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Title: Oral Contraceptives Available Over-the-Counter
Introduced by: P. Dileep Kumar, MD, for the St. Clair County Delegation
Original Author: David Hislop, MD
Referred to: Committee on Rules and Order of Business/Reference Committee E
House Action: **AMEND**

Whereas, oral contraceptive pills have been available for over 55 years with a prescription, and

Whereas, they have few side effects, and

Whereas, oral contraceptives have several beneficial effects including the reduction of endometrial and ovarian cancers¹, and

Whereas, the U.S. has the highest teenage birthrate of all industrialized countries, and

Whereas, the cost of a medical visit for a prescription presents a formidable financial barrier to many, and

Whereas, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists are in favor² of over the counter access to oral contraceptives; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS supports the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' committee opinion 544 which supports making oral contraceptives available as over the counter medication.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE

¹ Brynhildsen J. Combined hormonal contraceptives: prescribing patterns, compliance, and benefits versus risks. Ther Adv Drug Saf. 2014;5(5):201-13.

² American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Committee Opinion, Number 544, December 2012. Over-the-Counter Access to Oral Contraceptives. Accessed at <http://www.acog.org/Resources-And-Publications/Committee-Opinions/Committee-on-Gynecologic-Practice/Over-the-Counter-Access-to-Oral-Contraceptives> on March 6, 2016.