by insurance; therefore be it**

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40 **RESOLVED: That MSMS encourage the Obama Administration to**
41 **advocate having the evaluation and treatment of childhood obesity a benefit**
42 **covered by health insurance plans; and be it further**

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44 **RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the AMA ask the AMA to**
45 **encourage the Obama Administration to advocate having the evaluation and**
46 **treatment of childhood obesity a benefit covered by health insurance plans.**

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