

**Title:** Support of Revised Guidelines for Water Fluoridation.

**Introduced by:** Carolyn Bird, MD, for the Oakland County Delegation, and Annette Mercatante, MD, for the Michigan Association of Public Health and Preventive Medicine Physicians

**Original Author:** Annette Mercatante, MD

**Referred to:** Reference Committee D

**House Action:**

Whereas, the addition of fluoride in municipal water supplies has been declared one of the 10 great public health achievement of the twentieth century and extensive studies over the past 50 years clearly establish a causal relationship between water fluoridation and the prevention of dental caries, and

Whereas, the fluoridation of water is the most cost effective method of fluoridation with every dollar spent on fluoridation saving \$38.00 in dental care, and the benefits accrue to individuals of all ages and socioeconomic groups especially to poor children who suffer disproportionately from untreated dental disease, and

Whereas, the extensive research conducted over the past 60 years has shown that fluoridation of public water supplies is safe and effective for all community members, and standards have been set by the US Public Health Service at 0.7 to 1.2 ppm to eliminate any risk of harm or toxicity making acute fluoride toxicity occurring from the ingestion of optimally fluoridated water impossible, and

Whereas, the additional availability of topical fluoride products in the U.S. have resulted in an increase in fluorosis, a cosmetic mottling of the teeth, and a new recommended level of 0.7 mg/liter has been set to promote public health benefits of fluoride for preventing tooth decay while minimizing the chance for dental fluorosis, and

Whereas, the relative benefits of water fluoridation have decreased with other forms of fluoride access from 56% reduction of tooth decay to approximately 18-40% reduction, yet the overall benefit remains significant and the elimination of water fluoridation would likely result in unacceptable and increasing rates of dental decay therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** That MSMS endorses the newly established guidelines for water fluoridation at 0.7 ppm to reduce the occurrence of dental fluorosis while maintaining strong support for the public health benefits of water fluoridation in communities that do not have naturally occurring fluoride at optimal protective levels in ground water sources.

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