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Title: Implicit Bias Training During Undergraduate Medical Education
Introduced by: Seth Moffatt for the Medical Student Section
Original Author: Gina Bravata
Referred to: Reference Committee E
House Action: **APPROVED AS AMENDED**

Whereas, implicit bias, also known as unconscious bias, refers to attitudes or preconceived stereotypes that can affect a person’s understanding, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner; these implicit biases predict behavior in real world settings, and

Whereas, evidence demonstrates physicians across many specialties have implicit bias against multiple demographics, including but not limited to, African Americans, Hispanics, women, LGBTQI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, and intersex), and obese individuals, and

Whereas, in addition to physicians, evidence supports that many first-year medical students come into medical school already with implicit biases, yet those implicit biases have the potential to decrease with certain curricular interventions in medical school, and

Whereas, some medical schools have started incorporating implicit bias education into curriculum to address the negative impact of it on patient care, and

Whereas, other prominent medical organizations, such as the Association of American Colleges, The Joint Commission, and the Institute of Medicine, have acknowledged the existence of implicit bias in medicine and its link to health disparities, and have started to offer educational materials, workshops, and web-based courses on implicit bias, and

Whereas, Resolution 952, “Implicit Bias, Diversity and Inclusion in Medical Education and Residency Training,” was passed at the 2017 American Medical Association (AMA) Interim House of Delegates meeting, and

Whereas, Resolution 952 states the AMA “actively supports the development and implementation of training regarding implicit bias, diversity and inclusion in all medical schools and residency programs;” therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS encourage medical schools in Michigan to include implicit bias awareness as part of undergraduate medical education, to ensure that graduating medical students are better prepared to deal with implicit bias in the treatment of patients.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE

Relevant MSMS Policy: None

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