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Title: Tattooing of Eyes  
Introduced by: Cathy Blight, MD, for the Genesee County Delegation  
Original Author: Cathy Blight, MD  
Referred to: Reference Committee B  
House Action: **DISAPPROVED**

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Whereas, tattooing of the white of the eye does occur for cosmetic reasons, and

Whereas, the American Academy of Ophthalmology has declared eye tattooing to be an unsafe practice, and

Whereas, risks of eye tattoos include decreased vision or complete blindness; infection from injection or ink; potential loss of the eye; sensitivity to light; feeling like something is in your eye, and

Whereas, there are several states considering a ban on tattooing of the whites of one’s eyes; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS pursue a legislative ban on tattooing of eyes in the State of Michigan; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) ask our AMA to pursue a federal ban on eye tattoos.

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WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: \$25,000 or more as this resolution directs MSMS to engage in governmental advocacy.

**Relevant MSMS Policy:** None

**Relevant AMA Policy:**

Regulation of Tattoo Artists and Facilities H-440.909

Our AMA: (1) encourages the state regulation of tattoo artists and tattoo facilities to ensure adequate procedures to protect the public health; and encourages tattoo artists, tattoo facilities, and physicians to report all adverse reactions associated with tattooing to the Food and Drug Administration MedWatch program; (2) encourages manufacturers of tattoo inks to provide a list of their ingredients to protect public health; (3) encourages tattoo artists and tattoo facilities to obtain informed consent from their clients, that includes potential risks, prior to performing a tattooing procedure; and (4) will, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, develop model state legislation for regulation of tattoo artists and tattoo facilities to ensure adequate procedures to protect the public health and safety.