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Title: Oppose Licensure of Non-NCCAOM Acupuncturists
Introduced by: Cheryl C. Farmer, MD
Original Author: Paul Shapiro, MD
Referred to: Reference Committee B
House Action: **REFERRED**

Whereas, acupuncture is a licensed profession in forty-six states, and

Whereas, acupuncture is a profession with established national standards for training, certification, and continuing education, and

Whereas, the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine is the accepted credentialing body for all 46 states that license acupuncture, and

Whereas, the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine requires minimum training of a three-year Master’s degree consisting of 1905 hours/105 credits, and

Whereas, American Medical Association policy H-410.949, “Dry Needling is an Invasive Procedure,” “recognizes the standard training and familiarity with routine use of needles in their practice of licensed acupuncturists,” and

Whereas, improperly performed acupuncture carries the risks of organ puncture, nerve damage, and infection, and

Whereas, there are no minimum standards of training and certification to perform acupuncture in Michigan, and

Whereas licensure of acupuncturists improves the public safety by creating proper oversight and assurance of training and certification; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS change existing policy, “Acupuncture: Licensure,” as follows:

MSMS opposes the licensure of acupuncturists **who are not credentialed by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.**

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: \$1,000 or more for costs related to the adoption of new or revised MSMS or AMA policy.

Relevant MSMS Policy:

Acupuncture: Licensure
MSMS opposes the licensure of acupuncturists. (Res30-90A)
– Amended 1993

Relevant AMA Policy:

Dry Needling is an Invasive Procedure H-410.949

Our AMA recognizes dry needling as an invasive procedure and maintains that dry needling should only be performed by practitioners with standard training and familiarity with routine use of needles in their practice, such as licensed medical physicians and licensed acupuncturists.

Acupuncture H-270.974

It is the policy of the AMA that nonphysician boards should not regulate the clinical practice of medicine