

**RESOLUTION 14-15**

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3 Title: Physician Care for Michigan’s Increased Medicaid Population  
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5 Introduced by: Domenic R. Federico, MD, for the Kent County Delegation  
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7 Original Author: Ryan Miyamoto, MD  
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9 Referred to: Reference Committee C  
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11 House Action: **REFERRED TO THE BOARD**  
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14 Whereas, Michigan’s medical system has seen an increase in Medicaid  
15 patients over the recent years related to the implementation of the Affordable Care  
16 Act and Medicaid expansion legislation, with an increase of 15.12% in 2014, and  
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18 Whereas, for many physicians the cost to see a Medicaid beneficiary exceeds  
19 the amount reimbursed by Medicaid, and  
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21 Whereas, there is an increasing number of physicians opting out of Medicaid  
22 participation or refusing to see new Medicaid patients for justifiable reasons such as  
23 low reimbursement, difficulty with prescribing effective medications due to formulary  
24 restrictions, and relatively high no-show rates in this patient population, and  
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26 Whereas, the increase in the number of Medicaid patients and the decreasing  
27 pool of physicians willing to care for these patients will put an overwhelming burden  
28 on the physicians who feel a responsibility to keep their practices open to Medicaid  
29 patients, and  
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31 Whereas, the pool of able-bodied physicians needs to be increased in the state  
32 of Michigan in anticipation of the increased number of people eligible for Medicaid  
33 programs, and  
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35 Whereas, the limitations of Medicaid need to be accepted and other systems  
36 considered, and  
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38 Whereas, where is the victory of having more people with medical insurance if  
39 there are no physicians to care for them; therefore be it  
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41 **RESOLVED:** That MSMS, in order to accommodate the expected increase in  
42 the number of patients entering the Medicaid system, encourage Michigan physicians  
43 to view the care of Medicaid beneficiaries as part of their social responsibility and for  
44 physicians to share in that responsibility by maintaining their current Medicaid  
45 caseloads or by considering an increase in Medicaid capacity to a level appropriate to  
46 their practice versus closing their practice entirely to this patient population; and be it  
47 further

48           RESOLVED: That MSMS reinforce the need to expand the number of  
49 residency positions across a variety of specialties to allow an increased number of  
50 physicians-in-training and, ultimately, fully trained physicians who stay in the state to  
51 care for the expected increased number of patients entering the Medicaid system; and  
52 be it further

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54           RESOLVED: That MSMS ask the Michigan Legislature to explore other  
55 models of state-funded medical care for the Medicaid-eligible population such as  
56 Indiana’s implementation of a health savings account model for Medicaid coverage;  
57 and be it further

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59           RESOLVED: That the 2015 MSMS House of Delegates reaffirm existing  
60 MSMS policy, Equitable Medicaid Reimbursement, that supports an increase in  
61 Medicaid reimbursement “to a level that covers physician and hospital costs.”

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64   WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE