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Title: Create MACRA Opt-out Option

Introduced by: P. Dileep Kumar, MD, for the St. Clair County Delegation

Original Author: P. Dileep Kumar, MD

Referred to: Reaffirmation Calendar

House Action: **REAFFIRM**

Whereas, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has instituted provisions of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA)<sup>1</sup> for quality payment for physicians, and

Whereas, MACRA by design will produce winners and losers with practices that could lose up to 9 percent in 2022, and

Whereas, small practices do not have the infrastructure or the budget to spend on a complicated program such as MACRA; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) ask our AMA to work with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to permit solo practitioners and small practices to opt-out of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act completely in order to protect their financial viability.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE

**Relevant AMA Policy:**

**MIPS and MACRA Exemption H-390.838**

Our AMA will advocate for an exemption from the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) and Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) for small practices.

**Preserving Patient Access to Small Practices Under MACRA D-390.949**

1. Our AMA will urge the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to protect access to care by significantly increasing the low volume threshold to expand the MACRA MIPS exemptions for small practices (on a voluntary basis), and to further reduce the MACRA requirements for ALL physicians' practices to provide additional flexibility, reduce the reporting burdens and administrative hassles and costs.
2. Our AMA will advocate for additional exemptions or flexibilities for physicians who practice in health professional shortage areas.
3. Our AMA will determine if there are other fragile practices that are threatened by MACRA and seek additional exemptions or flexibilities for those practices.

<sup>1</sup> MACRA. Delivery system reform, Medicare payment reform. Accessed at <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/quality-initiatives-patient-assessment-instruments/value-based-programs/macra-mips-and-apms/macra-mips-and-apms.html> on February 17, 2016.