

Title: That MSMS Pursue Making Professional Credentials Unmistakable for Patients

Introduced by: Amitabha Banerjee, MD, for the Genesee County Delegation

Original Authors: Steven Boskovich, MD

Referred to: Reference Committee B

House Action:

Whereas, patients attach significance to the titles used by health professionals, and

Whereas, the nomenclature used by some health professions can be confusing, or misleading, and

Whereas, unlike medicine, which standardized nearly all facets of medical education via the Flexner report in 1913, other professional have relied on legislative and self-imposed inflation to their scope of practice, and

Whereas, the growing trend among non-physician providers is to offer their degree as a doctorate in order to justify reference to that group of professionals as “doctor” and

Whereas, many of these doctoral level programs do not require a significant amount of additional training, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS pursue legislative and regulatory means to do all of the following:

1) Make professional credentials unmistakable for patients in medical setting.

2) Require that medical professionals wear identification tags that are easily readable by patients and family members identifying their proper titles and credentials

3) Require that advertising include information about the license that authorizes the health professional to provide services.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE