

RESOLUTION 75-15

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3 Title: Physician Involvement with Health Care Related Businesses
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5 Introduced by: Jeanette Meyer, MD, for the Michigan Chapter - American College of
6 Physicians
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8 Original Author: Jeanette Meyer, MD
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10 Referred to: Reference Committee B
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12 House Action: **APPROVED**
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15 Whereas, physicians are prohibited from referring patients to entities outside of their
16 practices in which they have an investment interest, and
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18 Whereas, it is alleged that allowing physicians to refer patients for services to entities
19 in which the physician has an investment interest will lead to over use of same medical
20 services and increased cost, and
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22 Whereas, this prohibition applies to physicians only and no other, neither hospitals nor
23 other health care related business models, and
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25 Whereas, there is no evidence that physician-owned entities are responsible for
26 excessive over utilization of said services, when compared to non-physician owned entities,
27 and
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29 Whereas, there is no evidence that physician behavior is singularly responsible for the
30 overall rate of increase in the cost of health care, and
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32 Whereas, health care services provided at the point of care by physicians leads to
33 greater patient satisfaction, is less expensive, and more efficient, and
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35 Whereas, physicians should be allowed to create, own, and support health care
36 related businesses as they see fit, subject to usual business risks and market forces, and
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38 Whereas, reimbursement for health care related services are determined by third party
39 payers; therefore be it
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41 **RESOLVED:** That the American Medical Association seek legislative and regulatory
42 changes at the federal level to allow physicians to create, own, and support health care
43 related businesses; utilize all available tools inside and outside of their practices; and, refer
44 patients to these businesses for medically necessary services; and be it further
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46 **RESOLVED:** That the American Medical Association supports physician-owned
47 health care businesses being held to the same business standards as non-physician-owned
48 health care businesses.
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51 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: None